



## Spring Semester 2026

First Term: Jan. 12 – March 6

Second Term: March 9 – April 24

- Spring Semester registration will be in two phases.
  - **Day 1 Registration:** Registration for Great Decisions, Study Trips, Experiential Learning, Osher Online and all Zoom offerings begins Tuesday, December 2 at 9:30 a.m.
  - **Day 2 Registration:** Registration for In-person Classes and Lectures, Live Streams, Lunch and Learns and Socials begins Thursday, December 4 at 9:30 a.m.
- Before registering, please read the Important Information section ([pages 57-63](#)) at the end of this catalog of course descriptions. This section includes refund policy, adverse weather policy and more.
- You may phone in your registration at 919.515.5782 (option 1), register in-person, or register online at [reporter.ncsu.edu](http://reporter.ncsu.edu).
- Use the code **ollitrips** as the search term in the catalog search bar to find only OLLI study trips and experiential learning within the Reporter database.
- Use the code **ollisp26** as the search term in the catalog search bar to find all OLLI offerings within the Reporter database.
- Use the code **olliday1** to find all offerings that open for registration on Dec. 2 (Great Decisions, Study Trips, Experiential Learning, Osher Online and all Zoom Offerings).
- Use the code **olliday2** to find all offerings that open for registration on Dec. 4 (In-person Courses and Lectures, Live Streams, Lunch and Learns and Socials).
- Be aware that some offerings overlap in time, so double-check your schedule before finalizing your registration (drop fees apply).

**Interested in trying OLLI without a commitment?** The OLLI Spring Semester Kick-Off Lecture and Open House: NC State's Institute for Emerging Issues: Think and Do for Economic Vibrancy– pg. 37, **is free and open to the public, but registration is required by calling the OLLI office M-F 8:30-4:30 at 919.515.5782.**

**The following lectures are being offered at a non-member rate of \$20 each:** Penn and Kim Holderness: The Comfort Zone Trap: What We Learned Running a Race, a Business, and a Family – pg. 33, The Making Of WUNC's Embodied Radio Show and Podcast – pg. 38, The American Presidency – pg. 53, Chalkboards to Chatbots: Understanding Generative AI in Higher Ed – pg. 53, The Club: American Women Artists in Paris – pg. 55.

# DAY 1 REGISTRATION

**\*\* Great Decisions, Study Trips, Experiential Learning, Osher Online and all Zoom Offerings open on Day 1 \*\***

## GREAT DECISIONS

### MONDAY

#### Great Decisions 2026

*Instructors:* Mike Ganey (Instance 000010) or Tom Price (Instance 000011)

This discussion course will cover a different international or foreign policy topic each week. Participants will read a chapter in the Foreign Policy Association's non-partisan briefing book and then come to class prepared to discuss the different sides of the issue. The facilitator will spur discussion along.

#### The topics (discussed in the order listed):

- America and the World: Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy
- Trump Tariffs and the Future of the World Economy
- U.S.-China Relations
- Ruptured Alliances and the Risk of Nuclear Proliferation
- Ukraine and the Future of European Security
- Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order
- U.S. Engagement of Africa
- The Future of Human Rights and International Law

**Required Reading:** The OLLI office will purchase a copy of the *Great Decisions 2026 Briefing Book* for each participant. The cost of this course includes the eight classroom sessions plus the book. Participants will be notified when the books have arrived in the office and are ready for pickup. Books normally arrive after Jan. 1.

**Note:** There are two different sections, instances, and facilitators for this course. Choose the instance that best fits your schedule, and check listings for facilitator information.

Facilitator for Section/**Instance 000010** on First Term Mondays at 11:00 a.m.: Mike Ganey

Facilitator for Section/**Instance 000011** on First Term Mondays at 1:00 p.m.: Tom Price

**Facilitator:** *Michael Ganey*; B.A., History, SUNY Oswego; MBA, UVA Darden School of Business; held senior marketing roles at domestic and international food and beverage companies like Anheuser-Busch for 25 years; he also managed consumer product projects for 15 years at a marketing consultant firm; serves OLLI NC State as a facilitator for Great Decisions, and a member of the Advisory Council and Membership and Marketing Committee.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-080 **Instance #:** 000010 **Eight Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16 **Limit:** 23 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$100 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

**Facilitator:** *Tom Price*; BSEE and MBA, Duke University; retired entrepreneur and investor; OLLI member; recipient of OLLI volunteer award, 2011; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-080 **Instance #:** 000011 **Eight Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16 **Limit:** 23 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$100 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

# STUDY TRIPS

## Study Trip Activity Levels

Activity Levels help OLLI members assess if a study trip is appropriate for their lifestyle. Please contact the OLLI office if you have specific accessibility concerns prior to registering. Staff will work with the destination to foster the best possible experience for all. Some destinations are not recommended for those utilizing mobility aids.

**Level 1:** Enter/exit OLLI transportation with minimal assistance, stand or walk for up to an hour with minimal opportunity for sitting, able to navigate uneven surfaces and stairs successfully up to 14 steps.

**Level 2:** Climb flight(s) of stairs, stand or walk for over an hour with minimal opportunity for sitting, able to navigate uneven surfaces and inclines successfully.

**Level 3:** Be able to participate in three to five hours of daily physical movement, stand or walk for over two hours with minimal opportunity for sitting, able to navigate uneven surfaces and inclines successfully.

**Level 4:** Be in excellent physical health and lead an active lifestyle, plus Levels 1-3.

## TUESDAY

### A Pair of Historic Parks: Beech Bluff & Harris Lake

#### Activity Level 2

Join us for a day of exploration as we uncover two of Wake County's lesser-known parks: Harris Lake and Beech Bluff. Our adventure begins with a guided wagon tour through Harris Lake County Park, where you'll step back in time and learn about the park's rich history and natural beauty. Afterward, we'll head 30 minutes east to Beech Bluff County Park and enjoy a relaxing boxed lunch. After dining outdoors, we'll dive into the fascinating world of agricultural traditions—past and present—that continue to shape this unique landscape.

**Note:** The boxed lunch will not include a beverage. Please bring your own. Note that this is a rain-or-shine activity! Dress appropriately for the weather conditions. Cancellation by venue will occur in the event of heavy rain and lightning.

**Includes:** Transportation on NC State bus, guided tours at Beech Bluff and Harris Lake, and a boxed lunch.

**Departs:** 9:30 a.m.

The bus will pick up outside the front entrance of the McKimmon Center a few minutes before departure. Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group in the lobby. OLLI Special Programs Coordinator, Lindsey Hale, will meet you on arrival and will accompany the group on the study trip. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Returns:** Approximately 3:30 p.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-130 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 9:30 a.m-3:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 21 **Limit:** 25

**Location:** Wake County, NC **Fee:** \$80 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 14

## THURSDAY

### NC State's Plant Sciences Building Tour

#### Activity Level 1

Positioned in the heart of NC State's [Centennial Campus](#), the NC Plant Sciences Institute is much more than brick, steel and concrete. OLLI members will view rooftop greenhouses, test planting plots, and a 1050 sq. foot makerspace which are key to harnessing North Carolina's strengths and improving lives through innovations in food, health, and agricultural systems.

**Note:** Please wear closed-toed shoes.

**Includes:** NC State half-day parking pass, private tour of Plant Sciences Building. **Participants will travel on their own to the Plant Sciences Building.**

**Arrive at PSB:** 9:45 a.m.

Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Tour Concludes:** 11:30 a.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-061 **Instance #:** 000002 **One Session:** 9:45 a.m-11:30 a.m. **Date:** Feb. 12 **Limit:** 25

**Location:** 840 Oval Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 5

## **Fighting for Fairness: From the International Civil Rights Center & Museum to Charlotte Hawkins Brown**

### **Activity Level 2**

We will explore the International Civil Rights Center & Museum on an exclusive tour of the permanent collection. Next, visit the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum to learn about African American history, education, and women's leadership in North Carolina—highlighting the legacy of Dr. Brown and the historic Palmer Memorial Institute.

**Note:** Bring a bagged lunch from home. There will be a cooler on the bus for storage. Note that this is a rain-or-shine outing! Dress appropriately for the weather conditions.

**Includes:** Private tours of the ICRCM and the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum, admission fees, transportation by motorcoach and driver gratuity.

**Departs:** 8:15 a.m.

The bus will pick up outside the front entrance of the McKimmon Center a few minutes before departure. Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group in the lobby. OLLI Special Programs Coordinator, Lindsey Hale, will meet you on arrival and will accompany the group on the study trip. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Returns:** Approximately 5:00 p.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-131 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 8:15 a.m-5:00 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 19 **Limit:** 25

**Location:** Greensboro, NC and Gibsonville, NC **Fee:** \$120 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 12

## **South Wake Landfill Bus Tour**

### **Activity Level 1**

Have you ever wondered what happens to your trash when it leaves the curb? Hop on an info-packed bus tour of the South Wake Landfill to learn how Wake County Waste Management Division safeguards the environment and public health by safely disposing of over 1.1 million people's garbage.

**Note:** Wear closed-toe shoes. This is a bus tour with limited opportunities for walking around the landfill.

**Includes:** Transportation by NC State bus, narrated tour of landfill

**Departs:** 9:30 a.m.

The bus will pick up outside the front entrance of the McKimmon Center a few minutes before departure. Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group outside the building. OLLI Special Programs Coordinator Lindsey Hale will meet you on arrival and will accompany the group on the study trip. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Returns:** 12:15 p.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-079 **Instance #:** 000002 **One Session:** 9:30 a.m-12:15 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 12 **Limit:** 29

**Location:** 6330 Old Smithfield Rd, Apex, NC 27539 **Fee:** \$45 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 5

# FRIDAY

## Friday Favorites at the NC Symphony: Gershwin & More

### Activity Level 1

Delight your ears with Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess: A Symphonic Picture*, conducted by Carlos Miguel Prieto with Timothy McAllister on saxophone. This orchestral arrangement differs from the famous opera in ways, but is well worth a listen. Your North Carolina Symphony will also entertain us with two additional pieces.

**Note:** Lunch is not included in the program so eat a hearty breakfast and take along a snack to eat on the bus.

**No bags larger than 12" x 12" x 10" will be allowed.**

**Includes:** Transportation on NC State bus, ticket

**Departs:** McKimmon Center at 11:15 a.m.

The bus will pick up outside the front entrance of the McKimmon Center a few minutes before departure.

Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group in the lobby. OLLI Special Programs Coordinator, Lindsey Hale, will meet you on arrival and will accompany the group on the study trip. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Return:** Approximately 1:30 p.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-128 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 6 **Limit:** 29

**Location:** Meymandi Concert Hall **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 30

## Behind the Scenes: NC State's Memorial Belltower

### Activity Level 2

NC State's former Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Dr. Tom Stafford, will lead this informative tour of the university's most recognizable symbol, the 115-foot tall Memorial Belltower, built as a monument to alumni killed in World War I. ***There are two identical instances for this study trip. Please select the one that best fits your schedule.***

**Note:** Be prepared for about 90 minutes of standing and walking as Dr. Stafford talks about the early history of the university and regales the group with some of the stories behind the belltower. The tour concludes by visiting the marble Shrine Room inside the memorial.

**Includes:** Guided tour in and around the belltower, half-day parking pass. **Participants will travel on their own to the belltower.**

**Meeting Time:** 9:50 a.m.

**Meet at:** NCSU Belltower | 2011 Hillsborough St, Raleigh, NC 27607

Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Tour Concludes:** Approximately 11:30 a.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-005 **Instance #:** 000004 **One Session:** 9:50 a.m.-11:30 a.m. **Date:** Mar. 20 **Limit:** 19

**Location:** NCSU Belltower **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 13

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-005 **Instance #:** 000005 **One Session:** 9:50 a.m.-11:30 a.m. **Date:** Mar. 27 **Limit:** 19

**Location:** NCSU Belltower **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 20

## Carolina Tiger Rescue

### Activity Level 3

Carolina Tiger Rescue is a non-profit wildlife sanctuary located in Pittsboro, North Carolina. Their mission is saving and protecting wildcats in captivity and in the wild. Our private tour will begin with a short presentation. We will then walk through the animal sanctuary with a trained guide. We will learn about the different species

living at Carolina Tiger Rescue and the problems they face in the wild, as well as the challenges they face in captivity. We will have the opportunity to ask questions and take photos, but we will not have any physical contact with the animals.

**Note:** Please wear comfortable clothes and closed-toed shoes. Bring a water bottle and hat. You must also be willing to sign a waiver upon arrival indemnifying Carolina Tiger Rescue against any injury.

**Includes:** Transportation on NC State bus, private tour of Carolina Tiger Rescue, amplified Tour Guide System

**Departs:** McKimmon Center at 1:00 p.m.

The bus will pick up outside the front entrance of the McKimmon Center a few minutes before departure. Please arrive in plenty of time to park your vehicle and meet the group in the lobby. OLLI Special Programs Coordinator, Lindsey Hale, will meet you on arrival and will accompany the group on the study trip. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions.

**Returns:** Approximately 5:30 p.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-077 **Instance #:** 000003 **One Session:** 1:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 10 **Limit:** 24

**Location:** Pittsboro **Fee:** \$90 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 3

## Eno River Exploration

### Activity Level 2

Come chase wildflowers with OLLI at NC State! Sign up for a guided hike led by the Eno River Association, a non-profit land trust founded in 1966 to protect the Eno River Basin. The Eno River, named after the Eno Indians who once lived along its banks, is the initial tributary of the Neuse River in North Carolina. Learn about the history and ecology of the river while viewing the tangible effects of last year's Tropical Storm Chantal.

**Note:** The hike is rated "Easy", so members should use their best judgment when registering for this springtime trek.

**Includes:** Two-hour guided hike led by an Eno River Association educator. **Participants will travel on their own to the Eno River State Park.**

**Meeting Time:** 9:45 a.m.

**Meet at:** 6101 Cole Mill Road Durham, NC 27705

We will meet at a set location at the Eno River State Park at 9:45 a.m. OLLI Special Programs Coordinator, Lindsey Hale, will meet you on arrival and will accompany the group on the hike. You will receive a reminder email three business days before the date with further instructions, including directions and parking instructions.

**Tour Concludes:** Approximately 12:00 p.m.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-127 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 9:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 17 **Limit:** 20

**Location:** Eno River State Park **Fee:** \$35 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 3

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

### MONDAY

#### Handbuilding Workshop at Pullen Arts Center: Create a Flowerpot from Clay

*Facilitator:* Patty Merrell

#### Activity Level 1

In this workshop, Patty will guide participants through the process of shaping coils and using stamps, clay cutters, and molds to design a one-of-a-kind pot. You'll explore techniques for building, texturing and finishing your piece, resulting in a personalized flowerpot that reflects your creativity and style.

**Facilitator:** *Patty Merrell*; pottery studio coordinator at Sertoma Arts Center; she instructs pottery classes for kids and adults at Pullen and Sertoma Arts Centers; in her work, Patty employs the exuberant use of architectural elements to invoke an impression of a bygone and more elegant era.

**Note:** Meet at the Pullen Arts Center's ceramic studio, located on the lower level and handicapped accessible. Free parking is available onsite. Works will be fired by Pullen staff and you will be able to pick them up at the McKimmon Center two weeks after the class. Participants may sit or stand during the workshop. Please arrive without hand and wrist jewelry, and in clothing that can get dirty.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-124 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Date:** Mar 9 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** Pullen Arts Center | 105 Pullen Road Raleigh, NC 27607 **Fee:** \$45 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 2

### **Wheel Throwing Workshop at Pullen Arts Center: Throw a Bowl from Clay**

*Facilitator:* Andy McKenzie

#### **Activity Level 2**

In this hands-on pottery program, participants will explore their creative side while crafting a small bowl on the potter's wheel. All materials included.

- Session 1: Students will be guided through the fundamentals of working with clay — from preparation and centering to shaping their piece into an open bowl form.
- Session 2: Participants will learn to trim their bowls and create a foot ring, then decorate their piece using colorful underglazes.

**Facilitator:** *Andy McKenzie*; Andy is the Studio Manager at both the Sertoma Arts Center and its sister site, the Pullen Arts Center; he holds an MFA from Fontbonne University in St. Louis and brings over 30 years of experience as a ceramic educator; Andy's passion for ceramics began during his freshman year of college when he first sat down at the potter's wheel—and he's been hooked ever since; his work focuses on the challenging and intricate process of applying crystalline glazes to fine porcelain, a technique that reflects both his technical expertise and artistic dedication.

**Note:** Meet at the Pullen Arts Center's ceramic studio, located on the lower level and handicapped accessible. Free parking is available onsite. Works will be fired by Pullen staff and you will be able to pick them up at the McKimmon Center two weeks after the class. Participants may sit or stand during the workshop. Please arrive without hand and wrist jewelry, and in clothing that can get dirty.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-123 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 6, 20 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** Pullen Arts Center | 105 Pullen Road Raleigh, NC 27607 **Fee:** \$85 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 30

## **TUESDAY**

### **Floral Arrangement at The English Garden**

*Facilitator:* The English Garden florists

#### **Activity Level 1**

Join your fellow OLLI members at the English Garden Florist for a hands-on floral design experience where you'll create your own custom arrangement using fresh, beautiful, seasonal blooms. No experience needed – just bring your creativity and enjoy a relaxed, inspiring session surrounded by flowers..

**Facilitator:** *The English Garden florists*; Owner Cydney English, a third-generation florist, founded The English Garden in 2006; with a deep-rooted love for flowers and all things NC, she and her team share a passion for creating unique and inspiring designs.

**Note:** Meet Meet at The English Garden Florist Raleigh

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-132 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 24 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** The English Garden Florist Raleigh | 8820 Gulf Ct, Suite A, Raleigh 27617 **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 17

## THURSDAY

### **Watercolor Workshop at Pullen Arts Center: Cloud-like Compositions**

*Facilitator:* Patrizia Ferreira

#### **Activity Level 1**

Discover the beauty of layering translucent layers of color, playing with the movement of water, generating surprising shapes, textural effects, and soft veils that hide and reveal simultaneously. This is a class for anyone seeking to find their inner artist. Perhaps for a savvy artist, needing to create for art's sake too. No prior experience necessary, just a desire to experiment. All materials provided.

**Facilitator:** *Patrizia Ferreira*; received a bachelor's degree in textile design from the Institute of Industrial Design in Montevideo, Uruguay and a Master of Science degree in textile design for prints from Thomas Jefferson University; she is a full-time artist and educator working in Raleigh, North Carolina.

**Note:** Meet at the Pullen Arts Center. Free parking is available onsite. Please arrive in clothing that can get dirty.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-126 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 22 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** Pullen Arts Center | 105 Pullen Road Raleigh, NC 27607 **Fee:** \$45 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 15

### **Suminagashi Japanese Marbling at Pullen Arts Center**

*Facilitator:* Kathy Steinsberger

#### **Activity Level 1**

Suminagashi, meaning ink floating in Japanese, was first practiced in Japan during the 12th century. The process involves a shallow tray filled with water, ground sumi inks of all colors carefully applied to the surface with a paint brush or eye dropper, then gently swirling the inks to achieve a water-like pattern which is then transferred to a sheet of paper. In this class we'll make 10-15 sheets of pastel toned papers which can be used for writing papers, cards, collage art, printmaking or other uses of your own creation.

**Facilitator:** *Kathy Steinsberger*; Kathy's artist career began as a ceramic artist over 20 years ago; in 2001 she began to combine clay with book arts and through the ensuing years studied with many great book arts teachers including Paulus Berensohn, Eileen Wallace, Julie Chen, Daniel Essig, and Steve Miller; she served as interim studio coordinator in the Penland School of Crafts Print, Letterpress, & Book studios; she has been a resident artist at Penland's Winter program and in France; she loves teaching book arts classes and has taught at Penland School of Crafts, Pullen Arts Center, Cary Arts Center, Beaufort Arts Center, Carlow College and as a visiting artist at NC State School of Design; in 2012 she acquired an 100 year old letterpress and set up her private letterpress studio, PaperButtons Press; she has written and printed many limited-edition artist's books which are depicted on her blog, [www.paperbuttons.blogspot.com](http://www.paperbuttons.blogspot.com); she has been a resident artist at the shared studio space, Blam!, since 2014; she currently teaches classes at Blam! studio in book arts, box making, paper decorating and printing

**Note:** Meet at the Pullen Arts Center. Free parking is available onsite. Please arrive in clothing that can get dirty.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-125 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 5 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** Pullen Arts Center | 105 Pullen Road Raleigh, NC 27607 **Fee:** \$45 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 26

## Astronomy Night at Wilkerson Nature Preserve

*Facilitator:* Bryan England

### Activity Level 1

OLLI members will meet after sunset for an introductory presentation about astronomy, followed by outdoor observation using a telescope. Jupiter and Venus are visible in late March, and the Moon will be in the First Quarter Phase. Outdoor observation is weather permitting; in case of bad weather indoor interactive experiences explaining fundamental principles of astronomy will be incorporated into the program.

**Participants should bring a flashlight to aid in walking to their cars after the event.** Rain or shine.

**Facilitator:** *Bryan England*; Preserve Manager, Annie Louise Wilkerson, MD Nature Preserve Park

**Note:** Meet at the AWL Education Center, which has indoor restrooms, water fountains and furnished classroom spaces. The building is fully ADA accessible. Parking is available at the Park Office building, 100 yards away from the AWL Education Center. The walk from the parking lot to the education center is on a paved driveway. There are a limited number of handicapped parking spots adjacent to the education center.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-058 **Instance #:** 000003 **One Session:** 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 26 **Limit:** 20  
**Location:** Annie Louise Wilkerson, MD Nature Preserve Park | 5229 AWLS Haven Drive Raleigh, NC 27614  
**Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 21

## OSHER ONLINE

### MONDAY

#### Osher Online -- Landscape & Adventure Photography: An Introduction

*Instructor:* Jonathan Duncan

This workshop will introduce participants to the skills and techniques used to create professional quality images of their adventures in the natural world. Topics will include controlling exposure, using depth of field, motion effects, the principles of visual communication, and the qualities of natural light. The course will incorporate slide- illustrated lectures, group discussions, and ample time for student feedback. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Note:** **There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course.** Member Orientation is scheduled for January 7 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of January 5.

**Instructor:** *Jonathan Duncan*; is a photojournalist, writer, teacher, and public speaker with more than 25 years of experience; his work has been published in *National Geographic*, *The Himalayan Journal*, *Sailing, Rock and Ice*, and by the *University of Utah Press*; he has taught at the Art Institute of Portland, Western Washington University, Westminster University, and the University of Utah's Osher Institute; his work explores humanity's complex relationship with the natural world, often in remote landscapes and cultures.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-339 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

#### Osher Online -- Post Impressionism and the Birth of Abstraction

*Instructor:* Lauren Weingarden

This course explores Post-Impressionism's bold departure from naturalistic light and color, focusing on the expressive use of form, symbolism, and vivid, often unnatural color. Through the work of Cézanne, van Gogh,

Gauguin, Seurat, and Matisse, we will trace the movement's challenge to artistic norms and social values—laying the foundation for modern art and redefining the artist's role in society. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for January 7 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of January 5.

**Instructor:** *Lauren Weingarden*; is Professor Emerita of Art History at Florida State University; her work explores the intersections of literature and visual art in 19th-century culture, focusing on figures like architect Louis Sullivan, Charles Baudelaire, and Édouard Manet; she has published widely and developed an embodied aesthetic model that helps viewers re-experience artists' encounters with modernity and nature's transience—an approach that informs her teaching on Impressionism.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-336 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **Osher Online -- Ghosts in the White House: The People Behind Presidential Speeches**

*Instructor:* Diana Carlin

Have you ever wondered who writes presidential speeches? This course traces the evolution of speechwriting from George Washington's administration to today. Yes, Hamilton helped draft Washington's Farewell Address, but no, Lincoln did not scribble the Gettysburg Address on an envelope. We will study the writing process presidents used and examine drafts from FDR, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Carter, and George H.W. Bush. We will view clips from speeches and from former White House speechwriters describing the process. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Diana Carlin*, Ph.D.; is Professor Emerita of communication at Saint Louis University; for 30 years, she has taught courses on and written about First Ladies; she is the co-author of *U.S. First Ladies: Making History and Leaving Legacies* and *Remember the First Ladies: America's History-Making Women*; Carlin has published articles and book chapters on a variety of First Ladies and researches and writes on the topics of women in politics, presidential communication, and political debate.

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for March 24 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of March 16.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-350 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 30, Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

## **TUESDAY**

### **Osher Online -- Dealing in Futures: The Shape of Science Fiction**

*Instructor:* Gary Wolfe

From pulp origins to mainstream dominance, science fiction has evolved into a powerful storytelling form that explores new worlds, ideas, and ways of thinking. This course traces the genre's growth over two centuries, distinguishing it from fantasy and myth, and highlighting key authors who shaped its direction. We will discover how science fiction reflects cultural change and reimagines the future. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Gary Wolfe*; is emeritus professor of humanities at Roosevelt University and a critic for *Locus* magazine; he is the author of *Evaporating Genres* and editor of *American Science Fiction* volumes for the

Library of America; Wolfe has received multiple awards, including a Hugo and a Ditmar for The Coode Street Podcast, which he co-hosts with Jonathan Strahan.

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for January 7 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of January 5.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-337 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **Osher Online -- Einstein Without Tears: His Theories Explained Without Math and in Everyday Language**

*Instructor:* Andrew Fraknoi

Explore the fascinating world of Albert Einstein's theories—no math or science background required. This course introduces key ideas like time travel, warped space, black holes, and gravitational waves, all in accessible terms. We will discover how modern science continues to confirm Einstein's predictions and why his work remains a source of wonder for both scientists and science fiction fans. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Andrew Fraknoi*; is the former chair of the astronomy department at Foothill College and now teaches noncredit astronomy courses at San Francisco State and the University of San Francisco; he is lead author of *OpenStax Astronomy*, the most widely used free introductory astronomy textbook in North America; named California Professor of the Year in 2007, he frequently explains astronomy in everyday language on national radio programs; the International Astronomical Union named Asteroid 4859 Fraknoi in his honor as a recognition of his contributions to the public understanding of science; Learn more at <http://fraknoi.com>.

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for January 7 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of January 5.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-334 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **Osher Online -- Japanese History Through the Lens of Shōgun**

*Instructor:* Megan McClory

Inspired by the 2024 FX mini-series *Shōgun*, this course explores Japan's transition from civil war to peace between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. We will examine the rise of key unifiers, the roles of diverse social groups (like merchants, peasants, women, and outcasts), and the era's political, cultural, and artistic shifts. For fans of the series or those new to Japanese history, this course offers a rich, accessible introduction. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Megan McClory*; is a doctoral candidate in history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; her research explores sword restrictions in early modern Japan and their role in shaping peace and power; a Global Research Fellow at Kokugakuin University, she has spent years living and studying in Japan and holds a B.A. from Brandeis University.

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for January 7 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of January 5.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-335 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 7-8:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **Osher Online -- From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Popes**

*Instructor:* Oliva Espin

The death of Pope Francis and the election of the first U.S. born Pope have been in the news repeatedly in the last few months, capturing the imagination of many people, including non-Catholics. Who are these men? What are their life stories? How were they similar to and different from each other? In this course, we will discuss the lives and dominant perspectives of the last ten Popes, exploring their most significant positions and their influence on world affairs. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Oliva Espin*, Ph.D.; is Professor Emerita of Women's Studies at San Diego State University and the California School of Professional Psychology; she completed her postdoctoral work at Harvard and is a pioneer in feminist therapy with women from diverse cultural backgrounds; her recent books include *Women, Sainthood, and Power: A Feminist Psychology of Cultural Constructions* and *My Native Land is Memory: Stories of a Cuban Childhood* (2021 San Diego Book Award); she received APA's Outstanding Lifetime Contributions to Psychology Award.

**Note:** **There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course.** Member Orientation is scheduled for March 24 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of March 16.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-351 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, May 12 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

## **Osher Online -- Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture**

*Instructor:* Jennifer Gray

Frank Lloyd Wright designed nearly 1,000 buildings and helped define modern architecture. This course explores highlights of his practice, from Prairie houses to Fallingwater and the Guggenheim Museum, alongside lesser-known projects like affordable housing and city planning. We'll examine how Wright's work reflected cultural shifts in technology, science, and politics, offering a deeper understanding of his lasting influence on architecture and modern design. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Jennifer Gray*; Ph.D.; is vice president of the Taliesin Institute at the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation; her research explores how modern architects used design to advance social change at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; she has curated major exhibitions, including Frank Lloyd Wright at 150 at MoMA and The Imperial Hotel at 100, which toured Japan; Gray has taught at Columbia, Cornell, and MoMA, and formerly served as Curator of Drawings and Archives at Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library.

**Note:** **There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course.** Member Orientation is scheduled for March 24 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of March 16.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-349 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 7-8:30pm **Dates:** Apr. 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

## THURSDAY

### Osher Online -- Invisible Intelligence: The Unseen Algorithms Reshaping Your Daily Life

*Instructor:* Eliot Bethke

Artificial Intelligence (AI) shapes our daily lives in subtle yet powerful ways. In this non-technical course, we will explore six case studies that reveal how AI systems work, the ethics behind machine decision-making, and the impact of these technologies on our world. We will gain a deeper understanding of AI's current influence—and the possibilities ahead. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructor:** *Eliot Bethke*; is a Ph.D. candidate in computational bioengineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; he previously worked in research and development at several Midwest start-ups, focusing on product design and manufacturing; after running a summer internship program, he shifted his focus to education and now shares his expertise in hardware and software development with future engineers.

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for January 7 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of January 5.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-338 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

### Osher Online -- AI for Regular People

*Instructors:* Hod Lipson, Melba Kurman

Back by popular demand, this updated course offers a clear, engaging introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it's rapidly transforming our world. From self-driving cars to chatbots and precision medicine, we will explore how AI works, where it's headed, and what it means for society. No tech experience needed—just curiosity! With fresh examples and timely updates, participants will gain a solid understanding of the opportunities and challenges AI presents today. ***This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University.***

**Instructors:** *Hod Lipson* and *Melba Kurman*; This course is co-taught by Hod Lipson, Ph.D., Professor of Engineering and Data Science at Columbia University, and author and technology analyst Melba Kurman.; Dr. Lipson directs Columbia's Creative Machines Lab, where his team builds artificially intelligent robots that can design, create, and express emotion; one of the world's most-cited academic roboticists, his work has been featured in The New York Times, NPR, TED, and Quanta; Melba Kurman has held roles at Microsoft, Cornell University, and several tech startups; she writes about emerging technologies and their societal impact; together, they co-authored *Driverless and Fabricated: The Promise and Peril of 3D Printing*, and are frequent speakers on AI and innovation; they divide their time between New York City and the Berkshires.

**Note:** There is a required Osher Online website orientation for this course. Member Orientation is scheduled for March 24 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. An email with login information and member orientation information will be emailed to members the week of March 16.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-352 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 7-8:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

# ZOOM COURSES

## MONDAY

### Via Zoom -- The Islamic Golden Age

*Instructor:* Theodora Zampaki

The Islamic Golden Age was a time of significant intellectual, cultural, and scientific achievements. This course aims at presenting some aspects and examples of the great achievements of the Islamic Golden Age, such as advances in medicine, astronomy, philosophy, mathematics, art, etc. We will comment on the ethnic and religious affiliations of the translators, the interests of their patrons, and the choice of the philosophical and scientific Greek works to be translated. We will also examine the cultural life of Baghdad during the 'Abbāsīd Caliphate. We will explore how knowledge and innovations of the 'Abbāsīd period laid the groundwork for the European Renaissance. By the end of the course, you will gain a deeper appreciation for the intellectual and cultural contributions of these achievements to world civilization. ***This class is offered in partnership with OLLI at Furman.***

**Note:** There is no class on Jan. 19

**Instructor:** *Theodora Zampaki*; D.Phil., Graeco-Arabic Studies; tutor at the Hellenic Open University, Greece; she has been offering courses for OLLI at Furman since 2021.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-331 **Instance #:** 000001 **Eight Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 8

### Via Zoom -- Performers as Creators: The Composer-Violinist Legacy

*Instructor:* Ilana Zaks

This course celebrates violinist-composers—musicians who didn't just perform music, but wrote it from inside the instrument. These artists crafted works to match their expressive and technical identities, reshaping the violin repertoire from the Baroque period through today. We'll listen to legends like Paganini and Ysaÿe alongside contemporary voices like Jessie Montgomery and Daniel Bernard Roumain. Each session blends musical excerpts, historical insights, and multimedia content, creating an immersive experience for music lovers, performers, and curious listeners alike. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI UNCW.***

**Instructor:** *Ilana Zaks*; fourth-generation violinist and educator; currently serves as First Violinist with the Seattle Symphony and Seattle Opera, and teaches at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute; a graduate of New England Conservatory and Yale School of Music, she studied with Donald Weilerstein, Ani Kavafian, and Itzhak Perlman, with whom she worked intensively for nearly a decade; her innovative project, Sound Worlds, fuses violin, narrative, and multimedia. Ilana is a passionate advocate for performer-driven creativity and has presented masterclasses at Harvard, Yale, NEC, and beyond.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-347 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 10-11:30 a.m. **Dates:** Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9 **Limit:** 20 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 12

### Via Zoom -- Aliens! It's (Almost) Never Aliens!

*Instructor:* Brand Fortner

From mysterious lights in the sky to bizarre signals from distant stars, history is full of moments when scientists and the public alike explained phenomena by claiming "it must be extraterrestrials", only to discover a perfectly natural explanation later. This course takes you on a whirlwind tour of 20 fascinating cases—like crop circles, Tabby's Star, and the "Face on Mars"—where the truth turned out to be stranger (and more satisfying) than

fiction. This course is part science, part detective story, and a whole lot of fun. Bring your curiosity—and leave your tinfoil hat at home. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at Furman and OLLI at UNCW.***

**Instructor:** *Brand Fortner*; Ph.D. in high energy astrophysics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; teaching professor in physics at NC State and adjunct professor of physics at UNC-Chapel Hill; founder of two software companies; previously held positions at NASA, NCSA, and Johns Hopkins University.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-313 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 22

### **Via Zoom -- How Taylor Swift Built a Billion Dollar Brand Identity**

*Instructor:* Janice Horner

Taylor Swift isn't just a Grammy award-winning popstar; she's a masterclass in modern marketing and brand identity. In the first session we will explore how she built a multi-billion-dollar brand model established on authenticity, personal connection, and relatability. In the second session we'll dive deeper into her trademark--the ability to tell stories through her songwriting--by listening to some key songs from her discography. From signing an artist development deal with RCA records at age 13 to selling out every show on her worldwide Eras Tour, join us to learn more about the evolution of one of today's brightest superstars. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at UNCW.***

**Instructor:** *Janice Horner*; MPH in Health Behavior, UNC-Chapel Hill; after working in the healthcare field for over 20 years, she is now enjoying semi-retirement, teaching fitness classes and dabbling in writing and some other creative pursuits; she is a National Board Certified-Health and Wellness Coach and a Nia Technique® Black Belt Instructor; Janice lives in Raleigh with her husband, daughter, and tuxedo cat.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-082 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 23, 30 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 19

### **Via Zoom -- Masters of Dark Fiction: Blending Genre Narratives**

*Instructor:* P.M. Raymond

This engaging literary exploration examines how master storytellers blend elements of horror, mystery, crime, thriller, and suspense to create unforgettable narratives. Through discussion, analysis, and appreciation, participants will discover the sophisticated techniques behind their favorite page-turners and develop deeper critical reading skills. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at Furman.***

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** Optional reading list will be provided and film recommendations made available for students to view prior to each session.

**Instructor:** *P.M. Raymond*; award winning author whose work has appeared in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, *Writer's Digest*, *Punk Noir*, and *Dark Yonder*, among others. Her short story collection *THINGS ARE AS THEY SHOULD BE and other words to die* was a finalist for the Claymore Award; she received her undergraduate and MBA from Maryville University; she is the Sisters in Crime Eleanor Taylor Bland award winner, a Killer Shorts finalist, and Horror2Comic quarterfinalist.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-192 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 16, 23, 30 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

## TUESDAY

### Via Zoom -- The Role of the Quakers in Founding America

*Instructor:* Max Carter

While not the sole creators of our nation, the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) impacted the early history and the founding of the United States in profound ways. From William Penn's *Frames of Government* through the Revolutionary War period and General Nathanael Greene, Betsy Ross, and Thomas Paine, Quaker influence was profound. Nearly half of the original colonies were governed by Quakers at some time. In this course, we'll explore basic Quaker principles and how they helped "invent" the United States of America.

**Instructor:** *Max Carter*; Ph.D, American Religious History, Temple University; retired in 2015 from Guilford College as the William R. Rogers Director of Friends Center and Quaker Studies; member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers); serves on numerous boards of Quaker organizations and is the author of five books and numerous chapters and articles.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-327 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### Via Zoom -- The Periodic Table and Its Superstars

*Instructor:* Michael Paesler

The Periodic Table of the elements is at once one of the greatest scientific achievements of all time as well as a simple and logical arrangement of all matter. In this course we will learn how the table historically evolved and why the elements are arranged as they are. Special focus will be given to the Periodic Table's superstars—nitrogen, silicon, lithium, and carbon. We will learn why it's called Silicon Valley and not "Germanium Valley" and why lithium can cause Teslas to catch fire, among other fascinating facts about the fundamental building blocks of matter. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at UNCW.***

**Instructor:** *Michael Paesler*; B.A., Physics and Mathematics, Beloit College; M.S. and Ph.D. , Physics, University of Chicago; Emeritus Professor and former Head, Department of Physics, NC State; member of the Academy of Outstanding Teachers NC State; Fellow, American Physical Society; member Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi honorary societies; visiting professor at: Hahn-Meitner Institut, Berlin, Germany; Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon, France; Technische Universität Dresden, Germany; and Max-Planck-Institut für Festkörperforschung, Stuttgart, Germany.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-341 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7, 14 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### Via Zoom -- This Quintessence of Dust: Hamlet's Soliloquies

*Instructor:* Ian Finley

Shakespeare's masterpiece *Hamlet*, a castle of drama, pathos, and humor, is built on the foundations of seven incredible speeches. Join us for this three-session course where we use the rhetorical tools of American theater director and author Barry Edelstein's *Thinking Shakespeare* to unlock these soliloquies and uncover the insights and revelations within.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare

**Instructor:** *Ian Finley*; holds an MFA in playwriting and screenwriting from the Tisch School of Arts at New York University; he has taught for Southern Methodist University, Burning Coal Theatre Company, OLLI at NC State and over 30 North Carolina schools; Ian is also a working playwright, and served as the 2012 Piedmont laureate; his play *Native* was recently adapted for film as *The Problem of the Hero*, now streaming online.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-202 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 7, 14, 21 **Limit:** 50  
**Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 2

## WEDNESDAY

### Via Zoom -- Terrorism, Cults and Secret Societies

*Instructor:* Bob Fannin

This course will describe what terrorism, cults and secret societies are and their impact on historical events and society. We will show how all three are related as to purpose and organization. There will be discussion on different methods that have historically been used for mind control and to deprogram people who have been held in the clutches of one of these radical groups. Themes that will be discussed include why terrorism, cults and secret societies exist and how they have evolved, and the methods used to recruit and radicalize individuals. We will explore the globalization of terrorism, and how it has changed in modern times. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at Furman.***

**Instructor:** *Bob Fannin*; worked at Army Intelligence School and is a thirty year member of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers; holds a Master's degree in Information Science.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-332 **Instance #:** 000001 **Eight Sessions:** 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 8

### Via Zoom -- Universal Studio's Classic Monsters

*Instructor:* Peyton Holland

During the Golden Age of Hollywood, no other studio had as profound an impact on the horror film genre as Universal Studios. Films like *Dracula* and *Frankenstein* not only frightened audiences at the time but continue to influence filmmakers almost a century later. This course examines key films in Universal's Classic Monsters series, the figureheads who brought these creatures to life, and the aesthetic elements that make these films so atmospheric. Students receive a list of films to view and discussion topics of interest before class meetings. The films covered depend on availability, but may include *Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, *The Mummy*, *The Invisible Man*, *The Bride of Frankenstein*, *The Wolf Man*, and *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI UNCW.***

**Instructor:** *Peyton Holland*; M.A., Film Studies, UNCW; he has taught courses on the aesthetics of monster movies and has served as a teaching assistant in intro courses on film aesthetics and world cinema; Peyton completed his Master's thesis detailing the advertising work of filmmaker David Lynch and has interned with production companies Grey Matter Productions and Voltage Entertainment.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-348 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 2-3:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4 **Limit:** 15 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 22

### Via Zoom -- Broadway in the Nineties

*Instructor:* Cary Frederick

Broadway in the 1990s was dominated by the Disney Corp. In addition to converting *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion King* from animated films to stage musicals, Disney invested millions in the modernization of Times Square. Their major contribution was the complete renovation of the New Amsterdam Theater on 42nd St. Once Disney made their commitment, other developers followed. The nineties were not all Disney; Neil Simon had four plays, including *Lost in Yonkers*, which won a Pulitzer Prize; *Miss Saigon* was a follow-up to *Les*

*Miserables*; and *Rent*, was the "*Hamilton*" of the 90s. We will discuss these plays and approximately 50 others by year. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at UMass Boston.***

**Instructor:** *Cary Frederick*; B.A., English; MLS, Indiana University; studied and taught film at College of Staten Island; stayed in NYC and continued to study film in the repertory movie houses of New York for 13 years and the Museum of Modern Art and the New School for the Arts; Cary helped run the Current Broadway Theater Tour for 45 years, from 1971-2016.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-318 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-5:00 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 15

### **Via Zoom -- Congressional Committees: Where the Work Gets Done**

**Instructor:** Bill Pruden

While mentioned nowhere in the Constitution, from the first Congress, committees have been an integral part of congressional operations. They have been central to congressional efforts to make laws, conduct oversight, and "advise and consent," among other responsibilities. Committees have served as platforms upon which productive political careers and legacies have been built, as well as a stage for historical events. This course will look at the evolving role of congressional committees over time, looking at what they do, how their role has changed and what it all means to the modern political and governmental processes.

**Instructor:** *Bill Pruden*; A.B., History, Princeton University; JD from Case Western Reserve University; M.A., Social Studies, Wesleyan University. M.A., Politics, Indiana University; teacher at Ravenscroft School for over 30 years; he has also complemented his years of teaching history and government with active involvement in the political system, twice running for local office and also serving as a legislative assistant to both a state senator and a member of the US House of Representatives; Pruden has also written widely on U.S. history, politics, education, and sports.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-203 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### **Via Zoom -- Artist Wayne Thiebaud: How to Have Your Cake and Eat It, Too!**

**Instructor:** Kirah Van Sickle

Known for his colorful cakes and pies and portraits of Americans, Wayne Thiebaud has etched a unique mark on Abstract Expressionism and the Bay Area Figurative Movement. We will explore his inspirations, style, color voice and what makes him such an appealing modern master. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at UNCW.***

**Instructor:** *Kirah Van Sickle*; lifelong artist and adventurer; in addition to her studio practice, she is a dynamic instructor, lecturer, mentor and coach, leading custom studio and cultural history courses locally and internationally; she brings rich insight and experience to materials and traditional and contemporary processes; active in community arts programming, she is passionate about the preservation of natural and cultural resources.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-206 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 8, 15 **Limit:** 19 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 2

## THURSDAY

### Via Zoom -- Nutrition for Healthy Aging

*Instructor:* Sarah Ash

This course will examine how our nutrient needs change with age. We will learn how we can make informed, evidence-based decisions about what to eat to maintain muscle strength and bone health and preserve cognitive function. Good nutrition can help to prevent falls (the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans) and aid in managing weight and chronic conditions, such as hypertension. We will discuss individual nutrient needs and evaluate popular eating patterns, including the Mediterranean and DASH Diets. You will also learn how to separate facts from fallacies in the world-wide web of diet and supplement claims.

***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at UNCW.***

**Instructor:** Sarah Ash; A.B., Biology, Harvard University; M.S., Ph.D., Nutrition, Tufts University; professor emerita in the Department of Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Sciences, NC State; recipient of the UNC System Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching, the NC State Alumni Distinguished Professor Award, and the USDA Food and Agriculture Sciences Excellence in Teaching Award, among others.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-340 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 18

### Via Zoom -- Read and Discuss Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*

*Instructor:* Marjorie Lancaster

Winner of the 2016 National Book Award and the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for literature, Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad* is a tour de force. Defying easy classification, it draws on author Colson Whitehead's knowledge of historical materials and his imaginative reconfiguration of them. His central conceit—the invention of an actual subterranean railroad system on which an enslaved girl escapes from a Georgia plantation—is the vehicle that drives the novel. Whitehead does not shy away from the horrors of the period but counters them by showing the resistance and ingenuity of many. We will give this novel the close analytical reading it deserves and discuss, among other things, its wide array of characters, compelling narrative, episodic structure, and the points it makes about America, past and present.

**Instructor:** Marjorie Lancaster, graduated from Duke and did graduate work in English at Tulane; she taught high school English for over 30 years, during which time she was honored to be designated Teacher of the Year from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro school district; since retiring she has taken and taught numerous OLLI classes; for her, the ideal class is fueled by curiosity and preparation and is energized by lively discussions marked by differing viewpoints.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-333 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

## ZOOM LECTURES

## WEDNESDAY

### Via Zoom -- Dangerous Asteroids: Identify, Track and Deflect

*Instructor:* Alan Rich

Earth has a history of devastating impacts from asteroid and comet collisions. As recently as 1908, an impact over uninhabited Siberia flattened 830 square miles; not to mention the asteroid that wiped out the dinosaurs

and most life on Earth. Sooner or later, it will happen again. In this lecture you will learn how NASA identifies and tracks threats, and what can be done if an asteroid is headed our way. You will also learn how to join NASA from your home computer to watch live and in real time as objects lurk in space above. ***This course is offered in partnership with OLLI at UNCW.***

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** Various pages on NASA's web site. Key words: "Near Earth objects", DART mission.

**Instructor:** *Alan Rich*; B.S., M.S., Chemistry; spokesman for NASA through the JPL Solar System Ambassador program since 2001; facilitating scientist for technology spin-offs from Mars exploration into the field of diagnostic medicine.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3Z-412 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 25 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 19

## FRIDAY

### Via Zoom -- Globalizing the American Revolution

*Instructor:* Richard Bell

When we think of the American Revolution, we often picture a parochial drama: 13 colonies squaring off against the British Crown in a spirited bid for Independence. But this version of the story is only half the truth. Historian and author Richard Bell invites audiences to rediscover the Revolution as a world war that unleashed chaos, opportunity, and transformation across six continents. From the sugar fields of the Caribbean to the court of the King of Mysore, from refugee camps on the Canadian frontier to political uprisings in Sierra Leone and Peru; this war was never simply America's own. It was a seismic global event that redrew maps, toppled hierarchies, catalyzed migration, and accelerated new movements for liberty—and for empire. This is the American Revolution as you've never seen it before: complex, global, and astonishingly relevant to the modern world. ***This lecture is offered in partnership with OLLI at Furman.***

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *The American Revolution and the Fate of the World*, Richard Bell

**Instructor:** *Richard Bell*; professor of History, University of Maryland; author of the book *Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and their Astonishing Odyssey Home* which was a finalist for the George Washington Prize and the Harriet Tubman Prize; he has held major research fellowships at Yale, Cambridge, and the Library of Congress and is the recipient of the National Endowment of the Humanities Public Scholar award and the Andrew Carnegie Fellowship; his new book, *The American Revolution and the Fate of the World*, was published by Penguin in November 2025.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3Z-415 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 16 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 11

## DAY 2 REGISTRATION

**\*\* All In-person Courses and Lectures, Live Streams, Lunch and Learns and Socials open on Day 2 \*\***

(Day 1 offerings remain open on day 2 if not full)

### FIRST TERM MULTI-WEEK COURSES

#### MONDAY

##### **Via Zoom -- The Islamic Golden Age**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 14 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-331 **Instance #:** 000001 **Eight Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 8

##### **Napoleonic Wars Part V**

*Instructor:* Dave Milidonis

This is the final part of our Napoleonic Wars series. Join us for the dramatic conclusion of Wellington's triumph in the Peninsular War. Napoleon's Leipzig Campaign and the battles in defense of France sent him into exile on Elba in 1814. Then, after less than a year, he escapes and embarks on the "Hundred Days War," culminating at Waterloo in June 1815. Even in defeat, Napoleon's exploits changed the face of warfare for the next one hundred years.

**Note:** There are two identical sections of this course, one in the first term and one in the second; choose the one that best fits your schedule.

**Instructor:** *Dave Milidonis*; founder and managing director of the non-profit organization, the National Veterans History Archival Institute (NVHAI); 1974 graduate, U.S. Military Academy, West Point; 20 years U.S. Army infantry experience; veteran OLLI instructor and 2019 recipient of the William C. Friday Award for Distinguished Service in Retirement, given by NC State's Association of Retired Faculty.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-312 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

##### **Via Zoom -- Performers as Creators: The Composer-Violinist Legacy**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 14 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-347 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 10-11:30 a.m. **Dates:** Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9 **Limit:** 20 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 12

##### **Vietnam: Counterinsurgency and the U.S. Marines**

*Instructor:* John Booth

The Vietnam War is a conflict that is still not easily understood. John Booth fought as a Marine Lieutenant in two wars in Vietnam. The first was a counterinsurgency against Viet Cong guerrillas. The second was a conventional war against the North Vietnamese Army. This course will discuss both strategies, but will focus more on the counterinsurgency, interspersed with the instructor's personal experiences and perspective. The last class will be on the Tet Offensive, the "turning point" of the war.

**Instructor:** *John Booth*; B.S. Civil Engineer, NC State; MBA Darden Business School, University of Virginia; licensed Professional Engineer; retired business executive; retired Colonel U.S. Marine Corps, thirty-three years active and reserve service; recalled to active duty 1<sup>st</sup> Persian Gulf War; OLLI member.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-086 **Instance #:** 000002 **Five Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

### **Via Zoom -- Aliens! It's (Almost) Never Aliens!**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 14 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-313 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 22

### **Great Decisions 2026**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 2 for description and details.

**Note:** There are two different sections, instances, and facilitators for this course. Choose the instance that best fits your schedule, and check listings for facilitator information.

**Facilitator for Section/Instance 000010** on First Term Mondays at 11:00 a.m.: Mike Ganey

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-080 **Instance #:** 000010 **Eight Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16 **Limit:** 23 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$100 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

**Facilitator for Section/Instance 000011** on First Term Mondays at 1:00 p.m.: Tom Price

*Facilitator:* Tom Price (Instance 000011)

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-080 **Instance #:** 000011 **Eight Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16 **Limit:** 23 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$100 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

### **Life After The Holocaust**

*Instructor:* Sheldon Bleiweiss

While the atrocities of the Holocaust are widely known, the experiences of survivors in the aftermath of liberation often receive less attention. This course focuses on what came next—exploring the obstacles survivors encountered, the ways they adapted, and the lasting impact on their families. The instructor will share how these narratives have influenced his own journey, including a powerful visit to Poland and his involvement in Holocaust education. Together, we'll learn about notable survivors, the early efforts to teach and commemorate the Holocaust, and the enduring lessons their stories offer.

**Instructor:** *Shelly Bleiweiss*; a child of two Polish Jewish Holocaust survivors, and a former docent at Holocaust Museum Houston; for over 24 years, Shelly has spoken to hundreds of school students, dozens of religious and civic groups, and numerous senior living communities; Shelly is an experienced instructor for OLLI at NC State and Duke, and for the Creative Lifelong Learning program at Granville County Senior Center; a member of the NC State Council on the Holocaust and NC Holocaust Speakers Bureau, he has been the featured speaker at several Holocaust Commemorations.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-326 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 24

## **Table Read: "Primary Trust"**

*Instructor:* Gwen Hendrix

The purpose of a table read is to allow readers to understand a script and examine the characters in depth by giving sound to the script. The play we will be reading, *Primary Trust* by Eboni Booth is the winner of the 2024 Pulitzer Prize in drama. It is the story of Kenneth, a 38-year-old bookstore worker who spends his evenings sipping Mai-tais at the local tiki bar. When he's suddenly laid off, Kenneth finally begins to face a world he's long avoided – with transformative and even comical results. Eboni Booth's *Primary Trust* is a touching and inventive world-premiere play about new beginnings, old friends, and seeing the world for the first time. Eboni Booth is a writer and actress from the Bronx, a Juilliard Playwriting Fellow, acclaimed actress, and a graduate of the University of Vermont. We will examine the universal meanings of loneliness and community and discuss how this relates to our society today, especially for millennials. No acting experience is necessary. Students are expected to have read the script prior to class and to participate in discussions and Q & A. Discussion questions will be distributed one week prior to each class. The script will be provided one week prior to class as well.

**Note:** Though not required, for better understanding, students can optionally attend the February 8, 2026 PlayMakers Repertory Company production and after play discussion at UNC Chapel Hill. The play runs Jan. 28 – Feb. 15, 2026.

**Instructor:** *Gwen Veale Hendrix*; B.A., Talladega College; M.A., UNC-Chapel Hill; M.Ed., NC State; retired chemist, programmer, career counselor, and financial aid advisor; theatre has always been her passion and she is an avid writer and theater goer; Gwen has acted in local community theatre and written several plays; she is excited to share her love of theatre by encouraging others to read more plays and attend performances.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-205 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 1-3:00 p.m. **Dates:** Feb. 9, 16 **Limit:** 12

**Location:** McKimmon 232 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 7

## **Great Books Discussion Group: *The Civically Engaged Reader***

*Instructor:* John Pilgrim

What does it mean to be "civically engaged?" Is this an obligation or an opportunity? What are the different ways to engage civically? Using "shared inquiry," we'll explore how a variety of writers have addressed these questions.

**Required Reading:** Our texts will be selected from *The Civically Engaged Reader*, available from the Great Books Foundation bookstore <https://store.greatbooks.org/>. Students are expected to purchase the book, read the texts and participate in the conversation about them.

### **Our classes and assignments are:**

- February 2: Adam Smith, selection from *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* and selection from Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*
- February 16: W.E. DuBois, selection from *The Souls of Black Folk* and Toni Morrison, *Recitatif*
- March 2: Martin Luther King, *The Drum Major Instinct* and the *Book of Ruth*
- March 16: Adam Davis, *What We Don't Talk About When We Don't Talk About Service*
- March 30: Andrew Carnegie, *The Gospel of Wealth, Part I* and Ralph Waldo Emerson, selection from *Self-Reliance*
- April 13: Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Minister's Black Veil*

**Instructor:** *John Pilgrim*; Ph.D., Economics, Vanderbilt University; B.A., Economics, Grinnell College; professor of economics for 35 years, now retired; has taught various economics-related OLLI courses; facilitates the OLLI Great Books discussion course; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-077 **Instance #:** 000005 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Feb. 2, 16, Mar. 2, 16, 30, Apr. 13 **Limit:** 23 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 31

### **Osher Online -- Landscape & Adventure Photography: An Introduction**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 9 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-339 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

### **Osher Online -- Post Impressionism and the Birth of Abstraction**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 9 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-336 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **TUESDAY**

### **The Psalms**

*Instructor:* Carson Brisson

This course will examine selected Psalms in terms of their structure, language, images, poetic devices, and theological meanings. We will also give attention to the overall structure of the *Book of Psalms*, particularly to its thematic movements, for example the movement from wisdom (Ps 1) to worship (Pss 146-150).

Expressions of personal and communal sorrow and joy, despair and hope, lament and praise, unrighteousness and righteousness, and disillusionment and wonder, will be explored. These themes are all framed within the foundational vision of the Psalms of life lived in relation to a merciful and just God who wills and works for all creation to receive, enjoy, and reflect divine mercy and justice as its ultimate purpose and highest good.

Frequent references to the Hebrew texts of selected Psalms will assist us in our learning, but facility in Biblical Hebrew is not required for this course.

**Required Reading:** Students will be asked to bring their bibles to class; the NRSV translation is advised though all are welcome.

**Instructor:** *E. Carson Brisson*; Associate Professor of Bible and Biblical Languages, (Ph.D., Th.M., M.Div., B.A.,) Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond Va.; Charlotte, NC; Dr. Brisson's primary teaching assignments at Union are biblical Hebrew and Greek; in 2022, he received an award for his essay "A Jail Visit and a Promise to a Mother"; his latest publication is the essay "Stronger Than All Evil Things," in the journal *Christian Century*; he enjoys taking long walks with his spouse and their rescue beagle when there is a breeze.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-342 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Feb. 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3 **Limit:** 26 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 8

### **Naval Stores and The Real Tar Heels**

*Instructor:* Earl Ijames

Emmy Award winning farmer and historian Earl L. Ijames will present the origins of the colonial and antebellum economy of North Carolina. In the era of wooden ships, the Navy required large amounts of tar and pitch to seal boats, known as naval stores. North Carolina played a large part in its production. Participants will learn the history of the term "Tar Heel" through film, lectures and exhibits. Each session will include original artifacts,

primary source documents and photographs. Be prepared to learn about “hacking, dippin’, scrapin’ and sweatin’ tar like an eastern North Carolina tackle (sic) mound!

**Instructor:** *Earl L. Ijames*; B.A., History, minor in economics and African American Studies, NC State; Emmy Award winning farmer, historian, film maker; NC Military Society Lecturer (2006); consultant to Henry Louis Gates, Jr. in the film "Looking for Lincoln" (2009); W.W. Law History Lecturer, Savannah, GA (2010); North Carolina Museum of History Inaugural Juneteenth Lecturer (2019); co-founder, Historian Capital City Juneteenth Celebration (2019-); Annie Casey Foundation Lecturer- Atlanta, GA (2022); Keynote- Rocky Mount Juneteenth Festival (2023); 7th Generation North Carolinian; Archivist (1990- 2008) State Archives of North Carolina; Atlanta (GA) History Center 2014 Sesquicentennial Presenter; Board Member, Preservation North Carolina; 2022 NC Symphony Juneteenth Narrator.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-199 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 3 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 15

### **Going Genre Once Again**

**Instructor:** Lewis Beale

Technically, every movie is a genre film—romance, war, crime, sports, melodrama, sci fi—you name it, they all fit under the “genre” standard, which is defined as "a category of artistic composition characterized by similarities in form, style or subject matter." This class will feature films from six different genres, including: a classic, award-winning war movie; a sports film that is NOT about an underdog team or athlete; a Western from a master of the genre; a highly stylized melodrama; a crime comedy featuring a star’s breakout performance; and a pedal to the metal sci fi flick. A discussion will follow each screening.

**Note:** Some of these films include violence. If you find violence in movies overly distressing, this course is probably not for you.

**Instructor:** *Lewis Beale*; film industry reporter for newspapers in New York and Los Angeles; taught journalism at UNC-Wilmington; has written for *The New York Times*, *Newsday*, the *L.A. Times*, *The Daily Beast* and other magazines and websites; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-345 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 1-4:00 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 18

### **The World of Stonehenge and the Neolithic Revolution**

**Instructor:** Buzz Thunen

This course covers a critical time in human history when prehistoric cultures throughout Europe and the Middle East shifted their economic, social, and ritual practices. From the domestication of animals to cultivating grains and constructing ritual landscapes, Neolithic cultures transformed their economy and social organization. Using the examples of Stonehenge in England, Newgrange in Ireland, and Scotland's Circle of Stennes, we examine the archaeological evidence for these profound changes.

**Instructor:** *Buzz Thunen*; Ph.D., Northwestern University; B.A., Anthropology, UC Santa Cruz; taught Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of North Florida for 34 years; created the UNF Anthropology Major and the Archaeology Lab; worked on Archaeological Research in California, Illinois, Tennessee, and Florida; research focused on the Middle Woodland Ceremonial Earthworks, and French and Spanish in 16<sup>th</sup> century Florida.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-294 **Instance #:** 000002 **Six Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan.18

## **N.C. Local Government: Purpose and Process**

*Instructor:* Rebecca Troutman

North Carolina is known as a "good government" state, largely due to its strong system of county and municipal government. This course will examine the services, finances, and structures of North Carolina's local governments, providing some historical context on its development and opportunities for its residents' direct involvement. The first session will feature an overview of our state's local government system and how it differs from that in other states. The second session will drill down into the responsibilities and services of our 100 county governments, with the final session reserved for city and town governments and our local boards of education. County and city managers will be on hand to answer audience questions.

**Instructor:** *Rebecca Troutman*; B.A., Political Science; M.A., Public Administration, NC State; Intergovernmental Relations and Research Director for the N.C. Association of County Commissioners, a bi-partisan advocacy organization for all 100 N.C. counties; lobbyist for Human Services, Tax and Finance, Personnel and Budget for NCACC.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-201 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Feb. 10, 17, 24 **Limit:** 29  
**Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 8

## **Osher Online -- Dealing in Futures: The Shape of Science Fiction**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 10 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-337 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **Osher Online -- Einstein Without Tears: His Theories Explained Without Math and in Everyday Language**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 11 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-334 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, Mar. 3 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **Osher Online -- Japanese History Through the Lens of Shōgun**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 11 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-335 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 7-8:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **Via Zoom -- Terrorism, Cults and Secret Societies**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 17 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-332 **Instance #:** 000001 **Eight Sessions:** 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 8

## **The Church in the Middle Ages**

*Instructor:* Carolyn Happer

This course explores Western/Roman Catholic Christianity from the fall of Rome to the Reformation. It begins with a look at the religious geography of the former Roman Empire. We will examine the challenge of converting the Germanic tribes and the impact of the conversions on the church, the monastic movement, the Crusades, Gothic cathedrals, doctrinal developments, the height of the papacy in the 1200s, the decline of the church in the late Middle Ages and finally the Renaissance challenge to the church.

**Instructor:** *Carolyn Happer*; received her Ph.D. from Duke University; she was at Meredith College for 30 years where she taught Southern history, American history, Western Civilization and Holocaust Experiences.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-315 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 19

## **Germ Theory: Inception, Adoption, and Challenges**

*Instructor:* David Shew

For most of human history, people blamed contagious diseases and infections of humans, plants and animals on angry gods, imbalances in the body (humor), or an unhealthy atmosphere (miasma). A series of scientific breakthroughs in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century led to the establishment of the theory that diseases were caused by germs and that following a set of principles allowed the cause of a disease to be identified. The acceptance and application of the germ theory improved treatments for infectious diseases and greatly reduced or eliminated the ravages of these diseases. This course will describe historical events that led to the theory's development, look at modern applications of the germ theory and the threats posed by pathogen evolution, and discuss some current controversies and interpretations of the germ theory.

**Instructor:** *David Shew*; retired Professor of Plant Pathology from NC State; he conducted research and taught multiple undergraduate and graduate classes in Plant Pathology for 39 years; he received numerous NC State and national research and teaching awards; a native of rural Brunswick Co, he has a passion for plants and the natural world, including the many types of microbial organisms that enhance and damage plant health; his passion for teaching has found a new outlet in teaching courses in OLLI.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-316 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 19

## **Confessions of a Retired Art Museum Curator III**

*Instructor:* John Coffey

John Coffey returns with more stories from his long career as a curator at the North Carolina Museum of Art. This course will focus on two American painters who are well-represented in the NCMA's collection: John Singleton Copley, the country's first great artist, and Andrew Wyeth, the foremost realist painter of our time. The third class will use the NCMA's renowned collection of German modern art to explore the out-sized and outrageous achievements of the avant-garde before the advent of Nazism. In collaboration with the NCMA, Coffey will lead an open-ended tour and discussion in the museum's art galleries to conclude the course.

**Note:** information regarding the tour will be sent to participants after registration.

**Instructor:** *John Coffey*; Native of Raleigh, John Coffey received a B.A. from UNC-Chapel Hill and a M.A. from Williams College; in 1988 he began a 32-year career at the North Carolina Museum of Art, retiring as deputy director, curator of American and modern art, and curator of Judaic art; during his tenure, Coffey organized numerous exhibitions; however, his proudest legacy are the many art acquisitions that have dramatically enhanced the museum's collections of American, modern and Jewish ceremonial art.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-194 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4  
**Limit:** 50 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 19

### **Contemporary European Film**

*Instructor:* Lucy Fischer

This course will survey contemporary European cinema from 1999 through 2013 selected from such countries as France, Germany, Scotland, Great Britain, Spain, and Italy. It will interrogate notions of national cinema in the age of globalism and transnationalism and consider issues of economic co-production and the circulation of movie talent and personnel. Class sessions will be organized largely in terms of chronology, but also in relation to various important social issues that the films raise, such as ecology, immigration, race, gender, and surveillance. Beyond such themes, notions of cinematic style and genre will also be examined.

**Instructor:** *Lucy Fischer*; Distinguished Professor, Emerita, of Film and Media Studies at the University of Pittsburgh; she is the author of fifteen books, most recently, *Cinema by Design: Art Nouveau, Modernism, and Film History* (2017), *Cinemagritte: René Magritte Within the Frame of Film History, Theory and Practice* (2019) *Emotion Pictures: Cinema and Feelings* (2023), *The Cinema of Converging Lives: Complex Film, Intersecting Stories in an Isolating World* (2025). She worked at The Museum of Modern Art (NYC) and The Carnegie Museum of Art (Pittsburgh).

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-317 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18  
**Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 19

### **Via Zoom -- Universal Studio's Classic Monsters**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 17 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-348 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 2-3:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4 **Limit:** 15 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 22

### **Choosing a CCRC: Make Your First Choice the Right Choice**

*Instructors:* Brad Breeding, Beth Holden, Emily Smith, Whitney Harris, Allie Ligay, Robert Ware, Debra Ruff, Betsy Sykes, Danielle Brown, Alia Granger

This course will equip attendees with the information and knowledge to more confidently navigate their retirement living choices. We'll cover the various retirement living options, including an in-depth overview of continuing care retirement communities, as well as financial considerations and other important questions to ask. Representatives from local CCRCs will provide discussion of the various contract types and answer any questions you have specific to their community.

#### **CCRC Schedule:**

- Jan. 21, 28: Instructor Brad Breeding
- Feb. 4: EXTENSIVE: Searstone Retirement Community and Galloway Ridge
- Feb. 11: FEE FOR SERVICE: Carolina Meadows and Croasdaile Village
- Feb. 18: MODIFIED: Springmoor Retirement Community and Glenaire Retirement Community
- Feb. 25: RENTAL: The Templeton of Cary and The Cardinal at North Hills
- March 4: EQUITY: The Cedars of Chapel Hill

**Instructor:** *Brad Breeding*; spent 12 years as a personal financial advisor before founding myLifeSite.net, an online platform providing tools and content designed to facilitate well-informed retirement living choices—especially concerning CCRC/life plan retirement communities and other senior living options; Brad's expertise has been sought out by outlets such as *Money Magazine*, *Kiplinger's*, *Wall Street Journal's MarketWatch*, *USA*

Today, and *The New York Times*. His book *What's the Deal with Retirement Communities?* offers an exploration of senior living and important planning considerations.

**Instructor:** *Beth Holden*; Director of Sales and Marketing, Springmoor Retirement Community

**Instructor:** *Emily Smith*; Director of Sales and Marketing, Glenaire Retirement Community

**Instructor:** *Whitney Harris*; Manager of Community Sales, Carolina Meadows

**Instructor:** *Allie Ligay*; Sales and Marketing Director, Searstone Retirement Community

**Instructor:** *Robert Ware*; Director of Sales, Galloway Ridge

**Instructor:** *Debra Ruff*; Director of Sales, The Templeton of Cary

**Instructor:** *Betsy Sykes*; Senior Membership Director, The Cardinal at North Hills

**Instructor:** *Danielle Brown*; Marketing Director, Croasdaile Village Retirement Community

**Instructor:** *Alia Granger*; Senior Sales Specialist at The Cedars of Chapel Hill

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-186 **Instance #:** 000003 **Seven Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 19

### **Bird Flu in America: Past, Prices, Preparedness**

*Instructor:* Matt Koci

Bird flu has drawn growing attention in recent years due to its effects on agriculture and the food supply. This course investigates the virus and its wider implications. It begins with a look at the virus's background, how it spreads among wild birds and poultry, and the influence of environmental conditions on outbreak patterns. We then explore the economic consequences, focusing on how both the outbreaks and containment efforts affect the pricing of eggs and poultry. The final section centers on current and prospective responses, outlining present-day actions, future plans under review, and contingency measures should the virus pose a greater threat to human health. Participants are encouraged to bring questions and engage in discussion.

**Instructor:** *Dr. Matt Koci*; B.S. , Virginia Tech; M.S. and Ph.D., University of Georgia; he is currently a professor in the Prestage Department of Poultry Science at NC State, where his research, teaching, and outreach focus on how viruses and bacteria cause disease and how birds defend themselves; in addition to research, he works to translate discoveries to help everyday North Carolinians separate fact from fiction.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-204 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 26

### **Via Zoom -- Broadway in the Nineties**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 17 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-318 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-5:00 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 15

## **THURSDAY**

### **A Hitchhiker's Guide to AI: A Look to the Future**

*Instructor:* John Prager

In this course we look at some of the current societal challenges AI brings and examine thought leaders' predictions, both hopeful and dire, for the future. We look at the evolution of search and surveillance, the current and projected impact on jobs, and what experts are saying about whether we are all doomed. The course also includes sections on neutral or happier topics, such as self-driving cars and household robots. In addition to successes, we will uncover some amusing failures of the chatbots.

**Note:** This course contains some material covered in the Fall 2024 course A Hitchhiker's Guide to AI, along with new material added for Spring 2026.

**Instructor:** *John M. Prager*; B.A., M.A., Ph.D. from University of Cambridge and University of Massachusetts, in mathematics, computer science and artificial intelligence; worked for 40 years in Research at IBM; authored about 100 publications, including two dozen patents; formed the question-answering project that became the Watson system that won at Jeopardy! on national TV in 2011; after retirement in 2019, became a frequent OLLI at Duke presenter, and first taught for OLLI NC State in 2024.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-307 **Instance #:** 000002 **Five Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 27

### **Not Just 1939 - Other Great Hollywood Years**

*Instructor:* Stan Darer

Most Hollywood critics name 1939 as the greatest year for movies. There certainly have been great films coming out of Hollywood year after year. This course will focus on the significant movies from six different years. Through discussion and film clips we will discover the important productions from those years. Our focus will be on the movies from 1957, 1967, 1975, 1982, 1994 and 1999. Join us as we travel from 1957 *Bridge On The River Kwai* to 1999 *The Sixth Sense*.

**Instructor:** *Stan Darer*; B.A., Economics, Lehman College, CUNY, Bronx; thirty-eight year career in finance in the electrical supply industry with Graybar Electric Company; volunteer at several organizations in Raleigh, including Temple Beth Or, and presents programs at Senior Communities; past member on OLLI's Program Committee, Membership and Marketing Committee and Advisory Council ; 2017 recipient of OLLI's Betty Poulton Volunteerism Award.; instructor at OLLI at Duke.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-325 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan.20

### **Huck and Jim are Back, and They're Mad as Hell!**

*Instructor:* Maria G. Roupail

This class offers a comparative study of two American novels, Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and Percival Everett's contemporary "reply," *James*. Participants are expected to read both novels and participate in instructor-led discussion.

**Required Reading:** *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (the Dover edition, ISBN 978-0486280615), Mark Twain; *James*, Percival Everett

**Instructor:** *Maria Roupail*; PhD, is Senior Lecturer Emerita from NC State University, where she taught courses in World Literature and served as an academic adviser to the English major; she is Poetry Editor of *Main Street Rag*; her published collections include *Apertures*, *Second Skin*, *All the Way to China*, and *This small house, this big sky*; she is currently at work on her fifth collection, *This is How I will Save My Life*; she is the 2024-25 NCPS Distinguished Poet for central North Carolina.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-290 **Instance #:** 000002 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 20 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 20

### **Via Zoom -- Nutrition for Healthy Aging**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 19 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-340 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 18

## Paris Between the Wars

*Instructors:* Michael Garval, Ruth Caccavale, David Lynch, Kate Annett-Hitchcock, Beth Mulvaney, Marc Dudley

This course explores Paris during the interwar years (1919-1939), a period marked by cultural vibrancy and political unrest. Following the trauma of World War I and the influenza pandemic, the city embraced the exuberance of the “années folles,” becoming a magnet for American artists seeking modernist inspiration or refuge from racism and sexism. Paris thrived as a hub for music, fashion, and literature, attracting figures like Gershwin, Ravel, Chanel, and Hemingway. The city’s fashion houses matured, architecture evolved through Art Nouveau and Art Deco, and literary circles flourished, especially among expatriates and writers of color. As tensions rose in the 1930s, Paris remained a dynamic cultural epicenter, shaping global artistic and intellectual movements. This course welcomes six expert instructors to explore France’s cultural evolution with you.

**Note: *There is a day of the week, time and location change for the last class.*** The final class will take place **via Zoom** on **Friday, February 27 from 1-2:30 p.m.**

**Recommended Readings (Optional):** Wilson, Sarah, *Paris: Capital of the Arts*, London: Royal Academy of Arts, 2002; Levy, Sophie, ed., *A Transatlantic Avant-garde, American Artists in Paris, 1918-1939*, Giverny: The Musée d'Art Américain, 2003; Asleson, Robyn, *Brilliant Exiles: American Women in Paris 1900-1939*, Washington, D.C.: National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, 2024; There are multiple monographs about Chanel and Schiaparelli, fewer on other designers from this period. A good overview is provided by Polan & Tredre in “The Great Fashion Designers” (2020).

**Instructor:** *Michael Garval*; B.A., Vassar College, M.A. and Ph.D., New York University; Professor of French, NC State; former director of the university’s interdisciplinary, self-designed Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program; Associate Editor of the journal *Contemporary French Civilization*; and Co-Convener of the Triangle French History and Culture Seminar.

**Instructor:** *Ruth Caccavale*; B.A., Duke University; M.A., Rutgers University; Ruth has worked in a number of museums and education positions, has taught at Rutgers University and has taught over two dozen OLLI courses; works in the education department of Duke’s Nasher Museum of Art.

**Instructor:** *David Lynch*; professor and department head emeritus and current adjunct professor, Meredith College; organist-choirmaster emeritus, Christ Church; former deacon, Church of the Nativity. Consultant/examiner, National Association of Schools of Music; clinician for church music, choral, organ workshops and festivals; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Instructor:** *Kate Annett-Hitchcock*; degrees from The University of Manchester, Michigan State University and Virginia Tech. Teaching posts at The University of Michigan, SCAD, Virginia Tech, ECU and NC State, from which she holds Professor Emerita status; now training to be a proud Lee County Extension Master Gardener.

**Instructor:** *Beth Mulvaney*; graduate degrees from UNC-Chapel Hill; teaching at Meredith College since 1995; served as director of the Honors Program for 5 years and as the Art Department Chair for 11 years; Dr. Mulvaney’s research interests are focused on Italian late medieval and early Renaissance art with a further specialization in Franciscan art.

**Instructor:** *Marc K. Dudley*; Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Professor of English and Africana Studies at NC State; inducted into the NC State Academy of Outstanding Teachers (2020), contributor to/featured in Ken Burns’ most recent documentary, *Hemingway* (2021). Author of *Hemingway, Race, and Art* (2012) and *Understanding James Baldwin*.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-354 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. (**final session, Feb.27 1-2:30 p.m.**)

**Dates:** Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, **27 (Friday)** **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 (**final session, Friday, Feb. 27 via Zoom**) **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 20

## **Osher Online -- Invisible Intelligence: The Unseen Algorithms Reshaping Your Daily Life**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 13 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-338 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Dec. 18

## **FRIDAY**

### **Sanctioning Putin: Reviewing Context, Policy, and Effectiveness**

*Instructor:* Dmitri Mitin

This course explores the sanctions imposed on Russia following its 2014 annexation of Crimea and the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. We will delve into the context behind these actions, examining why select nations turned to economic pressure as a primary response. The discussion will cover the format of the sanctions, from targeting individuals and banks to broad restrictions on technology and energy. Finally, participants will have the opportunity to critically assess their effectiveness, debating the extent to which they altered Russia's strategic calculus and their likely long-term consequences.

**Instructor:** *Dmitri Mitin*; current appointment is with the School of Public and International Affairs at NC State, previously taught at Purdue University and Free University of Berlin; specializes in post-communist development and Russian politics.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-197 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Feb. 6, 13 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 4

## **FIRST TERM LECTURES**

## **MONDAY**

### **How to Fix Your Digital Photos**

*Instructor:* Lila Bednar

We all take pictures with our phones, but not all pictures are good. This lecture will teach you how to rescue those "almost great" pictures by using some low or no-cost tools for your phone or computer. You can take out that former friend or make the picture of the party amazing! You do not have to be a Photoshop wizard to improve your photos; there are many options that you can use.

**Instructor:** *Lila Bednar*; B.S., Computer Networking, Strayer University; M.S. Information Assurance Engineering, Capitol Technology University; multiple technical certifications including Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and Certified Information Systems Manager (CISM); has a multi-decade career in information security (now called cybersecurity), compliance and privacy with experience in both governmental and commercial environments, including cloud computing.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-309 **Instance #:** 000004 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 2 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 28

## **Penn and Kim Holderness: The Comfort Zone Trap: What We Learned Running a Race, a Business, and a Family**

*Instructors:* Penn and Kim Holderness

**Note:** There are two identical offerings for this course, an in-person option and a live stream option.

Penn and Kim Holderness are award-winning content creators known for their viral family-centered videos, original music, comedy sketches, and weekly podcast *Laugh Lines*. Since going viral in 2013, they've amassed over 3 billion views and 9 million followers. They gained national fame after winning Season 33 of *The Amazing Race* and have authored two New York Times bestselling books, *ADHD Is Awesome: A Guide To (Mostly) Thriving With ADHD* and the children's book *All You Can Be With ADHD*. Based in Raleigh, N.C. with their two kids and dog Sunny, they've collaborated with major brands like Target and Coca-Cola, and have been featured by outlets including *TODAY*, *TIME*, and *The Oprah Podcast*. Join Penn and Kim as they share what it is like to be a family that works together, what inspires them to create their content, and their experiences with ADHD and how it affects their daily life.

**Instructors:** *Penn and Kim Holderness*; award-winning content creators known for their original music, song parodies, comedy sketches, and weekly podcasts; their videos have resulted in over 3 billion views and over 9 million followers since they first went viral in 2013; Kim and Penn are authors of the New York Times Bestselling Books, *ADHD Is Awesome: A Guide To (Mostly) Thriving With ADHD* and *All You Can Be With ADHD*; they were also winners of *The Amazing Race* (Season 33) on CBS; Penn and Kim host an award-winning weekly podcast called *Laugh Lines* every Tuesday, and have worked with dozens of prominent brands both in-front of and behind-the-camera, such as Target, Coca-Cola, and Johnson & Johnson; Penn and Kim have been featured by *TODAY*, *People*, *TIME*, NPR, Good Morning America, and The Oprah Podcast; they live in Raleigh, North Carolina with their two kids and dog, Sunny.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-390 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 26 **Limit:** 150 **Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$15 / **Non-Member Rate:** \$20 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 21

## **LIVE STREAM LECTURE: Penn and Kim Holderness: The Comfort Zone Trap: What We Learned Running a Race, a Business, and a Family**

*Instructors:* Penn and Kim Holderness

See description above

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-390 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 26 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 21

## **Broken Arrow--Nuclear Bomb Drop in North Carolina**

*Instructor:* Steve Sakofsky

"Broken Arrow" is the code name for a military event that involves accidental loss, detonation or firing of a nuclear weapon. In 1961, a B-52 bomber crashed near Goldsboro, NC, a potentially catastrophic event you may not have heard about. This lecture tells the story of the crash and how close Eastern North Carolina and beyond came to becoming a nuclear wasteland.

**Instructor:** *Steve Sakofsky*; worked in industrial manufacturing management, mainly in Quality Assurance; he is a veteran OLLI instructor and is a member of the Program Development Committee.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-400 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 2 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 31

## **Digital Well-Being: Realign Your Relationship with Technology**

*Instructor:* Janice Horner

Do you feel like you spend too much time glued to screens, or find yourself more irritable and agitated after being online? Technology's promise to keep us connected has given rise to a host of unintended consequences that are catching up with us. In this lecture, we will discuss the impact of tech devices and apps on our health and well-being. We will review the resources available to help assess our relationship with technology, with a goal of establishing more intentional and balanced use of our time online.

**Recommended Viewing (Optional):** *The Social Dilemma*, documentary on Netflix

**Instructor:** *Janice Horner*; MPH in Health Behavior, UNC-Chapel Hill; after working in the healthcare field for over 20 years, she is now enjoying semi-retirement, teaching fitness classes and dabbling in writing and some other creative pursuits; she is a National Board Certified-Health and Wellness Coach and a Nia Technique® Black Belt Instructor; Janice lives in Raleigh with her husband, daughter, and tuxedo cat.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-391 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 9 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 7

## **Staying Safe Online: Insights Into Cybersecurity**

*Instructor:* Umesh Tiwari

Connecting to the Internet and going online is a condition of modern living. Everyone from small children to senior citizens choose to go online for many reasons but also find it necessary to engage in everyday life. The price of admission into the Internet is often loss of privacy and security. Specialized knowledge about internet security is often not available to unsuspecting users. This lecture will discuss how your computer "sees" you, who can invade your privacy and what aims to take advantage of your trusting human nature.

**Instructor:** *Umesh K Tiwari*; NSA CAE-Cyber Defense designated cyber security leader; served over 34 years within the information technology field with a focus on cyber security; assumed a variety of leadership roles overseeing cybersecurity risk management strategies, cyber threat intelligence gathering and communication, security architecture, and Payment Card Security consulting; holds two graduate degrees in Cybersecurity and Information Technology as well as several cybersecurity certifications including CCSP, CISSP, CISA, CISM, CRISC, PCI-QSA and PMP.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-392 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 23 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 21

## **The Teacherage: Housing for Educators in North Carolina**

*Instructor:* Gary Moore

In the early and mid-1900s, the provision of affordable housing was a major obstacle to finding schoolteachers in rural North Carolina and the rest of the country. One solution was "the teacherage." A "teacherage" is a residence, typically located near a school, that provides housing for teachers. It is often found in rural or remote areas where suitable housing for educators can be in short supply. Once there were over 3,000 teacherages in America, some which remain today. Fifteen states, including North Carolina, addressed teacherages in their state statutes. In this presentation we look at teacherages in North Carolina, including the six in Wake County, and learn of the experiences of the teachers and matrons who called them home.

**Instructor:** *Gary Moore*; Professor Emeritus, Agricultural and Extension Education, NC State; member of the NC State University Academy of Outstanding Teachers; 2024 recipient of the William C. Friday Award for Distinguished Service in Retirement; has made presentations in 41 states, four Canadian provinces and on four continents; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-416 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 2 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 28

## TUESDAY

### **Time, Paradoxes, and the Magic of Physics**

*Instructor:* Lawrence Silverberg

This lecture explores how modern science reshaped our understanding of time by unraveling two great puzzles of classical physics. First comes the continuity paradox—the idea that things could happen infinitely fast, like a magician’s vanishing trick. Then the relativity paradox, where Newton’s famous rotating bucket suggested that rotation is absolute, unsettling the dream that everything might be relative. Through stories of magic, starlight, and cosmic clocks, we’ll see how modern physics resolved these puzzles in a way that feels almost against common sense—yet ultimately reveals nature’s deeper logic.

**Instructor:** *Larry M. Silverberg*; earned three degrees in engineering mechanics at Virginia Tech before joining the NC State faculty; explored the foundations of ordinary and relativistic dynamics for decades doing “cool professor things”; now in phased retirement, Dr. Silverberg teaches an undergraduate course called relativistic dynamics—a testing ground for storytelling ideas; his passion today is making modern science clear and memorable, even when it feels almost against common sense.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-393 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 20 **Limit:** 55  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 18

### **Evaluating Fine Jewelry and Colored Gemstones**

*Instructor:* Allie Masem

This lecture will outline the methods used by gemologists and other jewelry professionals to evaluate a piece of jewelry. Historical significance will be explored, as well as the tools and techniques used to evaluate metals, diamonds, and colored gemstones. We will also touch on some of the ways gemologists can differentiate between natural gemstones and those created in a lab environment, focusing on the three most popular and sought after stones--rubies, sapphires, and emeralds.

**Instructor:** *Allie Masem*; B.A. Art History and Criticism, Stony Brook University; Graduate Gemologist, Gemological Institute of America; member of the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers; member of the American Society of Jewelry Historians; 20 years experience working in the antique auction industry.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-394 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 27 **Limit:** 55  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 25

### **Beyond Buildings: Architecture as a Catalyst for Urban Transformation**

*Instructor:* Donghwan Moon

This lecture examines how public architecture can serve as a catalyst for urban revitalization and improved quality of life in cities around the world. Drawing on case studies in a global context, it explores how these projects were envisioned, developed, and implemented. Each example highlights the critical role of citizen participation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and government support in shaping successful public spaces. These initiatives move beyond conventional buildings to create social infrastructure that meets community needs and strengthens civic life. By expanding the role of architectural practice, the session positions architecture as a powerful tool for creating inclusive, vibrant, and resilient urban environments where people can meet, share, and thrive.

**Instructor:** *Donghwan Moon*; MArch., Urban Design, Harvard University; Assistant Professor of Architecture, NC State; Founding Partner of mmkplus Architecture; Public Architecture Award of Korea, IFLA Landscape Architecture Award, EDRA Great Place Award

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-401 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 10 **Limit:** 55

**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 8

## WEDNESDAY

### **Chrysanthemum Magic-Gardening Smarter as We Age**

*Instructor:* Joan Matthews

Discover the joy of growing beautiful exhibition chrysanthemums while learning how to keep gardening comfortable and rewarding at any age. In this lecture, we will explore the basics of chrysanthemum horticulture—how to select, plant, and care for these stunning blooms—and discuss creative ways to adapt our gardening practices as our bodies change. Topics include choosing ergonomic tools, working with smaller containers, planting on elevated surfaces, and simplifying garden care without sacrificing beauty. Join us for inspiration, practical tips, and gentle techniques to help you keep your love of gardening blooming for years to come.

**Instructor:** *Joan Matthews*; is a retired educator who has turned her lifelong love of gardening into a joyful second career; she has served as president of the Central Carolina Chrysanthemum Society for seven years and as vice president of the National Chrysanthemum Society; as an accredited National Chrysanthemum Society judge, Joan enjoys growing, exhibiting, and most of all, sharing the beauty, form, and color of chrysanthemums with gardeners of all experience levels.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-414 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 4 **Limit:** 39

**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 2

### **250 Years of American Life: The Beginning**

*Instructor:* Mary Lou Veal

This lecture will use artifacts from the DAR Museum to describe American society in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The program will feature domestic interiors like a kitchen from the 1700s, a tavern from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, a bedchamber in colonial Massachusetts, and a dining room from 1810. Cooking and dining traditions will feature foods of the period and furniture made in colonial America. Early American portraits will be used to reveal society during the development of this country. Finally, some odd and positively "ookey" stuff from early Americans will chill your heart and tickle your funny bone.

**Instructor:** *Mary Lou Veal*; retired educator who taught 44 years from elementary children to university future teachers; she joined DAR in 2007 and after retirement, she moved to Raleigh and joined the Wake Forest Chapter where she is an Honorary Regent; currently she is a DAR Museum Correspondent Docent and she loves to present programs in colonial attire; Mary Lou is an avid genealogist, and her favorite thing is traveling to places her ancestors lived.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-399 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 11 **Limit:** 49 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 9

### **North Carolina in the Triassic Period**

*Instructor:* James Mickle

What was plant life like in North Carolina like as the dinosaurs were first arising during the Triassic Period? Come explore our state as it was 230 million years ago. We will center on the plant fossils found at the Boren

Clay pit near the village of Gulf in Chatham County. This site is perhaps the best place to find well preserved Triassic age fossil plants east of the Mississippi River. We will also explore nearby sites to reveal insights about dinosaurs and other animals that lived during this time.

**Instructor:** *James Mickle*; Professor Emeritus and Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor Emeritus in the Department of Plant and Microbial Biology at NC State; he is a paleobotanist who earned BSc and MSc degrees from Ohio State University, a Ph.D. from Ohio University, all in botany, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Naples, Italy; he has been at NC State for 39 years and previously taught at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-397 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 18 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 16

### **Via Zoom -- Dangerous Asteroids: Identify, Track and Deflect**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 19 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3Z-412 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 25 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 19

### **The Changing Landscape in College Athletics**

**Instructor:** Barbara Osborne

This lecture will explore the rapidly evolving environment in Division I college athletics, where shifting policies and legal battles are changing the game. Students will learn the history of NIL (name, image, and likeness) and learn how lawsuits have changed the way the NCAA and college athletics operates. Topics discussed will include NIL, Collectives, the impact of the transfer portal, eligibility lawsuits, and whether student-athletes should be made employees.

**Instructor:** *Barbara Osborne*; teaches sport law at the UNC School of Law and leads the Graduate Program in Sport Administration; her research focuses on legal issues in college athletics; B.A., Communications, UW-Parkside; M.Ed., Sport Management, Boston University; J.D., Boston College Law School; her experience includes college athletics administrator, coach, television sports commentator and she is licensed to practice law in North Carolina.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-417 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 4 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 2

### **Spring Kick Off Lecture -- NC State's Institute for Emerging Issues: Think and Do for Economic Vibrancy**

**Instructors:** Sarah Hall, Jess Epsten

The Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI) - North Carolina's "think and do" tank - convenes leaders and communities for collaborative work on emerging issues impacting the state's economic vitality and quality of life. From education, healthcare, infrastructure and the natural environment to financing and the economy, IEI selects an emerging issue each year to focus the state's attention and highlight solutions with broad support across regions, sectors and perspectives. This session will explore the state's projected growth by 2050, and IEI's process for engaging leaders and communities to identify and move the needle on shared solutions to achieve a future-forward infrastructure plan for North Carolina. **Refreshments will follow from 3:15 - 4:00pm**

**Note:** This event is free and open to the public, but you must register.

**Instructor:** *Sarah Hall*; MPH, University at Albany, a 24-year North Carolina public servant with previous roles at the NC Division of Public Health, NC Department of Public Instruction and UNC Chapel Hill working on adolescent health issues; Sarah has been recognized as a Triangle Business Journal Peak 25 (2023) and an

alumnus of Leadership North Carolina; she has been a Wake County Guardian ad Litem volunteer with children in foster care since 2010.

**Instructor:** *Jess Epstein*; MLIS, UNC-Chapel Hill; librarian working in digital equity with previous roles at public and academic libraries, agricultural non-profits, and as a small business consultant; they serve as a board member for NC Broadband Matters and previously served on the board of Digital Durham; Jess volunteers regularly with the NC Harm Reduction Coalition and the Prison Library Support Network.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-056 **Instance #:** 000005 **One Session:** 2-3:00 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 14 **Limit:** 150 **Location:** TBD **Fee:** \$0 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 12

## THURSDAY

### The Making Of WUNC's Embodied Radio Show and Podcast

*Instructors:* Anita Rao, Kaia Findlay

*Embodied* is a nationally-distributed radio show and podcast produced at North Carolina Public Radio WUNC. It's one of the only public radio programs that foregrounds open, honest conversations about human connections, our bodies and relationships. Join *Embodied* host Anita Rao and lead producer Kaia Findlay to learn about how the show gets made, how they prepare for and conduct interviews about the under-discussed aspects of the human experience, and what kinds of lessons they've learned along the way.

**Instructor:** *Anita Rao*; is the host and creator of *Embodied*, a nationally-syndicated public radio show and podcast about sex, relationships and health; she is passionate about exploring identity, connection and power through storytelling; she's worked for the StoryCorps production department; co-founded a podcast about millennial feminism in the South and spent seven years working for North Carolina Public Radio WUNC's flagship, state-wide daily talk show *The State of Things*.

**Instructor:** *Kaia Findlay*; is the lead producer for *Embodied*, WUNC's radio show and podcast on sex, relationships and health; Kaia received a master's degree from the UNC Hussman School of Journalism, where she focused on reporting and science communication; she has published stories with *Our State Magazine*, *Indy Week*, and *HuffPost*; she previously worked as the manager for a podcast on environmental sustainability and higher education.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-404 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 26 **Limit:** 150

**Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$15 / **Non-Member Rate \$20** **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 18

### Creative Approaches to Facing Uncertainty

*Instructors:* Annelies Gentile, Greg Whitt

Join us for an experiential lecture focused on embracing change. There are scientifically proven resources of resilience hidden in plain sight--in play. You will learn the fundamentals of the creative process, and how engaging in creative collaboration and self-expression can support you and the greater world to better face uncertainty and cultivate new ways of adapting to change. Highlights will include the science of play, effects on the brain and creative process for mental, emotional, physical, community and organizational wellbeing. This is an interactive lecture experience. Benefits include shared joy, wellbeing, empathy, trust development, resilience and sense of freedom.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *From Chaos to Calm: Leading Change From the Inside Out*, Annelies Gentile

**Instructor:** *Annelies M Gentile*; M.A., PCC is a visionary, Integrative Life and Leadership Executive Coach, speaker, process artist, facilitator and author of *From Chaos to Calm: Leading Change from the Inside Out*; from managing burnout to nurturing creativity to tending grief associated with change, Annelies brings 33

years of career experience to helping people traverse the gaps of uncertainty with courage, creativity and grace; she holds a master's degree in Coaching from the Maryland University of Integrative Health; learn more at [www.conduitforchange.com](http://www.conduitforchange.com).

**Instructor:** *Greg Whitt*; is an award-winning edutainer based in Raleigh, NC; he leads programs in corporations, congregations, communities and classrooms; programs designed to creatively connect people in ways that are joyful, engaging, and good for all; with a graduate certificate in Transformative Leadership from the Maryland University of Integrative Health, his programs are actually applied philosophy about how we can live, work, and play well together in community; only they're cleverly disguised as music, and they're delivered as interactive and engaging fun; Learn more at <http://www.drumforchange.com>

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-284 **Instance #:** 000002 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 22 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 20

## FRIDAY

### Via Zoom -- Globalizing the American Revolution

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 20 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3Z-415 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 16 **Limit:** 50  
**Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 11

### The U.S. Army War College

*Instructor:* Mike Ganey

This program explores America's national security through the perspectives of its military and civilian leaders. It's a timely topic, given the rapid pace of global events. As one of only 160 civilians chosen to attend the U.S. Army War College's National Security Seminar in June 2025, instructor Mike Ganey had a week of immersion into America's defense and foreign policy. This unique experience took place during the final week of a 10-month program for 425 U.S. and allied colonels, some of whom will become our military's future generals. He attended declassified security briefings, explored current threat assessments, and heard from experts on global adversaries. The program provides a rare glimpse into how our military strategizes to safeguard U.S. interests.

**Instructor:** *Michael Ganey*; B.A., History, SUNY Oswego; MBA, UVA Darden School of Business; held senior marketing roles at domestic and international food and beverage companies like Anheuser-Busch for 25 years; he also managed consumer product projects for 15 years at a marketing consultant firm; serves OLLI NC State as a facilitator for Great Decisions, and a member of the Advisory Council and Membership and Marketing Committee.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-405 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 23 **Limit:** 49  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 21

### The History of the Atlantic Coast Conference

*Instructor:* Michael Smith

The Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) was created in 1953 when NC State and six other schools created a sports cornerstone of North Carolina culture and pride. This lecture examines how and why the ACC was created and how the ACC has evolved with a full timeline of events that showcase administrators, memorable coaches and athletes to tell the story of the ACC. Highlights include details on the departures of South Carolina and Maryland, as well as insight on the current ACC turmoil. No matter what ACC school you root for, the conference has a fascinating history to explore.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *Founding the ACC: The Origins of a Major Collegiate Athletic Conference, 1951-1953*, Robert McCormick; *ACC Basketball: An Illustrated History*, Ron Morris

**Instructor:** *Michael Smith*; B.S., Sport/Entertainment/Event Management, Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte; M.R., Parks, Recreation, Tourism, Sport Management, NC State; MBA, Coastal Carolina University; over 10 years experience in sports marketing in NASCAR; former Intern of the 2010 Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Football Championship Game in Charlotte; published in multiple Academic Journals; former Adjunct Professor of Marketing at Francis Marion University and current Student Conduct Coordinator at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-395 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Feb. 27 **Limit:** 55  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 25

### **Durham's Bluesy History: An Overview**

*Instructor:* David Menconi

Durham's rich history includes its distinguished past as a center of American music. Its biggest contribution to American music is Piedmont blues, a clattery style of blues with elements of ragtime. During the 1920s and '30s, Durham was home to a hall of fame's worth of blues legends, including Blind Boy Fuller, Rev. Gary Davis, Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee. Rather than nightclubs, the main venues were house parties and tobacco warehouses during harvest time. The story is not well-known, but in recent years Durham has made an effort to pay tribute to its place in the story of the blues.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** Chapter two in David Menconi's *History of North Carolina Music, Step It Up & Go* (titled after a Blind Boy Fuller song).

**Instructor:** *David Menconi*; is an author and journalist in Raleigh; he has written for the *News & Observer*, *New York Times*, *The Bluegrass Situation*, *Billboard*, *Rolling Stone* and *No Depression*; he has a Master's in journalism from the University of Texas; he edits the *American Music: New Roots* series at *University of North Carolina Press*, which has published his last two books – most recently 2023's *Oh, Didn't They Ramble: Rounder Records and the Transformation of American Roots Music*, which received a Certificate of Merit from the Association for Record Sound Collections' annual book awards.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-406 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 23 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 21

## **SECOND TERM MULTI-WEEK COURSES**

### **MONDAY**

#### **Napoleonic Wars Part V**

*Instructor:* Dave Milidonis

(See pg. 21 for course description, notes and bio)

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-312 **Instance #:** 000002 **Six Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 16, 23, 30, Apr. 6, 13, 20 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 14

#### **The Development of Nuclear Power**

*Instructors:* John Gajda, Walt Schenberger

This course will consider the arc of the development of nuclear power, generally focused on its role as an electric power source for society. In the first session, the course will review the start of nuclear power technology after WWII and its development through the 1980s, highlighting key similarities and differences between the U.S. and abroad. The second session will then consider what has happened since the 1980s

through today, focusing on key successes and failures. In the last session, we will look to the short term and long term future of nuclear power here and abroad.

**Instructor:** *John Gajda*; B.S., Electrical Engineering, University of Arkansas; M.S., Electrical Engineering, NC State; John has worked extensively across the energy and electric utility industry since the late 1980s; his roles have spanned electric utilities, consulting firms, regulatory agencies, and renewable energy; he is a licensed professional engineer in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Texas.

**Instructor:** *Walter Schenberger*; retired USAF officer who spent 30 years serving in various roles at the tactical level flying airplanes, at the operational level in planning, preparing for and executing operations in Hawaii and Iraq; retired as a military attache from the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, South Korea.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-108 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 30, Apr. 6, 13 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 28

### **Via Zoom -- How Taylor Swift Built a Billion Dollar Brand Identity**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 15 for description and details.

**Instructor:** [Insert Bio](#)

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-082 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 23, 30 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** [Zoom](#) **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 19

### **Exploring Practical Uses of AI**

*Instructor:* Howard Koslow

Have you wondered how artificial intelligence can help in your everyday life? Using a free ChatGPT account, you'll learn how to craft clear, effective questions using text and voice prompts, and how to verify AI responses. With demos and hands-on practice in class, students will explore a wide range of applications, such as summarizing documents, planning trips, cooking, researching hobbies, comparing products to purchase, and creating images. We'll also touch on the different AI models and tools like Gemini and Claude, and discuss ethical, safe ways to use AI. No technical experience required—just your curiosity!

**Instructor:** *Howard Koslow*; B.S., Brown University; Software engineer for IBM; volunteer and instructor for OLLI at Duke, teaching technology courses since 2018.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-180 **Instance #:** 000003 **Three Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 30, Apr. 6, 13 **Limit:** 24 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 28

### **Getting to the Root of Garden Problems**

*Instructor:* Barbara Shew

Gardeners start the season with dreams of ripe tomatoes, sweet watermelons, a thriving landscape, and beautiful bouquets. Despite our best efforts, something goes wrong--seedlings don't germinate, plants are covered with bugs and spots, or they are wilting and starting to die. This class will help you to understand how the interplay among environment, plant biology and pest biology can help you to recognize, prevent and manage common garden problems. We will also discuss resources that can help you find answers to garden questions and problems in North Carolina.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook>

**Instructor:** *Barbara Shew*; native of Colorado; earned her Ph.D. in Plant Pathology at NC State and was a member of the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology for 36 years; during this time, she co-taught a graduate-level epidemiology course and chaired or served on many M.S. and Ph.D. committees; her research focused on peanut diseases, and she used this science-based knowledge to help growers better manage their

crops; her outreach efforts included daily peanut disease forecasts, articles in popular and technical publications, fact sheets, and hundreds of lectures and informal talks; as Director of the Plant Disease and Insect Clinic, she taught short courses and organized workshops to help participants learn to identify and prevent plant problems.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-195 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 16, 23 **Limit:** 55  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 14

### **Introduction to Coin Collecting and Valuation**

*Instructor:* Jeff McCauslin

Have you inherited a collection of coins and are not sure what you have or what they are worth? Do you want to start a collection? This course is designed to guide beginners through the process of evaluating and valuing coins. You will learn coin collecting basics including key terminology, handling, and preserving techniques. You will learn what reference books, online resources and valuation tools will be helpful in collecting and get practical tips for buying and selling coins. Whether you want to collect, buy, or sell, this course will offer a practical foundation for learning more about your coins. No prior experience with coins is required.

**Instructor:** *Jeff McCauslin*; lifelong collector of coins and currency; currently he is president of the Raleigh Coin Club; learn more at [raleighcoinclub.org](http://raleighcoinclub.org); Jeff has completed the American Numismatic Association Numismatic Scholar program and is a previous awardee of the North Carolina Numismatic Association Numismatist of the Year.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-200 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 23, 30, April 6  
**Limit:** 23 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 21

### **Overview of the U.S. Innovation Model**

*Instructor:* Alan Brown

The U.S. innovation model refers to the framework and strategies our nation has built over time to foster progress in science, technology, and business. This course delves into the origins and evolution of that model, emphasizing the significance of collaboration between public and private sectors. It highlights pivotal moments since World War II that have shaped innovation, and contrasts the American approach with those adopted by other nations. Additionally, the course explores widespread beliefs and misconceptions about the model, while considering present and future challenges that could influence its direction.

**Instructor:** *Alan Brown*; grew up in Canada and received his Ph.D. in Solid State Physics from the University of Toronto; MBA from Clark University; throughout his career, he has facilitated the transfer of research from universities to start up companies, and has worked in semiconductors, electro-optics, and a wide range of nanomaterials; in addition he has been adjunct faculty, and has served on numerous boards; in retirement, he has volunteered as a tutor at Brunswick Community College, Ingram Planetarium and OLLI UNC Wilmington, and OLLI NC State.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-191 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 30, Apr. 6 **Limit:** 55  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 28

### **Osher Online -- Ghosts in the White House: The People Behind Presidential Speeches**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 10 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-350 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 30, Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

## **Via Zoom -- Masters of Dark Fiction: Blending Genre Narratives**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 15 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-192 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 16, 23, 30 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

## **TUESDAY**

### **The Crisis of a Polarized Republic**

*Instructor:* Anthony Solari

This course looks at the origins of our polarized politics. Students will explore the issue of political polarization, focusing on aspects not often discussed in the public commentary, to understand how as Americans we have arrived at this place. We explore what could happen if polarization gets worse. If the republic were to fail, what could happen? This subject is receiving a lot of attention by scholars, public officials and by observers of our politics from all perspectives. It seems an opportune time to take a thorough, systematic and non-partisan look at the subject.

**Instructor:** *Tony Solari*; Ph.D, Political Science, Duke University; has been teaching political science since 1986; specializes in political philosophy, American government and politics, American political thought, and legislative politics and policy; author of a number of articles and papers; former legislative liaison for the Department of State Treasurer, lobbied for NC's "Smart Start" program and currently is president of Solari Government Solutions, a private lobbying firm.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-344 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

## **Via Zoom -- The Role of the Quakers in Founding America**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 16 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-327 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### **America's First Ladies: Living Legacies**

*Instructor:* Annette Dunlap

America's First Ladies are often overshadowed in history by presidential accomplishments; however the work of many have had a lasting impact worth commemorating. Dolley Madison created the social role for the First Lady. Frances Folsom Cleveland promoted kindergartens. Betty Ford changed the conversation about breast cancer. These are the contributions of just a few of our nation's first ladies. This course will take a look at 12 of the nation's most notable First Ladies, whose contributions to American life continue to enrich us today. Join us to learn about and discuss the impact of the women who lived in the White House.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *Remember the Ladies: The Legacies of America's History Making Women*, Diana B. Carlin, Anita B. McBride, and Nancy Keegan Smith

**Instructor:** *Annette Dunlap*; three-time Hoover Scholar and author of biographies on first ladies Frances Cleveland and Lou Hoover; she has contributed to White House History Quarterly, appeared on two C-SPAN "First Ladies: Impact and Image" programs, served as a panelist at the Harding Symposium on Transitional First Ladies, and contributed to the forthcoming book *Ohio's First Ladies.*; Annette holds a B.A. in Government and an MBA; she describes her study of first ladies as her "expensive habit."

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-320 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 21 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

## **The Plays of Oscar Wilde**

*Instructor:* Cary Frederick

When one thinks of Oscar Wilde, what comes to mind is his wit, wisdom, and wonderful quotes. These witticisms come mostly from his four "society" plays, written from 1862 to 1865: *A Woman of No Importance*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *An Ideal Husband*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. We will read and discuss these four plays. His life will be briefly explored along with his other literature.

**Required Reading:** *A Woman of No Importance*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *An Ideal Husband*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Oscar Wilde

**Instructor:** *Cary Frederick*; B.A., English; MLS, Indiana University; studied and taught film at College of Staten Island; stayed in NYC and continued to study film in the repertory movie houses of New York for 13 years and the Museum of Modern Art and the New School for the Arts; Cary helped run the Current Broadway Theater Tour for 45 years, from 1971-2016.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-321 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** March 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7 **Limit:** 24 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

## **Planning Ahead: Securing Finances During Life Transitions**

*Instructors:* Trevor Lawson, Devin Butler

This class focuses on financial planning during major life transitions such as the loss of a spouse. The first session will provide education on how to prepare financially in advance, including steps couples and individuals can take to stay organized and protected. The second session will address key considerations after a transition, including adjusting to a new financial reality and exploring opportunities to remain connected within the community. The overall goal is to help attendees become more informed, organized, and confident in creating financial security during times of change.

**Instructor:** *Trevor Lawson*; Financial Planner, Capitol Financial Solutions; B.S., Chemical Engineering, NC State; Certified Financial Planner, Duke University.

**Instructor:** *Devin Butler*; Financial Planner, Capitol Financial Solutions; B.S., Business Administration (Finance), NC State; Certified Financial Planner, Duke University.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-081 **Instance #:** 000002 **Two Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 14, 21 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 12

## **To Infinity and Beyond: Long Films That Totally Work**

*Instructor:* Lewis Beale

It goes without saying: length does not determine whether a film is good or bad, boring or exciting. Some 90-minute films can be dull as dishwater, while movies of what might seem excessive length--120 to 180 minutes can be utterly mesmerizing. This course will feature films that run from two hours on up, all of which have received positive critical attention. Included will be a mystery from an acclaimed indie director; a love story based on a bestselling book; a classic Western from an acknowledged master; an Oscar-nominated sci-fi classic; and a crime opus featuring two legendary actors. Because of the length of these films, please come prepared. A discussion will follow each screening.

**Note:** Some of these films include violence. If you find violence in movies overly distressing, this course is probably not for you.

**Instructor:** *Lewis Beale*; film industry reporter for newspapers in New York and Los Angeles; taught journalism at UNC-Wilmington; has written for *The New York Times*, *Newsday*, the *L.A. Times*, *The Daily Beast* and other magazines and websites; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-346 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 1-5:00 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7, 14, 21 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$75 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

### **The Story of the Ottoman Empire**

*Instructor:* Rob Bauernfeind

This course will cover the Ottoman Empire, from the founding of the Sultanate in central Anatolia around 1300 CE, to its ultimate collapse in the aftermath of World War I. It will examine the dynastic, military, economic and political aspects of this empire that at its pinnacle straddled three continents. Topics to be covered include: the founding of the Sultanate, the Conquest of Constantinople, the realm of Suleyman "the Magnificent," the causes of decline, the "Sultanate of Women," the Siege of Vienna in 1683, the Crimean War, the desperate attempts to modernize the empire by the "Young Turks" and others, the Ottomans in World War I, the rise of Mustafa Kemal ("Ataturk"), and the Turkish War of Independence.

**Instructor:** *Rob Bauernfeind*; retired cardiologist, was involved in the teaching of medical students and residents throughout his career; he has had longtime interests in travel and history; trips to the Turkish region sparked a special interest in Ottoman history; Rob taught an extended version of this course several times at OLLI at Duke.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-329 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7, 14, 21 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

### **Via Zoom -- The Periodic Table and Its Superstars**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 16 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-341 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7, 14 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### **Osher Online -- From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Popes**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 12 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-351 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 5-6:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, May 12 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

### **Via Zoom -- This Quintessence of Dust: Hamlet's Soliloquies**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 16 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-202 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 6-7:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 7, 14, 21 **Limit:** 50 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 2

### **Osher Online -- Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 12 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-349 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 7-8:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

## WEDNESDAY

### **The Three Branches of Government: A Story of Change**

*Instructor:* Bill Pruden

The American governmental system is ever evolving, distinctive in its design and its resilience. The U.S. government, as outlined in the Constitution, is a testament to the idealism of the Founding Fathers, while at the same time tempered by their understanding of history and human nature. Their visions relied on the existence of a thoughtful and engaged populace, one committed to making it more than mere words on parchment. This course will look at the way the national government, based in three distinct, but deeply connected branches, has evolved. We will explore how the words and ideas of the Constitution have been implemented in an effort to effectively serve an increasingly different “we the people.”

**Instructor:** *Bill Pruden*; A.B., History, Princeton University; JD from Case Western Reserve University; M.A., Social Studies, Wesleyan University. M.A., Politics, Indiana University; teacher at Ravenscroft School for over 30 years; he has also complemented his years of teaching history and government with active involvement in the political system, twice running for local office and also serving as a legislative assistant to both a state senator and a member of the US House of Representatives; Pruden has also written widely on U.S. history, politics, education, and sports.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-196 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Apr. 1, 8 **Limit:** 55

**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 30

### **Via Zoom -- Congressional Committees: Where the Work Gets Done**

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 18 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-203 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25 **Limit:** 50

**Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### **Benjamin Franklin and American Democracy: The Printer Who Shaped a Nation**

*Instructor:* Frank Fee

Benjamin Franklin began as a printer’s apprentice in his teens. Over time, he helped shape the foundations of American democracy. This course traces Franklin’s extraordinary path through the world of ink and paper. It begins with his early years in Boston, continues through his founding of a Philadelphia newspaper, and explores his leadership as postmaster for the colonies. We’ll also examine his roles as ambassador in England and France, and as a founding father who helped draft both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Throughout, we’ll discover how printing and journalism not only advanced Franklin’s career but gave voice to the ideas that built a nation.

**Instructor:** *Frank Fee*; *Ph.D.*, UNC-Chapel Hill; M.A., State University of New York at Brockport; B.S., Cornell University; retired associate professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he taught graduate and undergraduate media history courses; prior to entering the academy full time, he was an editor and reporter in daily newspapers for nearly 35 years and taught journalism part-time at the college level for more than 10 years; research interests include journalism history, with a focus on antebellum U.S. newspapers and the journalism of Frederick Douglass, newsroom management, trends in American journalism, and news accuracy.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-270 **Instance #:** 000002 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 16

## **Plan for Aging: Live Well Today and Prepare Wisely for Tomorrow**

*Instructors:* Alex Greer, Chris Walsh

Living well today while preparing wisely for tomorrow requires careful planning across every area of life. This engaging course helps you do exactly that. You will learn how to design a financial plan that supports your retirement and lifestyle goals, create strategies to address future long-term care needs, and prepare for the sensitive but essential aspects of end-of-life planning. Through moderated panels and interactive discussions, you will hear directly from professionals who guide families through these decisions every day. The course concludes by bringing everything together; helping you align your finances, health, and values so you can live confidently, protect loved ones, and leave a meaningful legacy.

**Instructor:** *Alex Greer*, Associate Wealth Advisor at Pathfinder Wealth Consulting; believes money is most powerful when guided by thoughtful planning; helps successful individuals navigate complexity, create clarity, and make confident decisions that align wealth with what matters most: life's goals, passions, and purpose.

**Instructor:** *Chris Walsh*; Wealth Advisor and Managing Partner at Pathfinder Wealth Consulting; believes money is most powerful when guided by thoughtful planning; helps successful individuals navigate complexity, create clarity, and make confident decisions that align wealth with what matters most: life's goals, passions, and purpose.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-328 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 16

## **The Big Bang and Expansion of the Universe**

*Instructor:* Donald C Ellison

This course will cover the general ideas behind the Big Bang Theory and expansion of the universe. The essential physics of cosmology will be presented as accurately as possible, keeping jargon and mathematics to a minimum. Some historical background for the discovery that the universe "began" about 13.8 billion years ago will be presented and the evolution of the universe from the Big Bang to the present time will be described. The discoveries made in cosmology in the last half century or so rank with the greatest intellectual achievements in all of history. It is hoped that participants will gain a reasonable grasp of these great ideas bypassing most of the complicated mathematics necessary for a full understanding.

**Recommended Reading (optional):** *At the Edge of Time: Exploring the Mysteries of Our Universe's First Seconds*, Dan Hooper

**Instructor:** *Don Ellison*; Ph.D., The Catholic University of America; Professor Emeritus, Physics, NC State; has taught and done research on the theory of cosmic rays, particle acceleration in high-energy astrophysics, and the modeling of supernova remnants; Fellow of the American Physical Society since 1998; OLLI instructor of courses on astrophysics and general physics since 2019.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-052 **Instance #:** 000003 **Four Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 16

## **Discussing Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park***

*Instructor:* Sue Scott

Poor, plain, and put-upon Fanny Price goes to live with her rich relatives, falls in love with her sympathetic cousin Edmund, and then must watch him fall under the spell of the harp-playing temptress Mary Crawford. Some critics call *Mansfield Park* "problematic" while others say it is Austen's greatest novel, with its themes of morality, colonialism and social class. Please join us for this lecture/discussion series as we debate these themes as well as the book's protagonist. Is Fanny a model of moral strength, or is she an annoying prig? Read the book, and then join the debate!

**Required Reading:** *Mansfield Park*, Jane Austen

**Instructor:** *Sue Scott*; retired librarian; she has taught classes for OLLI on Jane Austen's most popular novels, including *Pride and Prejudice* and *Persuasion*; as a member of the Jane Austen Society, she presents programs about Austen's life and novels; most recently, a discussion entitled "What Every Janeite Needs to Know"; member of OLLI's Hospitality Committee.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-323 **Instance #:** 000001 **Four Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22 **Limit:** 29  
**Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$40 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 30

### **Mary Pickford: Star Power**

*Instructor:* Katherine Meyer

Before Hollywood became an empire, it was built by dreamers. At the center of its birth was Mary Pickford, the most famous woman in the world, who turned curls and charm into unprecedented power and influence. Her partner in love and legend was the dashing Douglas Fairbanks, and together they became Hollywood's first royal couple, their fame rivaling kings and queens. But Pickford's success was hard-won: from earliest childhood she worked tirelessly to support her family, earn her stardom, and become a pioneering mogul in the film industry. Alongside such luminaries as Charlie Chaplin, D.W. Griffith, and Lillian Gish, she helped forge cinema's identity. Through rare photographs, film clips, and behind-the-scenes stories, we'll explore how Pickford and her peers built Hollywood's foundations--and why her legacy still looms large.

**Instructor:** *Katherine Meyer*; author, educator and historian; Meyer began working as a historical interpreter at a local historic site when she was nine years old, and she has been immersed in the world of history ever since; after graduating from college, she taught for ten years, launched a series of American history lectures, continued leading tours of historic sites, and has had two books published; today, she is a docent and historical interpreter at two 18th century historic sites, and she is the author of two historical fiction novels: *Grosvenor Square* and *Nine Miles North*.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2-193 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 15, 22 **Limit:** 55  
**Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 13

### **Designing Your Future: Blueprint for Aging-in-Place**

*Instructor:* Edna Sexton

Circumstances in life, whether due to aging, illness or a catastrophic event can result in the need to evaluate a home's livability. Additionally, people are becoming proactive in future-proofing their homes to be aesthetically pleasing and enjoyed by all people of all ages. This course outlines the steps to formulate an action plan to gather critical information needed for making wise decisions. Classes will discuss how to determine the most appropriate types of home modifications, financial options for making them, and how to identify needed community resources. We will also review considerations for preserving and enhancing your property value. This course is for all ages and provides materials for participants to create their own plan of action.

**Instructor:** *R. Edna Sexton*; B.A, UNCW; M.ED, NC State; Graduate Real Estate Institute (GRI), Senior Real Estate Specialist (SRES), Approved Instructor NC Real Estate Commission; Business Development Director for Pinnacle Group Construction, a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) Company; Co-Owner of Pinnacle Group Realty and Director/Instructor at Triangle Real Estate School; engaged in the practice of real estate in North Carolina since 1985 with a specialty in aging-in-place and senior living.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-330 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8, 15  
**Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 16

## Botany for Gardeners

*Instructor:* James Mickle

We all love to grow plants and watch our gardens grow and flourish, but just how do they do that? This course explores how plants are put together, grow, and reproduce, as well as the great variety of plants out there and how they interact with each other and their environment. Using lecture, discussion and hands-on activities, we will look at such topics as plant structure, growth, nutrition, reproduction, flowering, propagation, hormones, ecology, history and diversity.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *Botany for Gardeners*, Fourth Edition: *An Introduction to the Science of Plants*, 4th ed. Timber Press. ISBN 978-1-64326-143-0, Brian Capon 2022. \$15.99

**Instructor:** *James Mickle*; Professor Emeritus and Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor Emeritus in the Department of Plant and Microbial Biology at NC State; he is a paleobotanist who earned BSc and MSc degrees from Ohio State University, a Ph.D. from Ohio University, all in botany, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Naples, Italy; he has been at NC State for 39 years and previously taught at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-233 **Instance #:** 000002 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 16

## Via Zoom -- Artist Wayne Thiebaud: How to Have Your Cake and Eat It, Too!

Registration for this course opens on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 18 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-2Z-206 **Instance #:** 000001 **Two Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 8, 15 **Limit:** 19 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$30 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 2

## THURSDAY

### Big Sky: The Vera Rubin Telescope

*Instructor:* Brand Fortner

Classical astronomers imagined a static sky that changed only over millions of years. How wrong they were! The cosmos bursts with exploding stars, colliding black holes, and neutron stars spinning thousands of times each second. Everywhere we look, we see a universe evolving on every timescale, down to nanoseconds. The Vera Rubin Observatory is built to capture this transient cosmos. With its giant 8.4-meter mirror and revolutionary wide-field camera, it will scan the sky nightly, catching millions of fleeting events. This course explores Rubin's history, design, and ambitious goals—mixing big science with human stories to show how this “cosmic time-lapse” will transform astronomy, and maybe even ourselves.

**Note:** This is a five session course. The class does not meet on April 16.

**Instructor:** *Brand Fortner*; Ph.D. in high energy astrophysics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; teaching professor in physics at NC State and adjunct professor of physics at UNC-Chapel Hill; founder of two software companies; previously held positions at NASA, NCSA, and Johns Hopkins University.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-343 **Instance #:** 000001 **Five Sessions:** 9-10:30 a.m. **Dates:** Mar. 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9, 23 (no class Apr. 16) **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar.17

### U.S. Trade and Dollar Dominance

*Instructor:* John Pilgrim

For the past 80 years, the United States has played a leading role in global trade and finance. How did the U.S. establish this position and what impact has it had on individuals and society as a whole? What changes

might occur if the U.S. is no longer the dominant force in the global economy? To explore these questions, we'll begin by outlining the fundamental economic principles behind voluntary exchange, international trade, and financial systems. From there, we'll examine the factors that contributed to the U.S.'s rise in global economic influence, the effects of that leadership, and the potential challenges to its continued dominance.

**Instructor:** *John Pilgrim*; Ph.D., Economics, Vanderbilt University; B.A., Economics, Grinnell College; professor of economics for 35 years, now retired; has taught various economics-related OLLI courses; facilitates the OLLI Great Books discussion course; veteran OLLI instructor.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-353 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 17

### **Comparative Oncology: Cancer Care Across Species**

*Instructor:* Michael Nolan

Discover how veterinarians and physicians are working together to advance cancer care across species. This three-part series introduces the rapidly growing field of comparative oncology—the study of naturally occurring cancers in animals to inform human medicine. Participants will first explore the fundamentals of cancer biology and management in pets and people. The second session features a guided tour of NC State's cutting-edge Veterinary Hospital, offering a behind-the-scenes look at cancer diagnosis and treatment in companion animals. The final session returns to the classroom for interactive case studies highlighting how veterinary clinical trials contribute to breakthroughs in human oncology, and how these insights, in turn, improve care for pets.

**Note: The March 19 and April 2 sessions will be held at the McKimmon Center. The March 26 session will feature a guided tour of the NC State Veterinary Hospital.** Members will meet in the lobby on March 26 and venture by bus to the NC State Veterinary Hospital. Safety and privacy are of the utmost importance. As we move through the hospital, keep in mind the following rules: photography is not allowed; do not touch animals or equipment; watch out for slippery floors. We will walk approximately 1/2 mile over the span of the tour; this will be mostly indoors.

**Instructor:** *Dr. Mike Nolan*; is the Randall B. Terry, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Oncology and inaugural Director of the Animal Cancer Center at NC State College of Veterinary Medicine; he leads the College's world-renowned clinical radiation oncology service, directs clinical trials developing novel cancer therapies and radiosensitizers, and oversees a research laboratory focused on understanding treatment-induced neuropathy and pain, with the goal of reducing toxicity and improving quality of life for cancer patients.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-4-129 **Instance #:** 000001 **Three Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 19, 26, Apr. 2 **Limit:** 29 **Location:** McKimmon 13 **Fee:** \$50 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 12

### **Via Zoom -- Read and Discuss Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad***

Registration for this course is opening on Day 1 of registration. Please see pg. 19 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-333 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23 **Limit:** 12 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 15

### **Postcards from Around the World**

*Instructor:* Lauren Ball

No passports are required for this trip around the world as we travel to six different countries all within the comfort of an OLLI classroom! Leveraging the expertise of NC State's diverse international population, weekly presenters will share the history, art, music, food, language, and other cultural topics from their countries. Members will be emailed a list of countries represented in this course after January and the OLLI online

catalog will be updated with this information. Join us for this exciting tour of amazing countries, stories, and people without having to step foot in an airport.

**Instructor:** *Lauren Ball*; has worked in the Office of International Services at NC State for 14 years and has been coordinating the Postcards from Around the World class almost annually during that time; she holds a Master's degree in International Studies from NC State and loves supporting engagement between NC State's international population and OLLI class participants.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1-133 **Instance #:** 000004 **Six Sessions:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Dates:** Mar. 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 17

## **Osher Online -- AI for Regular People**

This course is part of the Osher Online Series offered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University. See pg. 13 for description and details.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-1Z-352 **Instance #:** 000001 **Six Sessions:** 7-8:30 p.m. **Dates:** Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and May 7 **Limit:** 13 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$55 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 11

## **SECOND TERM LECTURES**

### **MONDAY**

#### **An American Hero: Col. Robert Morgan and the Memphis Belle**

*Instructor:* Jim Parina

The Memphis Belle, a WWII B-17 bomber that completed 25 missions over Europe, has been memorialized by Hollywood in film. However, the 1990 feature *Memphis Belle* uses composites of the real crew and takes extensive literary license with the facts. This lecture will uncover the true story of the Memphis Belle and its courageous crew, including its pilot Col. Robert Morgan, a North Carolina native who named the bomber after his girlfriend.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *The Man Who Flew the Memphis Belle*, Col. Robert Morgan USAFR Ret.; the movie *The Memphis Belle*.

**Instructor:** *Jim Parina*; B.S., Physics, St. John Fisher University; MBA, The University of Pittsburgh; spent 40 years in sales and sales management of scientific instrumentation, most dealing with DNA Sequencing; Jim has been associated with OLLI at NC State for almost 9 years.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-407 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 16 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 14

#### **Voices of Dissent: North Carolina Provincial Congresses 1774-1776**

*Instructor:* Lori Townsend

This lecture will explore the role of the North Carolina Provincial Congresses in shaping ideas during a period of significant political change. We will discuss how local leadership evolved from royal authority to self-governance, as well as the motivations behind the push for independence. Through the examination of primary documents and historical analysis, participants will gain insight into the personal convictions and events that propelled North Carolina to the forefront of the revolutionary cause, and leave with a deeper understanding of revolution as a process, rather than a foregone conclusion.

**Instructor:** *Lori Townsend*; B.A., Anthropology, M.A. in Liberal Studies (Public History), Graduate Certificate in GIS; previously worked as an archaeologist for the U.S. Forest Service; currently a research historian with the

Office of Archives and History focusing on the American Revolution; her work on the Gilbert Town Historic District is featured in the National Council on Public History's digital project directory; other exhibits include "A Timeline of the American Revolution" and "People of Colonial N.C."

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-408 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 30 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 28

### **Downsizing Made Simple: Taking the Stress Out of the Move**

*Instructor:* Freda Hamlett

If you are considering making a move--now or in your future--you owe it to yourself to be prepared. This lecture will show you how to simplify your life with easy downsizing steps. Learn where to start, what to do with all the extra stuff, and who to call for help!

**Instructor:** *Freda Hamlett*; B.A., Syracuse University in Interior Design; certified Senior Housing Professional; senior Real Estate Specialist.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-130 **Instance #:** 000002 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 6 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 4

### **Hearing Beyond Limits: Advancements in Hearing Aid Technology**

*Instructors:* Hannah Heet, Courtney Schlachter

The first hearing aid was the ear trumpet developed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In 1898, the first electric hearing aid was created. Since then, over the course of more than a century, hearing aid technology has continued to evolve. Advancements in modern technology related to features such as rechargeability, Bluetooth capabilities, and more recent advancements such as AI have continued to impact hearing aid technology as well as assistive listening devices and implantable devices. At the end of this course, participants will have a better understanding of the history of amplification, current technology, and future directions. Participants will gain an understanding of the professional component that plays a critical role in ensuring that these modern technologies are of benefit to those who need them.

**Instructor:** *Hannah Heet*; AuD, CCC-A has been a clinical audiologist at Duke Health since 2015, seeing patients across the lifespan; her education includes a B.S. in communication sciences from Indiana University and her AuD from Purdue University; she provides various audiology services with a significant interest in tinnitus evaluation and management, as well as balance and dizziness disorders; she became a senior clinician in 2020 and is an active member of various professional organizations.

**Instructor:** *Courtney Schlachter*, AuD; CCC-A has been a clinical audiologist at Duke since 2022; she received her B.A. in 2018 and Doctorate of Audiology in 2022 from UNC-Chapel Hill; she currently works with patients across the lifespan and provides a range of audiology services, with a focus on cochlear implants; she completed a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) fellowship during her graduate education and is passionate about working with individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-410 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 13 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 11

### **Rock Gardening or Gardening with Rocks--What's The Difference?**

*Instructors:* James Hollister, Charlie Kidder

Rock gardening might seem like an obscure type of horticulture; while it may appear to simply involve placing rocks in your garden, the process is actually much more complex. This lecture introduces the history and styles of rock gardens in both Eastern and Western traditions and outlines basic principles for creating one. Topics

include selecting appropriate plants and choosing suitable rocks. We will also see how one gardener installed a very impressive garden at his Apex, N.C. home.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *The Crevice Garden*, Kenton Seth and Paul Spriggs; *Rock Gardening: Reimagining a Classic Style*, Joseph Tyconievich; *A Rock Garden in the South*, Elizabeth Lawrence.

**Instructor:** *James Hollister*; born and raised in the west side Chicago area; his grandmother was an amazing gardener back in Delavan Wisconsin; impressed with the beauty of gardens from an early age and had things growing in pots or in the yard from childhood on; retired from Caterpillar as Chief Engineer of Small Track Type Tractors in 2016; began to get serious about gardening, joining some of the local horticultural related groups, taking classes and buying and planting loads of plants.

**Instructor:** *Charlie Kidder*, B.A., Geography, University of Virginia; worked in emergency management for several years, then made a total career shift to horticulture; ran his own gardening business in Baltimore and later in the Triangle; former volunteer gardener at the NC Museum of Art and currently at the JC Raulston Arboretum; member and Past-Chair of the Piedmont Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-409 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 20 **Limit:** 49 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 18

### **The American Presidency**

*Instructor:* David McLennan

**Note:** There are two identical offerings for this course, an in-person option and a live stream option.

There is little doubt that the American presidency has undergone significant changes in recent years. This lecture will examine the political, social, and institutional conditions that contributed to this evolution, as well as the potential long-term impacts on the office for future administrations. We will also explore the historical foundations of the presidency and consider what changes might be necessary for the institution to align more closely with the vision outlined by the Founders in the U.S. Constitution.

**Instructor:** *David McLennan*; B.A., M.A., University of Virginia; Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin; Professor of Political Science, Meredith College.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-418 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 23 **Limit:** 150 **Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$15 / **Non-Member Rate:** \$20 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 18

### **LIVE STREAM LECTURE: The American Presidency**

*Instructor:* David McLennan

See description above

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-418 **Instance #:** 000002 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 23 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** **Zoom Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 18

### **From Chalkboards to Chatbots: Understanding Generative AI in Higher Ed**

*Instructor:* Paul Fyfe

**Note:** There are two identical offerings for this course, an in-person option and a live stream option.

Just three years after the release of ChatGPT, generative AI seems to be everywhere: in web browsers, office software, mobile devices, and digital services. Many of these products have been aggressively marketed to the education sector; notably, the majority of ChatGPT's weekly users are students. What has been the impact on higher education? How has generative AI impacted teaching and learning? And how are instructors responding to it? This lecture will provide an accessible introduction to generative AI, survey how it has affected higher education, and explain how and why teachers are integrating, adapting, or even outright resisting this rapidly changing technology.

**Instructor:** *Paul Fyfe*; Professor of English at NC State; his research and teaching areas include 19th century British literature, media history, digital humanities, and artificial intelligence; he is co-Principal Investigator on NC State's humanities research center on the ethics of AI, and works with an international team on using multimodal AI on nineteenth-century illustrated newspapers; his latest book is *Digital Victorians: From Nineteenth-Century Media to Digital Humanities* (Stanford University Press, 2024).

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-411 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 13 **Limit:** 150 **Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$15 / **Non-Member Rate:** \$20 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 8

### **LIVE STREAM LECTURE: From Chalkboards to Chatbots: Understanding Generative AI in Higher Ed**

*Instructor:* Paul Fyfe

See description above

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-411 **Instance #:** 000002 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 13 **Limit:** 100 **Location:** Zoom **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 8

### **Growing Wine Industry in NC**

*Instructor:* Phil Kirk

North Carolina has a growing wine industry that offers wine from many varieties of native and European style grapes and supports thousands of jobs through wine production, agriculture and tourism. The presentation will explore a wide range of topics, including the historical background, patterns of growth and development, economic implications, emerging trends, advancements in medical research, and collaborative initiatives with institutions of higher education.

**Instructor:** *Phil Kirk*; is a former teacher, State Senator, Cabinet Secretary, newspaper reporter, in addition to serving as Chief of Staff for two governors and a U. S. Senator; he was President/CEO of North Carolina Chamber for 16 years; he is an active Kiwanian and member of several education related boards; his honors include NC Award for Public Service, Trustee Emeritus of Meredith College, Honorary Doctorate and Distinguished Alumnus Award from Catawba College, and three-time recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine; currently a part-time advisor on community relations for NC Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU).

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-398 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 20 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 18

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **Grand North American Migrations**

*Instructor:* Clyde Sorenson

Migration is one of the most powerful phenomena in the animal kingdom; it allows animals to successfully exploit habitats and resources that they otherwise couldn't utilize. However, it is a risky behavior, and the benefits of traveling sometimes thousands of miles must outweigh the hazards. In this presentation we will address migration syndromes in monarch butterflies, humpback whales, neotropical migrant birds, and waterfowl, as experienced during a study abroad course at NC State.

**Instructor:** *Clyde E. Sorenson*; B.S. 1980 Wildlife Biology, NC State; M.S. 1984 Entomology, NC State; Ph.D. Entomology, 1988, NC State; Assistant Professor, 1989-1992, Univ. Nevada-Reno; Assistant Professor, 1992-1996, Univ. Missouri-Columbia; Professor of Entomology, 1996- Present, NC State; Recent awards: 2025 Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching; North Carolina Wildlife Federation's Governor's Conservation Awards Environmental Educator of the Year, 2025.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-396 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 3-4:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 22 **Limit:** 55 **Location:** McKimmon 11/12 **Fee:** \$15 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 20

## THURSDAY

### **The Club: American Women Artists in Paris**

*Instructor:* Jennifer Dasal

*The Club* uncovers the never-before-told story of the American Girls' Club in Paris—a transformative haven for American women artists at a time when such opportunities were largely denied in the U.S. Created by a philanthropic American socialite, the Club became a sanctuary and launching point for creative women in the vibrant, tumultuous world of the Belle Époque. At its core, *The Club* is a story about the necessity of supporting the arts, striving for equity, and creating space for women of all walks of life to fully express themselves—deeply relevant themes in today's cultural and educational conversations.

**Recommended Reading (Optional):** *The Club: Where American Women Artists Found Refuge in Belle Époque Paris*, Jennifer Dasal (ISBN: 978-1639731305)

**Instructor:** *Jennifer Dasal*; creator and host of the ArtCurious podcast, which has been featured in multiple local and national publications and websites, including *O, the Oprah Magazine*, *PC Magazine*, *ArtDaily*, *NPR*, *Salon* and more; she is also the author of *ArtCurious: Stories of the Unexpected, Slightly Odd, and Strangely Wonderful in Art History*; M.A., art history, University of Notre Dame; B.A., art history, University of California, Davis; Dasal is the former curator of modern and contemporary art at the North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, where she worked for thirteen years.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-403 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 1-2:30 p.m. **Date:** Apr. 9 **Limit:** 150 **Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$15 / **Non-Member Rate:** \$20 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 7

## LUNCH AND LEARNS

*Enjoy a short educational program followed by a catered boxed lunch and time to socialize with members and your instructor. Cost includes the lecture and a boxed lunch by Catering by Design. Your lunch choice will be recorded at the time of registration.*

## MONDAY

### **N.C. in the American Revolution**

*Instructor:* Jonathan Underwood

North Carolina's Revolution was as much about civil conflict as independence. In one hour we move from the Regulator Movement to the Halifax Resolves of 1776, then through the Southern Campaign—Moore's Creek Bridge, King's Mountain, Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse. We will touch on Patriot and Loyalist networks, militia-Continental coordination, Cherokee and maritime fronts, and the human costs of the war for families, the enslaved and refugees.

**Instructor:** *Jonathan Underwood*; degrees in history and classical studies, UNC-Greensboro; M.A., History, NC State; he served for eight years as Director of the Stanly County Historic Preservation Commission and briefly taught North Carolina history at Pfeiffer University; later became Assistant Grand Secretary of the Masonic Grand Lodge of North Carolina, serving as institutional historian and deputy chief operations officer, before being promoted in 2021 to Grand Secretary, the fraternity's chief operations officer; he writes on historical and genealogical topics, often focusing on the Yadkin–Pee Dee River Valley.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-419 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Date:** Jan. 26 **Limit:** 48  
**Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$50 **Registration Deadline:** Jan. 19

### **The Science of Fusion Power**

*Instructor:* Don Ellison

Controlled nuclear fusion is presented in the press as a clean, safe and unlimited source of electricity if we can just solve the technical problems blocking its fulfillment. Vast sums are being spent on solving these problems with each new headline heralding another “breakthrough.” Nuclear fusion does power the Sun but conditions in the center of the Sun are vastly different from any achievable location on Earth. This is why controlling nuclear fusion is so much harder than controlling nuclear fission, which has been producing commercial electricity since the 1950s. The instructor will describe the science that explains why fusion power has not been realized after decades of work.

**Instructor:** *Don Ellison*; Ph.D., The Catholic University of America; Professor Emeritus, Physics, NC State; has taught and done research on the theory of cosmic rays, particle acceleration in high-energy astrophysics, and the modeling of supernova remnants; Fellow of the American Physical Society since 1998; OLLI instructor of courses on astrophysics and general physics since 2019.

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-3-420 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 11 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Date:** Mar. 23 **Limit:** 48  
**Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$50 **Registration Deadline:** Mar. 16

## **SOCIALS**

*Join your fellow OLLI members for two relaxed and engaging events where conversation flows as easily as the coffee! Enjoy light refreshments, share your interests, and discover the stories behind the faces in your classes. Come ready to chat, share, and learn more about our amazing community.*

## **TUESDAY**

### **The Media That Moves You**

OLLI members are great consumers of media—be it books, films, podcasts or television, your interests are broad! Participants are invited to share in small groups what they recommend you read, watch or listen to; any genre or medium will do! ***OLLI staff will compile all recommendations and share with participants after the event.***

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-5-005 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. **Date:** Mar. 3 **Limit:** 48  
**Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$10 **Registration Deadline:** Feb. 24

### **Hidden Gems of North Carolina**

If you have been in North Carolina for a while, you probably have a favorite spot—a restaurant, historic landmark, cool neighborhood or scenic view—that you would love to tell others about! Participants are invited to share in small groups their recommendations for what to see and do across our state; newcomers to NC are welcome! ***OLLI staff will compile all recommendations and share with participants after the event.***

**Course #:** MCE-LLI-5-006 **Instance #:** 000001 **One Session:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. **Date:** Apr. 14 **Limit:** 48  
**Location:** McKimmon TBD **Fee:** \$10 **Registration Deadline:** Apr. 7

## How to register:

### **OLLI at NC State membership is required for participation in all programs.**

Purchase your membership online or call our office at 919-515-5782. All memberships expire on June 30. ***The membership fee is prorated as the year progresses:***

- Fall, Spring and Summer Semester Membership (July 1 – June 30) - \$60
- Spring and Summer Membership (November 1 – June 30) - \$45
- Summer Membership (March 1 – June 30) - \$25

Registration for OLLI membership and enrollment in any of its programs is open throughout the program year. Feel free to add courses or events after your initial registration.

Registrations are accepted first come, first served. Registering online is the quickest way to enroll and receive registration confirmation. You may also register by telephone, by mail, or in person.

- If registering online for the first time, you will need to set up an account. Your user ID will be your email address. Find our Registration Quick Guide at: [go.ncsu.edu/olliregistration](http://go.ncsu.edu/olliregistration).
- Classes, lectures, and study trips overlap in time, double check your schedule before registering!
- There may be required reading and other details associated with some of these courses and study trips. Be sure to read the full course description online before registering.
- Please review our Refund Policy on page 59 before registering.

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## Financial Aid

Members with limited discretionary income should contact us if financial assistance is needed in order to enroll in a 6-week course. Generous donations by our members support financial aid. Contact the OLLI office to complete the brief financial aid application or find the application on our website. Financial aid applications must be renewed annually. All information is kept confidential.

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## Online Registration:

Visit [reporter.ncsu.edu](http://reporter.ncsu.edu) and sign in using “Brickyard Login.”

- If you have previously set up an account, your email address is your username. Passwords expire every 365 days. You will be prompted to change your password if it has expired.
- **You will know that you have successfully logged in when you see your name in the upper right-hand corner of your screen.**
- Find our Registration Quick Guide at: [go.ncsu.edu/olliregistration](http://go.ncsu.edu/olliregistration).
- Trouble registering online? Visit [go.ncsu.edu/olli-help](http://go.ncsu.edu/olli-help) for our Troubleshooting Guide.

There are several ways to search for Spring offerings in Reporter.

- To search the alphabetical listing of **all OLLI offerings in Reporter for Spring Semester** type “**OLLISP26**” in the search field at the top of the page.
- To search the alphabetical listing of **Study Trips and Experiential Learning** in Reporter for Spring Semester type “**OLLITRIPS**” in the search field at the top of the page.
- To search for all offerings that **open for registration on Day 1** in Reporter for Spring Semester (Great Decisions, Study Trips, Experiential Learning, Osher Online and Zoom Offerings) type “**OLLIDAY1**” in the search field at the top of the page.
- To search for all offerings **that open for registration on Day 2** in Reporter for Spring Semester (In-person Courses and Lectures, Live Streams, Lunch and Learns, and Socials) type “**OLLIDAY2**” in the search field at the top of the page.

Add the classes (and membership if applicable) you want to register for to your cart, then check the box at the bottom of the screen indicating you have read and agree to registration policies, then “Proceed to Order Summary.”

Provide your credit card information as instructed. Please note that the payment processor screen only accepts 2 digits for your credit card expiration date year. For example, if you attempt to type in “2024,” the system will recognize the expiration year as “20” and will show your card as expired.

You will receive an email confirming your registration once completed.

If you have any trouble registering online, please reference “How to Register Online” detailed instructions at <https://mckimmoncenter.ncsu.edu/olli/online-2/> or call our office at 919.515.5782.

### **Phone Registration:**

You may phone in your registration at 919.515.5782, option 1. **Note:** Please do NOT leave a voicemail on registration day, simply hang up and call again until a staff member is able to answer. Spring Semester registration will be in two phases.

- Registration for Great Decisions, Study Trips, Experiential Learning, Osher Online and Zoom Courses begins Tuesday, December 2 at 9:30 a.m.
- Registration for In-person Course and Lectures, Live Streams, Lunch and Learns, and Socials begins Thursday, December 4 at 9:30 a.m.

### **In Person Registration:**

If you prefer to register in person, our offices are open Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:00PM. We are located in Room 225 at McKimmon Center, 1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh. If registering in person, we accept credit cards and checks only (no cash). **Please note that both the Dec. 2 and Dec. 4 Spring registrations begin at 9:30 a.m. in room 232 at McKimmon Center.**

# Refund Policy

## General Policies

- The annual membership fee will not be refunded.
- A \$10 processing fee will be deducted from any refund.
- If you cannot attend, we cannot allow substitutions.
- If OLLI cancels a course or event, you will be notified and given a full refund (or you can transfer to another course or event in the semester). Please allow three weeks for processing refunds.
- If OLLI cancels a course or event after it has begun, you will be notified and offered a pro-rated refund.
- Please allow three weeks for processing refunds.
- Lectures, courses, lunch and learns, experiential learning and study trips overlap in time. Drop fees apply if you double-book yourself.
- Please note that options for transfers may be limited in the Summer Semester, as transfers cannot be carried from one fiscal year to the next due to university regulations.

## Courses & Experiential Learning (\$26 or more)

Members may drop a course or experiential learning of \$26 or more and request a refund online or by contacting the OLLI office at least 14 days prior to the start of the course. A \$10 drop fee per member per transaction will be charged. Members may transfer to another course, study trip, experiential learning, or lecture for no fee; this can be done by contacting the OLLI office. The OLLI office can assist you with making a payment for the balance due and receiving a partial refund for the difference in fees as applicable.

## Lectures, Socials, Events and Experiential Learning (\$25 or less)

No refunds will be given for lectures/events/experiential learning with fees of \$25 or less. Members may transfer to another course or lecture for no fee; this can be done by contacting the OLLI office. You may transfer to a course of equal or greater value; the OLLI office can assist you with making a payment for the balance due if applicable.

## Study Trips and Lunch & Learns

- 14 Days or more in advance:  
Refunds for study trips and lunch & learns requested 14 days or more in advance will be granted at 100% minus a \$10 drop fee. Transfers to other courses, lectures, study trips, and lunch & learns can be granted for no fee if space is available. The OLLI office can assist you with making a payment for the balance due and receiving a partial refund for the difference in fees as applicable.
- 8 - 13 Days in advance:  
Refund requests received 8 - 13 days in advance will be subject to a \$10 drop fee, then will receive 50% of the remaining study trip fee. No transfers will be granted.
- Refund requests received 7 days or fewer in advance will not be granted. No transfers will be granted.

## **Multi-day Domestic and International Travel**

The refund policy of our travel partner (for example: Odysseys Unlimited, Road Scholar, etc.) applies.

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## **OLLI at NC State University Standards of Course Behavior**

OLLI at NC State University seeks to promote a learning environment and positive social interactions for everyone involved in its courses. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment, including leading and moderating discussions, whether in-person or online, rests with the course instructor. Course participants who engage in any unlawful acts or behaviors which materially and/or substantially disrupt a class may be directed by the instructor to leave the class for the remainder of the class period. Classroom behavior should not be used to discipline participants with differing interpretations of course content or viewpoint but to address behavior that is disruptive within the educational environment, including its impact on other course participants.

The OLLI administration has the authority to remove any participant or instructor from the class and/or the program for such interference or disruption without issuing a refund.

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## **Adverse Weather Policy**

OLLI programs, including offsite classes and study trips, are cancelled when Wake County Public Schools close to students because of adverse weather. Wake County Public Schools delays in opening do not affect OLLI's schedule; OLLI programs run as scheduled if there is a WCPSS delayed opening. When WCPSS closes early due to impending weather, we typically do not cancel classes, but please watch for an email from our office under those circumstances. Zoom courses/lectures may be able to continue despite adverse weather, and decisions on Zoom courses/lectures will be made on a case-by-case basis; look for an email from the OLLI office on the day of the lecture/class.

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## **Photo Waiver**

By registering for an OLLI program either online, over the phone or in person, participants give permission to NC State University to take and publish photographs, video, audio or other impressions of their image or voice (collectively "photographs"). Participants will not be compensated for any photographs or other likeness that may be used in this capacity. To opt out of accepting the photo waiver, email [OLLI\\_info@ncsu.edu](mailto:OLLI_info@ncsu.edu).

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## OLLI Member Benefits

### Wolfpack One ID Card

While the Wolfpack One ID card is not required, members may want to obtain a free Wolfpack One card in order to take full advantage of several university affiliate benefits.

#### Member benefits requiring the Wolfpack One card:

- Use of NC State Libraries

#### No Wolfpack One card is required for the benefits below, but you will need to show a photo ID and let them know you are a current OLLI member:

- Discounts on tickets for cultural events at Stewart and Thompson Theaters.
- Use of Carmichael Gym (for additional fees). Contact the Gym.
- No ID is required for access to the African American Cultural Center
- Transportation on the Wolfline bus system is free.
- All NC State sports listed below are free and open to the public. Check each team's schedule for events and locations. **Note:** Post Season events may be ticketed depending on the sport.
  - *Men's and Women's Soccer*
  - *Men's and Women's Cross Country*
  - *Men's and Women's Golf*
  - *Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving*
  - *Men's and Women's Tennis*
  - *Men's and Women's Track & Field*

#### You may obtain your card at the Wolfpack One Card office after you have purchased your membership.

Allow one week for the OLLI office to send membership updates to the Wolfpack One office before you go. The office is located in Talley Student Union, which is between Cates and Dunn Avenues. It is on the first floor of the building (off the main lobby to the left if you enter via the Cates Avenue entrance). Parking is available in the pay lot in the Coliseum Parking Deck at the intersection of Cates and Jensen with a short walk to the Talley Student Union.

The office is open Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm. The phone number is 919-515-3090. The card is free, but the replacement cost for a lost card is \$20. The card must be renewed annually.

### NC State Libraries Benefits

OLLI members are entitled to limited privileges at the NC State Libraries, which include the D.H. Hill Jr. Library, the J.B. Hunt Library (the main libraries), and three branch libraries: Natural Resources, Design, and Veterinary Medical. The libraries are open only to faculty and students enrolled in credit courses during final exam periods. With a Wolfpack One Card, members can borrow books and access some online resources off-campus by logging in as a Libraries Patron using their Borrower ID and PIN. Remote access to many electronic resources is restricted due to licensing agreements. Laptop and device checkouts are not permitted for OLLI patrons.

OLLI at NC State reflects its members' interests and desires. It is a collaborative effort among staff and volunteers, both members and instructors. Members make a difference in **YOUR** OLLI by serving as class hosts who welcome our volunteer instructors, by joining and organizing special interest groups, by planning and welcoming members at OLLI's social events, by spreading the word about OLLI, by serving on subject area program subcommittees and converting ideas into courses, and more! Do you have time and talents to share? Get involved!

Special thanks to our OLLI Advisory Council Members and Standing Committee Members listed below:

### **OLLI Advisory Council**

Sarah Ash	Nadine Darer	Tom Hutchinson, Chair	Willa Nipper
Barri Belfanti	Stanley Faer	Carol Kasworm	Michael Patetta
Barbara Buescher	Leslie Gagliano	Chuck Korte	Carol Rahmani
Brenda Carbon	Mike Ganey	Allyn Kosenko	Scott Renegar
Tina Certo	Diana Hutchinson	Bob Metz	

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Maureen Deis	Bill Poston	

#### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING**

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Bob Dietz	Madeleine Leeds	Sara Wetli
Mike Ganey	Heidi McAfee	
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Tina Certo	Tim Hoyt	Fay Krapf
Linda Davenport	Diana Hutchinson	Barbara McGeachy
Lynn Dix	Tom Hutchinson	George Nemezc

#### **COMMUNITY, PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT**

Betsy Allen	Bill Poston
Terry Apter	Katie Robinson
Barbara Buescher	Lee Tate
Grace Ann Chirico	Sharon Ware
Karen Clark	Stanley Faer, Chair

#### **VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS**

Barri Belfanti & Leslie Gagliano

## **OLLI CONTRIBUTORS**

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The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is financed primarily through membership and program fees. Please consider making a gift of any size to help enhance programming and support financial aid. In addition to The Bernard Osher Foundation, we thank the following generous donors who have made contributions to OLLI at NC State during the 2024-25 fiscal year.

### **Contributors to OLLI July 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025**

#### **Benefactor (\$2,500 and above)**

Anonymous donation

#### **Sponsor (\$500 - \$999)**

Barbara & John McGeachy  
Margaret Paschal

#### **Patron (\$250 - \$499)**

Caterpillar Foundation  
Harvey and Hilda Joyner

#### **Donor (\$100 - \$249)**

Mike Bost & Michael Black  
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Holly Knox  
Kay Moore  
Richard Roddy  
Linda Silber  
Eric Stolzenberg

#### **Friend (Up to \$99)**

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