# Fall 2024 In-Person + Online Course Catalog

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UMass Boston PROVIDING LIFE-ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS



#### OLLI at UMass Boston Membership Categories, Fees, and Benefits - Effective July 1, 2024

✓ = Benefit/Program is included in a specific membership category.

N/A – Benefit/Program is NOT included in a specific membership category.

#### Membership Category

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Membership Fees, Programs, and Benefits	Full/Unlimited	OLLI Carte	General	
Annual Membership Fee (Individual)*	\$245	\$120	\$65	
Household Membership Discount	✓	✓	✓	
Unlimited Courses (no additional fees)	✓	N/A	N/A	
Fee per Course Option	N/A	\$40	N/A	
Unlimited OLLI Talks/Walking Tours	✓	✓	N/A	
Fee per OLLI Talk/Walking Tour Option	N/A	N/A	\$15	
Shared Interest Groups	✓	✓	✓	
Social Events	✓	✓	✓	
Theater (group rate)	✓	✓	✓	
Day Trips (group rate)	✓	✓	✓	
Domestic Travel (group rates)	✓	✓	✓	
International Travel (group rates)	✓	✓	✓	
Winter & Summer Programs	✓	✓	✓	
Mango Languages	✓	✓	N/A	
UMass Student ID	✓	N/A	N/A	
UMass Email Address	✓	N/A	N/A	
UMass Parking Plan (per term)	\$45	N/A	N/A	

**Household Membership.** Each membership category is eligible for a household discount. A household membership is designed for two individuals living at the same address and registering for the same membership category.

**Mango Languages:** Brush up your language skills before going on a trip. A free subscription to Mango Language is an OLLI membership perk for the Full and OLLI Carte membership levels.

**UMass Student ID:** Use your UMass Student ID to get discounts at selected cultural institutions (including the JFK Library & Museum) and retail establishments.

**UMass Email Address:** Use your UMass email address to get student discounts at online merchants. Some retail establishments also require a college or university email address to obtain a student discount. UMass email would allow you to also access the secure WiFi on campus.

**UMass Parking Plan:** OLLI offers a discounted parking rate of \$9/day for on-campus garages. Regular price is \$15. The semester parking plan allows Full members to pay \$45 each term for unlimited parking passes.

Cover photo by OLLI member Karen Gill. Location: Constitution Park, Ossipee, NH.

<sup>\* =</sup> Support available for folks who may need help covering the membership fee.

## **About OLLI at UMass Boston**

Learning for the love of it! The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UMass Boston is an inclusive member-powered community that offers educational, cultural, and social programs to inspire adult learners ages 50+.

Through a modestly priced membership, OLLI provides non-credit courses, special lectures, social events, theatre outings, and field trips in the United States and abroad. OLLI at UMass Boston values the diversity of its members, staff, facilitators, and volunteers, and we strive to model and promote a welcoming environment by embracing our community, which includes differences in race, socioeconomic status, cultural background, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and educational background.

No specific background or education level is required to join, just an interest in learning, the desire to participate actively with your peers, and an open mind. OLLI offers over 200 learning opportunities every year through our courses, OLLI Talk presentations, and special events. These educational programs vary in length. Courses meet once a week (mostly during the day) and might last from 3–10 weeks. The length of most classes is 90 minutes, but some might only be an hour and a few last up to two hours. OLLI Talks and special events are typically one-day programs and generally last for an hour.

OLLI is funded in part by the Bernard Osher Foundation, which supports educational programs, the arts, and integrative medicine centers. OLLI at UMass Boston is one of 124 institutes in all 50 states in the United States funded by the Foundation.

#### **How Do I Join OLLI?**

To join or renew and register for classes, submit Membership and Course Request Forms on the last two pages of this catalog with payment by check or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express). Membership is valid for one year, expiring on January 1 or July 1. Contact the OLLI office at 617.287.7312 to find out your renewal date. Online course registration is available at www.umb.edu/olli. Registration is not accepted by phone.

## **Membership and Benefits**

Membership categories and their corresponding benefits are outlined on the opposite page. Membership levels are further described below. For more information on OLLI benefits such as the UMass ID and Mango Languages, please email the OLLI office (ollireg@gmail.com).

## **Membership Categories**

**General Membership.** General membership allows folks to participate in many of the social-educational components that OLLI offers such theatre, day trips, travel, Shared Interest Groups, special events, and our winter and summer programs. As a General member, you have the option to attend an OLLI Talk or Walking Tour on a per item fee basis (\$15/Talk or Walk). This membership level would not be eligible to take OLLI courses.

**OLLI Carte Membership.** This category is designed for folks who may only wish to take one or two courses a year. For this category, you pay for each course (\$40/course) that you get into. There are no extra fees associated with registering and attending OLLI Talks or Walking Tours; those are already included in the pricing. As an OLLI Carte member, you also have access to the other programs such as travel, theatre, etc. mentioned in the General membership category.

**Full/Unlimited Membership.** This category allows you to take courses, OLLI Talks and Walking Tours at no additional charge. You can take as many courses as you can get into. The Full membership category allows you to also enjoy all the other benefits of being an OLLI member such as access to our travel and day trip programs, theatre outings, social events, and many more. Some of these will have additional costs associated with them.

#### **Financial Assistance**

OLLI at UMass Boston does offer scholarships for those who might need assistance in paying the annual membership fee. For more information, please email the OLLI office (ollireg@gmail.com).

## **OLLI at UMass Boston Programs**

**Courses.** OLLI courses are typically 5-6 weeks long and meet once a week for 90 minutes. Courses explore a wide-range of topics and are offered both in-person and online via Zoom. Currently, courses are offered Monday-Saturday with varying times throughout the day, including some evening courses. Course offerings listed by day of the week begin on page 8.

**OLLI Talks.** OLLI Talks are one-time lectures, presentations, or workshops held usually around the lunch hour. A listing of OLLI Talks accepted for the fall is on page 30.

**Walking Tours.** Walking Tours consist of a well-researched stroll of a specific neighborhood or location. Tour groups typically consist of no more than 15 members. Walking Tours accepted for the fall are listed on page 30.

**Theatre Outings.** OLLI members enjoy discounted tickets to select theatre performances in the Boston area. The Theatre Committee works with various production companies to select shows and dates for OLLI to attend as a group. Fall theatre outings are listed on page 32.

**Travel.** Members enjoy fun and educational day trips as well as overnight travel (both domestic and international). Volunteers put together trip itineraries and promote them to OLLI members at discounted prices. Any trips that have been scheduled for future dates are listed on page 31.

**Special Events.** Author talks, current event discussions, summer and winter programming, fundraisers, and other programs are offered throughout the year. Programs and events not scheduled at the time of this catalog's printing will be announced mainly through OLLI's weekly e-newsletter, *Connections*. Please contact the OLLI Office to get the latest newsletter, or be added to the email distribution list.

#### Shared Interest Groups

An OLLI Shared Interest Group (SIG) is a group of OLLI members who share a common interest and like to meet outside the normal OLLI class environment to discuss and enjoy this mutual interest. Each group has a different focus and is self-managed: Members decide when they will meet and plan how the group will function. Most SIGs meet once a month but may meet more or less often if members wish. Some OLLI SIGs continue to meet via Zoom, while others have outings and in-person events.

More information about our Shared Interest Groups is available on our website at www.umb.edu/olli To join a SIG, email ollireg@gmail.com with your specific request.

The groups currently active are

- Book Group (waitlist only)
- Culinary Adventures
- French Conversations through Cinema
- Knitting
- Intergenerational Book Club
- Stonewall at OLLI
- Walking
- Writing

Are you interested in starting a new Shared Interest Group? All it takes is a core group of like-minded OLLI members. If you have an idea, seek out a few interested members, come up with a mission statement, meeting schedule, and core leadership group.

Email Jim Hermelbracht for assistance at james.hermelbracht@umb.edu.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT EMAIL**

Now more than ever, OLLI uses email to communicate important information about classes and events to its members. We do not give email addresses to any organization outside of UMass Boston and do not send unnecessary emails. Since OLLI continues to offer some online programming, it is essential that members have an email address and check it regularly.

Here are some of the ways the office utilizes email communication:

- Class confirmations and schedule changes
- Emergency cancellations
- OLLI Talk schedules and other free events
- Updates and other information about OLLI and its programs through our regularly scheduled e-newsletter (which members can opt out of)

Members should frequently check their email spam/junk folders as messages from OLLI could end up marked as spam by your email provider.

## **Learning at OLLI**

OLLI at UMass Boston continues to provide in-person and online programming for its members. We are ever so grateful for the time and effort our facilitators, presenters, and tour guides dedicate to researching, creating, and offering their knowledge, passions, and expertise to OLLI students.

#### **Learning Etiquette and Conduct**

OLLI encourages rich dialogue and the exchange of ideas, opinions, and information in its courses and programs. This is at the heart of lifelong learning as older adults bring with them individual personal and professional experiences. OLLI and its facilitators/ presenters wish to build a learning atmosphere (whether that is in-person or online) that is welcoming and accepting of differences. Members grow by actively listening to one another with respect and dignity. It is the expectation that members help one another in this endeavor, allowing various voices to be heard. We appreciate your cooperation in helping create this inclusive community.

#### Zoom

OLLI at UMass Boston uses Zoom as the main platform to deliver course and program content online. A personal Zoom account is not required in order to participate in OLLI courses and programs. Zoom is a free video-conference platform that allows users to meet online and participate via video and audio. It is an application that can be easily installed or downloaded for free on your mobile device or home computer/laptop. The OLLI Zoom account is hosted through the university and is well secured. OLLI does not publicly promote Zoom details for meetings or courses; they are intended strictly for OLLI members. Members can learn more about Zoom by visiting its website: www.zoom.us.

#### In-Person Locations and Directions

Approximately 45% of OLLI fall courses will be offered in-person at the UMass Boston Campus, Hingham Public Library, Thayer Public Library in Braintree, or Mt. Ida Campus in Newton. Covid vaccinations and masking are no longer required by the University. Masks are welcomed at all in-person courses and events. OLLI will inform its members if mandatory health policies change.

#### **UMass Boston Campus**

McCormack Hall, 3rd Floor, Room 003 100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125-3393

#### **Hingham Public Library**

Whiton Room 66 Leavitt Street, Hingham, MA 02043

#### **Thayer Public Library**

Logan Auditorium 798 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184

#### **Mount Ida Campus**

Campus Center Theatre 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

Detailed information on directions and parking can be found on OLLI's contact/locations webpage: www. umb.edu/olli/contact. For those attending programs at the UMass Boston campus, OLLI has arranged for discounted parking of \$9/day. Members planning to be on campus for more than five days during the fall semester can purchase a \$45 semester parking plan available through the OLLI Office. This plan allows for unlimited single use parking passes to be used for OLLI courses and programs being held on campus during the fall semester.

#### **OLLI Course Information**

#### **Facilitators**

OLLI course facilitators and OLLI Talk presenters share their areas of expertise with OLLI students on a volunteer basis. A course evaluation form is provided at the end of each course, and your constructive suggestions are welcomed by our facilitators. If you would like to complete an evaluation before the end of the course, please request a form from the OLLI office.

Please note that the views and opinions expressed are strictly those of the facilitators, presenters, and their guest speakers and may not reflect the philosophical perspective of UMass Boston or OLLI leadership.



This symbol indicates courses that are taught by UMass Boston graduate students under the OLLI Scholar program. The OLLI Curriculum Committee reviews proposals, interviews candidates, and mentors students from various graduate programs on campus. If accepted into the program, OLLI Scholars receive a stipend after successful completion of their courses. This intergenerational experience benefits both UMass graduate students and OLLI members.

#### **Course Fees**

- \$40 per course for OLLI Carte members, or
- Free for Full/Unlimited members.

Additional fees are sometimes required for courses that involve off-campus activities, special events, or a high amount of handout copying or instructional supplies.

#### **Course Cancellation**

OLLI reserves the right to cancel a scheduled course because of low registration, non-availability of a facilitator, or any other unavoidable circumstance. Students will be notified as soon as possible.

#### **Attendance Policies**

OLLI events have a maximum capacity determined by the course topic or the facilitator's preference. If requests for a course exceed capacity, the registration priority system is used to determine who will be enrolled, based on the priorities set by each registrant. If you would like to be placed on a waitlist for a course that is full, please contact the OLLI office, and you will be notified if a space becomes available. Remember to cancel if you cannot attend a course or OLLI Talk.

## **Registration Information**

**Courses:** OLLI at UMass Boston uses a priority/lottery system to determine final course registrations. Full and OLLI Carte members must submit their course requests before the **Priority Registration Deadline of August 19** to be included in the lottery allocation process.

Please list your course choices in order of priority (highest priority = 1, and so on) on the Course Request Form or when using the online registration system.

Submit your requests by mail or online by August 19,

2024. How does the lottery work? If demand exceeds the number of seats for a course, the computer assigns those seats by lottery based on your priority rankings. The maximum number of students registered for each course depends on the course topic (some may work best with a smaller class size) and the preference of the facilitator.

Course requests received after the August 19 deadline will be assigned based on availability on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Online Registration:** For instructions about use of our online system, please go to our website at umb.edu/olli/courses

Course Confirmation: Students are not registered for courses until they receive a final confirmation. Confirmations will be emailed in late August. Please pay close attention to the details of the confirmation correspondence: "registered" means a student has been confirmed to attend the class; "not registered" means the course was oversubscribed, and the course request could not be accommodated.

OLLI Talk/Walking Tour Registration: Dates for OLLI Talk Presentations and Walking Tours are announced approximately three weeks in advance; registration is not open until the dates are announced. OLLI Talks and Walking Tours registration is always on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register responsibly! Sign up for only those presentations you can reasonably attend and remember to cancel if your plans change.

**Dropping or Adding Courses:** All dropped courses and OLLI Talks are handled by the OLLI office. Please email ollireg@gmail.com or call 617.287.7312 as soon as you determine that you will not be attending a course or OLLI Talk for which you registered.

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## Fall 2024 Off-Site Courses

The following IN-PERSON courses will be held at OLLI's off-site locations during the Fall 2024 semester. Each course is listed chronologically under each location. Full course descriptions and facilitator bios can be found starting on page 8. Please check location listings carefully and register for your preferred location on the request form.

**UMass Boston In-Person** courses will be held on Mondays and Thursdays. There are over 20 courses to select from and those can be found listed under Monday Classes (page 8) and Thursday Classes (page 21).

#### Braintree - Thayer Public Library

The Christian Nation Question - Are We or Aren't We?, 5 Mondays, 9/23-10/28 (no class on 10/14), 1:30-3:00 p.m.

**Am I Normal?**, 6 Tuesdays, 9/10–10/15, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Literary Ladies of New England, 4 Tuesdays, 10/1–10/22,1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Independent Films: A Sampler**, 6 Tuesdays, 10/29–12/3, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Questions of Identity, 5 Tuesdays, 11/19–12/17, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Exploring Identity**, 6 Wednesdays, 9/25–10/30, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Is There Anything New in Opera?, 5 Thursdays, 9/12-10/17 (no class on 10/3), ,1:30-3:00 p.m.

Discovering Documentaries, 6 Fridays, 9/13–10/18, 10:00 a.m.–12 noon

**Exploring Longevity Series 7: Human Posture**, 3 Fridays, 11/8–11/22, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

## <u> Hingham – Hingham Public Library</u>

**Films of 1939**, 5 Mondays, 9/16–10/21 (no class on 10/14), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Sharing Poetry**, 4 Tuesdays, 10/22–11/12, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Chair Yoga for Everyone**, 4 Wednesdays, 10/30–11/20, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

#### Newton - Mt. Ida Campus

**Bowed, Plucked, and Strummed Stories: The Instruments of American Roots Music**, 8 Fridays, 9/13–11/15 (no class on 10/4 and 10/11), 10:00 a.m.–12 noon

## Fall 2024 Courses by Day of the Week

**Note:** All course information is correct at the time of printing. Any changes to course details will be announced in the OLLI newsletter and reflected in the online information about the course. On the following pages, course descriptions and facilitator bios are listed by day of the week. **OLLI is offering both in-person and online courses this semester. Please note the location as you consider and submit your course requests.** 

<u>Course formats</u> are the ways in which OLLI facilitators anticipate presenting their course information and material. Some courses may use a combination of formats. The various formats include the following:

- **Lecture**—Lecture-based courses primarily present information to students, although they often include some time for comments and questions.
- **Discussion**—Discussion-based courses foster active participation by all students and usually include sharing comments and questions.
- **Hands-on Activity**—These courses are based in hands-on learning. Examples include our knitting, photography, and art courses.
- Activity/Exercise—These courses require physical participation. Examples include our yoga and tai chi as well
  as other movement courses.

## Monday

#### **Tong Bei Exercises**

Tong Bei is one of the oldest martial arts styles in China (500s BC). Tong Bei masters in China followed the Chinese martial art model of keeping their teachings very secretive. Tong Bei exercises involves many back and shoulder exercises, which help you to relax and stretch your back. They are easy to do and easy to remember. Huan Zhang is the 4th generation of Five Element Tong Bei. His articles on Tong Bei have been featured a few times on *Tai Chi and Kung Fu* magazine.

Facilitator: Huan Zhang has 40 plus years of martial arts experiences. He has studied variety of martial arts from top masters from China including his father Grandmaster Zhang Lu Ping, Grandmaster Li Tai Liang, and Great Grandmaster Cai Hong Xiang. He has been interviewed by WCVB & NECN. Published many martial arts articles on major magazines from both China and America, he is also the Chief Exercise designer for a NIH granted Joint Pain Study for elderly at University of Massachusetts, Boston. He was the co-president of the 2023 WOMAC (World Open Martial Arts Championship). As the vice president of the World Fighting Martial Arts Federation (WFMAF), he helps to promote Martial Arts Worldwide.

**Dates:** 10 Mondays, 9/9–11/25 (no class on 10/14 & 11/11)

**Time:** 9:30–10:30 a.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Yang Style Tai Chi for Beginners**

Yang Style Tai Chi is an internal Chinese martial art that embodies Taoist philosophy and, accordingly, is extremely beneficial for good health. It is also a method of relaxation, used for increased focus and concentration. Benefits include stress reduction and better concentration, as well as improved flexibility, strength, immune system, balance, memory, circulation, and coordination. The facilitator is the 6th generation of Yang Style Tai Chi.

Facilitator: Huan Zhang, see bio above.

Dates: 10 Mondays, 9/9–11/25 (no class on 10/14 & 11/11)

**Time:** 10:45–11:45 a.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Knitting Well-fitted Sweaters**

This class will focus on creating a sweater to wear in the fall and winter. The first two sessions will be dedicated to new knitters and to prepare for the work ahead. We will learn the basis for sweater creations. How to measure and techniques that will provide us with a well fitted garment. This class will be very hands on since we are all going to work together.

Facilitator: Samia Awad was born in Bolivia. Her formal training was in Biology, and she worked as a biochemist for her entire working life. Samia has been knitting since she was 7 years old and is passionate about it. She enjoys sharing her enthusiasm by teaching others.

Dates: 8 Mondays, 9/9-11/4 (no class on 10/14)

Time: 10:00-12 noon

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Hands-on Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## Urban Oases: How Urban Areas and Species Interact

This course will help you better understand how urban areas can be oases for species. We will discuss how insects, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and birds can survive in these areas, and how urban oases are unique habitats. We will also discuss the negative impacts of urbanization on species, and how we can minimize those impacts. Our discussion will also lead us to turning land into an urban oasis, be it a backyard, a community garden plot, or something bigger! The course will be interactive, with hands-on activities, and observing habitats and species in the wild.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Teá Montagna is a PhD candidate at UMass Boston. She is an entomologist by training, and has been conducting research into a lot of different topics within the field, focusing her efforts on the Moths. Her interest in urban ecology began at a young age when she began observing the diversity of wildlife around her in Boston. For her thesis work, she merged her love of entomology and interest in urban ecology, attempting to understand how urban areas affect hawkmoth populations.

**Dates:** 6 Mondays, 9/9–10/21 (no class on 10/14)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Hands-on Activity Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### S On the Edge of the World: An Archaeological History of the **Boston Harbor Islands**

In this course you will learn to appreciate the longstanding importance of the Boston Harbor Islands as an integral landscape for people who have lived in the Boston area for tens of thousands of years. Starting from the volcanic creation of the Boston Basin to the first peopling of the area, the European settler disruption, and the environmental ramifications of changes on the islands and in the Harbor, this course uses both archaeological and historical perspectives to uncover the ancient past and dynamic present of the islands next door.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Cyrus Marion is a graduate archaeology student who has been involved in the collaborative Boston Harbor Climate Change Action Plan for more than a year. You can find him in the lab rehabilitating the Harbor creations or walking around the Harborwalk talking about landscape change.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 9/9-10/7 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Danger, Suspense and Deception:** The Best of Alfred Hitchcock

In his legendary career as a director, Alfred Hitchcock created suspenseful films filled with flawed heroes, charming villains and moral ambiguity. In this four-week online course, we'll consider some of Hitchcock's very best films, focusing on two films each week that share a common theme. Students should watch the films on their own; in class, we'll look at brief film clips and discuss key elements. Whether you've enjoyed Hitchcock films for many years or you're just discovering them, this is a chance to go deeper into the mind of a brilliant, complicated man and the world he created on film.

Facilitator: Jay Sherwin is a writer and consultant who has been watching, studying and enjoying Hitchcock films for decades. He created a walking tour of Alfred Hitchcock's San Francisco that attracts Hitchcock fans from around the world, and he loves to share his Hitchcock obsession with fellow film lovers everywhere.

**Dates:** 4 Mondays, 9/9–9/30 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### The 1619 Project

Controversial since its publication in The New York Times in 2019, the 1619 Project explores the legacy of slavery and race in America since enslaved Africans were first brought to Virginia. The 1619 Project considers "what it would mean to regard 1619 as our nation's birth year . . . to place black Americans at the very center of the story we tell ourselves about who we are as a country." Participants will assess the implications of the 1619 Project, gain a better understanding of our history, as well as our identity as a nation and as citizens.

Facilitator: Joshua Frank is the President of Equity Intersection, where he provides Adult Education in Racial Equity and American History to students locally and across the nation. He worked as an educator for twenty-eight years in public schools-sixteen as a teacher, and twelve as an administrator.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 9/9–10/7 Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### American Art in the Age of Anxiety

The beginning of the twentieth century saw massive changes in technology, as well as significant demographic shifts. The art of the period is a reflection of major upheavals, which include the World Wars and the Great Depression.

Facilitator: David Pogue is veteran educator who has been teaching at various levels for over thirty years. He enjoys teaching about the intersections of Art, Music and History.

**Dates:** 8 Mondays, 9/9–11/4 (no class on 10/14)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Numbers and Reality:** What is Really Real?

Growing up under socialism, a system rife with propaganda, the course facilitator developed a profound appreciation for the truth revealed through data. President Biden often discusses the shrinking middle class, yet data indicates a significant shift of individuals moving into higher-earning roles, expanding the upper class at historical rates. Former President Trump frequently cites rising crime rates, although statistics show a longstanding decline in violent crimes. This course will explore how data is used or misused. What can data tell us about reality? What is really happening? How do we read data? Why are politicians obsessed with misusing data? How do we know something to be true?

Facilitator: Lilo Altali immigrated to Lowell, MA from the Syrian Arab Republic. He is an award-winning social innovator who has developed design and innovative processes for notable NGOs, including Ceres, United Way, and Mill City Grows. At Northeastern, he teaches graduate-level social innovation and business design and analysis, while leading the undergraduate project management program. He also serves as the Academic Director for the Inclusive Entrepreneurship Lab. Before Northeastern University, Lilo designed an Innovation program at Nichols College and oversaw an innovation lab at Third Sector New England. Lilo is a certified Product Manager (CPM) and Project Management Professional (PMP). Lilo has lectured and spoken across the US and Canada and has given presentations in Portugal, India, Morocco, Croatia, and Australia.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 9/9–10/7 Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus Format: Lecture/Discussion/Hands-on Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### Navigating Modern World History from 1400 to 2000

From renaissances to revolutions, delve into the intricate tapestry of global events, cultures, and innovations in this lively seven-session survey history course. Uncover the triumphs, struggles, and transformations that have left an indelible mark on our collective narrative. Learn and discuss with me and your fellow students as we traverse continents, witness empires rise and fall, and explore the profound connections that bind all people across time and space in this captivating exploration of the past. In addition to covering a broad swath of modern world history, some sessions of this course will emphasize the history of the American and French Revolutions of the late nineteenth century.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Dimple Gurajala is a history enthusiast and educator with a deep-seated belief in the power of understanding our past to shape a better future. Passionate about exploring the nuances of world history and dedicated to sharing this knowledge, she is thrilled to have this opportunity to unearth with OLLI students insights that anticipate the repeating cycles of history. Join her in uncovering the lessons of yesterday to forge a wiser tomorrow. Dimple is from Chennai, India, and is currently pursuing an MS in Information Technology at UMass Boston. In addition to her passion for history, she loves dancing and is an advocate for animal welfare.

**Dates:** 7 Mondays, 9/16–11/4 (no class on 10/14)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion/Activity Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Films of 1939**

This year in Hollywood marks major milestones in technical production, star power, studio control and competition, and development of film genres. In addition to watching snippets of classic performances, we'll review historical contexts for the "dream factory's finest year."

Facilitator: Caroline Chiccarelli's family stories about the movies have inspired her to share the love of film with OLLI students' memories and perspectives. She has taught film-appreciation with different learners over past years in Worcester area colleges and senior learning programs.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 9/16-10/21 (no class on 10/14)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Hingham Public Library

Format: Lecture/Discussion

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### The Christian Nation Question -Are We or Aren't We?

In the 2024 election, America's identity as a Christian nation is on the line. At least, that's what many voters think. Maybe that's you. Or maybe it's not. Whether you're a member of the first or the second group, this course will guide you through some of the ways Christianity is on display in American identity, history, and politics today. Each class session will highlight current commentary - political or otherwise - that draws on Christianity and American history, usually through video clips from news channels, speeches, etc. Then, each class will dive into a more distant moment in American history that helps us better understand the context of these modern-day statements and the people who make them. This course is essentially an expanded version of the Fall 2022 OLLI course "Was America Founded as a Christian Nation?" that considered the evolution of American Christianity from the early colonial period (1630s) to the founding of the United States (1776-1789). It is primarily a history lecture course.

Facilitator: Genny Peterson grew up in rural America, went to an evangelical Christian college, lived most of her adult live in the inner city, and finds herself today at the intersection of interesting conversations with people who represent these parts of her life. A historian at heart and by training, she graduated with an MA in History from UMass Boston in 2020. She particularly loves historiography (the study of writing histories) and accessing historical information through non-academic media like books of historical fiction and popular films and television shows. She began teaching with OLLI as a graduate student in 2017 and now serves OLLI as program coordinator.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 9/23-10/28 (no class on 10/14)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: HYBRID. Facilitator is in-person at Braintree; live

stream through Zoom for online viewing.

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## S An Alice Munro Tribute

This past May, Alice Munro died. She was 92. She was and will remain the ruling queen of the short story. We will celebrate her art by reading and discussing five classic Munro stories.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Suchita Nayar, a short story buff and aspiring short story writer, is a huge Alice Munro fan. She just loves how her stories span complete lifetimes. Suchita is currently completing her MFA (creative writing) thesis. Earlier in her career, she worked in journalism and finance.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 9/30-11/4 (no class on 10/14)

Time: 6:30-7:45 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### A Citizen's Guide to the Supreme Court

This course will examine the Supreme Court as an institution. Topics will include the history and constitutional framework of the Court; jurisdictional issues; the role of the Court in the federal court system; the Court's procedures for selecting and deciding cases; the process of nominating and confirming justices; the influence of ideology and politics on the Court's decisions; the implications of the recent ideological shift of the Court; the increasing use of the so-called "shadow docket"; ethical issues facing the Court; the Court's role in election controversies; and proposals for reforming the Court.

Facilitator: John S. Ross, III (Jack) earned an A.B. (history) degree from Yale University, a J.D. degree from the University of Virginia School of Law, and an LL.M. (taxation) degree from New York University School of Law. He practiced law for 20 years in Washington, D.C., and served as Adjunct Professor of Law at Washington and Lee University School of Law. Jack has taught numerous courses on constitutional law and other topics in the Worcester Institute for Senior Education at Assumption University, and also facilitates the WISE Supreme Court Special Interest Group.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 10/21-11/25 (no class on 11/11)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### CMA Up Close – Heritage and **Cultural Identities**

Presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art. How do artists celebrate their heritage and represent their cultural identity through art? This six-session course will explore the significance of connections to past traditions, as well as the role these connections play in contemporary identities for many artists and cultures around the world. Session topics will include: the ceramic work of Rose B. Simpson, whose identity as a Native woman of the Kha'po Owingeh (Santa Clara Pueblo) has greatly impacted her work; how tradition has empowered contemporary Korean fashion designers to invent a new artistic language in the special exhibition Korean Couture: Generations of Revolution; the creativity of Jewish communities and artists from different backgrounds in which they adapted traditional forms of Judaica to changing fashions, styles, and needs, often drawing on broader cultures seen in Jewish Ceremonial Art from the Jewish Museum, New York; and the photography exhibition, Picturing the Border, which highlights images by Latinx, Chicano/a, and Mexican photographers, who have rethought what defines citizenship, nationality, family, migration, and the border beyond traditional frameworks for decades.

Facilitators: Arielle Levine of the Cleveland Art Museum teaches students all around the world during video conferences in the museum's Distance Learning Program. She has a degree in art history from Case Western Reserve University and has been with the museum's education department for over 15 years.

Dates: 6 Mondays, 10/21–12/2 (no class on 11/11)

**Time:** 1:30–2:45 p.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Russian War Stories**

War was an almost constant experience in 19th century Russia. From Napoleon's 1812 invasion to the 1917 Revolution, military service was central to young men's development. Their experience became the focus of some of the literary giants of the century. From Lermontov to Tolstoy to Babel, great Russian writers brought the experience of war to life. By reading a selection of short works, we will examine how war itself—locale, causes, weaponry, strategies—changed over the century. How did the expectations and realities faced by combatants change? How did the way that writers presented war change?

**Facilitator:** Patricia Suhrcke received her PhD in Russian Literature from the University of Chicago. She previously taught Russian literature in translation in Chicago and Atlanta. She has been facilitating course for OLLI since 2016 and enjoys using her experience leading public dialogues to discuss the great Russian novels with interested readers.

Dates: 6 Mondays, 10/21-12/2 (no class on 11/11)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### "To Reconstruct the Nation"

Based on the December 2023 edition of *The Atlantic* this course will explore our evolving and conflicted understanding of the critical period of Reconstruction after the Civil War, as well as its echoes in the present day. Featuring an 1866 essay by Frederick Douglass, as well as works by Anna Deavere Smith, David Blight, Peniel Joseph, Drew Gilpin Faust and others, this issue challenges us to consider and understand the ghosts of our past, and to work to fully exorcise them now and in the future.

Facilitator: Joshua Frank, see bio on page 10.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 10/21–11/25 (no class on 11/11)

**Time:** 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## S Form and Function: A Workshop For Writing Form Poetry

Students will use a basic study of poetic meter and form as a jumping-off point for writing their own poetry, using form and meter as inspiration rather than just as a limitation. Students will be introduced to classic and modern examples of form and meter in poetry, and practice breaking down poems to identify meter, but these exercises will be paired with practice trying out the different meters, and each class will begin with a brief writing exercise to get the creativity flowing. Reading poetry and writing poetry go together!

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Sidney Dritz is a poet and American Studies graduate student who studied poetry as an undergraduate and has worked as a professional copywriter and freelance editor. Her work has appeared in print in *Worms Magazine* and *Measure For Measure: An Anthology of Poetic Meters*, as well as various online publications.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 10/21-11/25 (no class on 11/11)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Activity

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Can We Stop Climate Change?

Can we stop climate change? Not 100% of it, because some has already happened. But we can do a lot! This series of five 90-minute meetings is designed for people interested in learning more about climate change and climate justice, becoming more effective in communicating with others about it, and taking action to mitigate its impact on our planet and ourselves. We will start with the problems, basic science, and equity issues involved, but we spend most of our time understanding the wide range of available climate change solutions and how you can get involved, both individually and working with others. Note: This course has similar content to the course of the same name offered in previous semesters, but is continually updated with new material. If you attended previously you're welcome to repeat if you wish.

**Facilitator:** Tom Rawson is a retired middle school science teacher and a UMass Boston graduate. He works with a team to lead "Can We Stop Climate Change" courses, and works on climate change education and advocacy with Third Act, Mass Audubon, and others. Tom spends his free time doing carpentry, bicycle riding, and hiking.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 10/21-11/25 (no class on 11/11)

**Time:** 6:00–7:30 p.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Can Playing Games Make You Smarter?

In this course, we will investigate whether playing games can lead to cognitive enhancement by examining the leading research on the topic. Not only will we learn about how board games such as chess may or may not lead to cognitive improvement across the lifespan, but also whether there are benefits to video games, virtual reality, or smartphone-based games. We will discuss research articles with a critical and curious eye, and even try out some games for ourselves and discuss whether we might or might not want to add more play into our lives.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Candice Koolhaas is a PhD student at UMass Boston where she studies cognitive development in children and adults. She is currently using game-based experiments to study how mental effort plays a role in how much we decide to remember. Outside of research, Candice enjoys walking her dog and playing video games.

Dates: 5 Mondays, 10/28–12/2 (no class on 11/11)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Salon: A Meeting of the Minds

The Salon provides an opportunity to discuss perspectives, exchange ideas, critique concepts and share perceptions and thoughts with others in a convivial, collaborative environment. Each class session will focus on a different topic. Writings, videos, and/or audio clips on the topic will be presented in class as a springboard for dialogue and group interactions.

Facilitator: Myrna Finn is a professor emerita at Salem State University where she taught courses in all aspects of oral communication. With her motto "you're never too old to learn something new," she is a life-long learner, always looking to expand her horizons, understanding and have fun in the process.

**Dates:** 3 Mondays, 12/2–12/16

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## Am I Normal? The Proverbial Adolescent **Question Revisited as an Older Adult**

Do you ever say to yourself "Where did I put my keys?" and then "My memory isn't what it used to be." This course is to decrease that fear and educate adults concerned about memory loss. Dementia has become a number one health fear for those over the age of 65, with age being the greatest risk factor for most dementias. There will be handouts and recommended activities to try. Let's learn what research shows about normal age related cognitive loss and dementia and how memory strategy training and other factors can possibly slow down cognitive decline.

Facilitator: Barbra Litwin Cutler has been working as a speechlanguage therapist for the past 25 years. For the past 16, she has worked in home health care with an interest in the areas of preventative health management and cognitive deficits in the aging population.

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 9/10–10/15 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Lecture/Discussion/Activity Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### Don't Just Do Something, Sit There

Take a meditative journey to connect to yourself on a deeper level, stimulate your brain and learn how to turn down the volume of the mind through a variety of meditative, stress relief and breathing techniques. Explore the benefits of meditation and create a practice that fits your lifestyle. We will delve into specific practices to neutralize the negative effects of stress, learn how to be more mindful and amplify gratitude, self-love and acceptance. Includes experiential, lecture and discussion.

Facilitator: Katherine Robinson majored in psychology and anthropology at the University of Vermont. She also did graduate training in mental-health counseling and is certified by the McLean Meditation Institute (AZ) and Yoga Body. She recently became a certified Brain Longevity Therapist through the Alzheimer's Research & Prevention Foundation. Katherine's passions are teaching meditation, breathwork, and energy techniques to calm the body and grow new neurons in the brain. She loves to explore the healing vibrations of sound and motivate and inspire others to be the best that they can be.

Dates: 4 Tuesdays, 9/10-10/1 Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture/Discussion/Exercises Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## What is Urban Planning & **Community Development?** A Topic That Impacts Everyone

This course is a general overview of Urban Planning and Community Development fundamentals. It is also a survey of some of the major impacts of planning and development across the Boston Metropolitan Region. Over the course of five weeks, we will broadly define what urban planning is as well as discuss zoning specific to the MBTA Communities Act, consider the importance of affordable housing in Massachusetts, and take minifield trips (virtual; possibly in-person) around UMass Boston's own campus to discuss how capital projects and resiliency are part of urban planning.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Calvin Anton is a graduate student in the Urban Planning and Community Development program at UMass Boston. He is also currently working as a housing programs specialist at Metro Housing | Boston. He is passionate about community education and sustainable housing. His favorite historical urban development project to learn about is the "Big Dig."

Dates: 5 Tuesdays, 9/10-10/8

Time: 4:00-5:30 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### A Beatles Musical History Tour: From Liverpool to Abbey Road

In this course, we see how four boys born during World War II in the northern British city of Liverpool progress from skiffle music to a rock and roll cover band then conquer the UK with Beatlemania! They achieve worldwide fame as recording and performing artists, gifted composers, and finally movie stars. This course's content concludes with the release of the film and album Help!

Facilitator: Gene Shwalb graduated from Oberlin Conservatory where he studied piano and cello. He received his M.Ed. from UMass Boston and recently retired after 17 years as a Learning Designer at UMB. Gene edits the Music Museum of New England website: MMONE.org. He is also proficient on synthesizer, bass, and guitar.

Dates: 5 Tuesdays, 9/10-10/8

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## Rethinking Social Innovation: **Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)** and Machine Learning

In this course we will dive into the dynamic intersection of technology and ethics. Are AI product designs and machine learning processes inclusive of everyone or not? Through evidence-based discussions and activities, we will critically examine the societal impacts of intelligent machines. From privacy concerns to algorithmic biases, we enable participants to rethink social innovation in the digital age. Are you ready to play with AI tools? Join us for an engaging journey that will give you a fresh perspective with the knowledge and skills to steer through the ethical landscape of intelligent machine design. Finally, as a class we will design our own ethical framework for a hypothetical AI application or technology.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Ayesha Khurshid came to Boston as an international student from Pakistan. She is pursuing a PhD with the School of Global Inclusion and Social Development at UMass Boston where she also works as a graduate assistant at the Institute for Community Inclusion. As a dedicated researcher and advocate, Ayesha specializes in a transdisciplinary approach to disability-inclusive development, inclusive education, human rights, and technology. With a keen focus on marginalized populations, particularly children and adults with disabilities, she strives to ensure their access to fundamental freedoms and rights.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 9/17–10/15

Time: 9:30-11:00 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## **Observational Drawing**

This class is for anyone interested in learning how to draw from photographs and from life. Students will learn about value, perspective, proportion, and composition. Students will gain experience using different drawing media such as pencil, colored pencil, and pen. Instructorled drawing sessions will be combined with independent drawing where students choose their own subject matter. All levels of drawing experience are welcome. This course is taught entirely online through the Zoom platform.

Facilitator: Kate Nordstrom is an artist and art educator in Barrington, Rhode Island. Her passion for art started in childhood and has remained an important part of her life. Her most recent work details the ruggedness of the New England coastline, the majestic beauty of NE lighthouses, and the California landscape/architecture. She considers herself a lifelong learner who seeks out opportunities to be a student whenever and wherever she can. She has been teaching online with OLLI since 2020 and loves her OLLI students.

Dates: 8 Tuesdays, 9/17-11/5 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Hands-on Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Regional Alliances: Advantages & Risks

States form alliances for mutual benefits traversing across economics, military protection, global trade, and improved global health. Initially, alliances evolved to fight a common foe but the global challenges such as climate change and epidemics have broadened the scope of alliance formation. Though the key motive of creating alliance is to ensure security for every member state, nonetheless, within an alliance there exists power asymmetry that sometimes make other allies feel threatened. This five-week course briefly overviews the geopolitical implications of alliance formation as well as some of the advantages and risks involved when alliances are shifted over time.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Leena Maqsood is a PhD student in UMass Boston's Global Governance and Human Security program. She underscores the value of alliance formation to address global challenges i.e., mitigating climate change risks, reducing poverty, and others. However, based on her professional experience she concludes that alliances sometimes cannot achieve their maximum potential of attaining global peace and order.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 9/17–10/15 **Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Location: ONLINE via Zoom
Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### Luminous Memories: A Film Appreciation Course

Films showing the end of an era have especially intense and poignant power: we see the end happening in front of our eyes. Participants will view, analyze, report on, and discuss a variety of award-winning films that recall heroic struggles by people caught in history's turning points. Bring your handkerchiefs! Requirements: (1) Participants Commit to 2 weekly online movie-viewings at home: on TV, pc, or tablet/laptop. (2) Must have Access to YouTube, Amazon Prime and Kanopy video streaming service (via Boston Public Library card). Recommended: Access to Criterion Channel, IMDB. Most films free, some rentals (less than \$30). Note: "Luminous Memories" is the same course taught in Fall 2021 and Fall 2022.

**Facilitator:** Bernard F. Swain, PhD. A Boston-area native, Bernie Swain began studying film at the Cinémathèque française in Paris at age 20, and spent the next 50+ years (in Cambridge, Washington, DC, Chicago, back to Boston, and to Paris again) pursuing his passion to really see the beauty only cinema offers.

Dates: 8 Tuesdays, 9/17-11/5

**Time:** 1:30–3:30 p.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Four More Years: Dissecting Presidential Elections

We will explore US presidential elections. Topics include: polling accuracy and importance; third parties; voter demographics and their allegiances; funding and donor influence; the election process, including democratic and undemocratic structures; major issues important in recent elections; and the causes and history of polarization. We will not take sides on any election candidates; what we will do is provide a historical framework as to the process, and take a deep dive into how and why a president is elected. Readings will be provided and participants will have ample opportunity to ask questions and actively share their thoughts and experiences.

Facilitator: Judith Ashton and Jan Van Zandt retired from a career in non-profits that worked on housing, mental health, and international social justice. Jan Van Zandt is a co-coordinator of a monthly Current Affairs group. She has taught two previous OLLI courses, "Exploring the Pain and Anger of Working-Class Whites" and "Four American Narratives." Judith Ashton is a retired lawyer and law professor, having taught at Boston University and Columbia University. She has written widely in legal and business publications. She studied U.S. History in college and has a lifelong interest in the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. election process.

Dates: 7 Tuesdays, 10/1–11/12
Time: 10:00–11:30 a.m.
Location: ONLINE via Zoom
Format: Lecture/Discussion

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Literary Ladies of New England**

Literary Ladies is a four-week course examining famous New England authors. We will examine the lives and works of Louisa May Alcott, Emily Dickinson, Edith Wharton, and Harriet Beecher Stowe in successive weeks. You need not have previously read these authors - just be interested in them! Facilitator: Dottie Dunford graduated from Boston State College with a degree in English which she taught for 5 years in the Boston Public Schools. Dottie was the Director of Education at the Suffolk County House of Correction. She is an avid reader, and always enjoyed introducing her students to new authors.

**Dates:** 4 Tuesdays, 10/1–10/22

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **How Was That a Hit Record?**

This class discusses and illustrates how pop music of the 1950s through the 1980s became hits. The charts were determined by airplay and sales calculated by methods that only a few people had control over. Hundreds of songs were released by many independent record labels seeking the opportunity to snag a hit. Some were natural fits...and others were by accident or luck or both! Cash Box was one of the prominent music publications that Dick Clark, Solid Gold and Rick Dees' Weekly Top 40 used to count down the hits. Relive and rediscover your 45 collection with this fun class!

Facilitator: Gregory Leschishin was born in the city where Rock and Roll was discovered: Cleveland! Besides being a chart fanatic, Gregory was a disc jockey before he became determined to work in Hollywood. For close to five years, he was one of the musicologists who determined the biggest hits that the United States listened to and purchased!

Dates: 7 Tuesdays, 10/15-11/26

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### Understanding Russia, the South Caucasus, and Ukraine in **International Affairs**

This course provides an overview of current international affairs relating to Russia's actions in the South Caucasus (Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan) and in Ukraine, Belarus, and the region generally. In this course you will learn about the history and contemporary context to current international affairs. You will also learn about the policies of the international community and international organizations, such as the European Union (EU), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and United Nations (UN). This course uses a combination of lecture, class discussion, and videos.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Kate Butterworth is a PhD candidate in Global Governance and Human Security. Her scholarly areas of interest and knowledge pertain to the South Caucasus and Eastern Europe in the context of Russia and current international affairs. She recently conducted research while living in the Republic of Georgia.

Dates: 5 Tuesdays, 10/22-11/19

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Oscar Levant: His Life and Times

Oscar Levant was the Amadeus of Hollywood, the Oscar Wilde of Broadway and the most wildly self-destructive personality ever to become a household name in the mid-20th century. He was a famous concert pianist, composed music, had a sharp-tongued wit, appeared in a slew of movies and hosted his own radio show. Yet he was a troubled person stemming from his difficult childhood. We'll explore all this and more, including video clips of many of his public appearances. Perhaps you don't recognize the name? Look up Doris Day's first movie for a sample of his acting.

Facilitator: Steve Vorenberg earned a minor in music from University of New Mexico (BS/MA in Math), sang low bass in a classical music chorus, played bassoon in a wind quintet, and took piano lessons through college. He has a lifetime of attending concerts and recitals. He frequently listens to selections from his extensive classical music collection. His special passion is discovering good minor and little-known composers.

Dates: 5 Tuesdays, 10/22-11/19

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Sharing Poetry**

If you like poetry, write poetry, have some favorite poems, or just like to read or hear poetry, come and share. This is not a class on writing poetry - it is a sharing space and discussion space for the reasons, emotions, likes or dislikes that poetry brings out in us.

Facilitator: Lee Colello is an offsite OLLI facilitator who has been facilitating "Discovering Documentaries" in Braintree and other classes in Hingham. She graduated from UMass Boston and has had various instructor/facilitator roles in her church, Parents Helping Parents and the IRS.

Dates: 4 Tuesdays, 10/22-11/12

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Hingham Public Library

Format: Discussion

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Independent Films: A Sampler**

Independent films tend to come and go so quickly in theaters. Come and see some of the best that you may have missed or may want to see again. In this six week class we'll view and discuss a wide variety of independent and international films, including *Babette's Feast* from Denmark, *At Eternity's Gate*, a story about Van Gogh's final years, and *Chop Shop*, shot in Queens, NY.

**Facilitator:** Julie Kinchla enjoyed taking several film classes while a student at UMass Boston in the 70s. The experience sparked a lifelong love of movies and further attendance at many additional film classes. Julie is a retired librarian with many years of experience developing and presenting programs for the public. Previous classes for OLLI include American Film Noir and Boston in the Movies.

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 10/29–12/3

Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Writing Your Heart: A Writing Workshop

Do you love words? Conversations? Books? Plays? Ever wonder about the stories or poems or fragments caught in your heart and mind? Give yourself the gift of time to write. Through writing prompts, silly and serious, and writing sessions, (short and medium, up to 20 minutes) your imagination will be invited to the page. Participants will be encouraged to share their work and offer positive comments to others. Prior creative writing experience is not necessary. Please come ready to write, please keep camera on during sharing and prompts to encourage our special community.

Facilitator: Margarita Bonifaz has been writing since childhood. She was first published at age 7 in *The Phoenix*, with her poem Fairy Toast. She started her 33-year teaching career with a teaching fellowship at Smith College. For many years, Margarita took writing workshops with Pat Schneider, the magical creator of Amherst Writers and Artists. Margarita has a novel in the drawer and many stories on her desktop. She believes everyone has stories in them: in our Post-it notes, in old letters, in our conversations; we just need to listen and write. She is delighted to be teaching at OLLI.

**Dates:** 4 Tuesdays, 11/5–11/26

Time: 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion/Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Finding Wisdom Through Adversity**

During these times on the planet, we are being met with an unprecedented variety of challenges and soul lessons as the planet shifts. We need to recognize the collective aspect: We're all in the same boat, none of us are exempt from these hardships. This mentality helps us avoid being in the victim role. In this class series, we will create a space that brings in the necessary awareness to see things from a higher perspective and unravel the wisdom and lessons that we are meant to learn. We will be having weekly discussions as well as practicing energy, breath & meditation techniques in order to integrate the weekly lessons.

Facilitator: Katherine Robinson, see bio on page 13.

Dates: 4 Tuesdays, 11/5-11/26

Time: 1:30–3:00 p.m.
Location: ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Exercises **Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Questions of Identity**

As we develop and transition into adults, we continuously have questions regarding all aspects of identity, not just ours, but that of people around us, too. In a world that seems to become smaller and smaller, questions of identity are natural and crucial to understanding ourselves, our surroundings, and how these intertwine. Some of the questions we will ask in this course include: Do you feel that your name or the name of someone you know does justice to that person's identity or personality? How do we navigate the gender issues that we face daily in society? In terms of language, how does language help formulate identity? Why does religion often impact identity so much and why does it create such division amongst people? These are just some of the questions we will tackle. This a stand-alone class or can be a follow-up for those who have taken the OLLI Course "Exploring Identity." As a discussion-based class, articles, relevant video clips, and group activities will be incorporated.

Facilitator: In all phases of her life, M. Teresa Mascarenhas has analyzed the topic of identity in relation to her surroundings and society at large: as an immigrant, a young woman, a professional working with students of different cultures and a seasoned individual who continues to yearn for knowledge about those around us. She continues to have questions regarding identity and how it impacts our daily lives. There is so much to learn regarding how others view themselves, what gender identity they ascribe to, and what role religion and language play in their existence. These questions of identity are crucial to understanding life and how we all relate to one another.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 11/19–12/17

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Imprisoned Without Trial: Japanese Incarceration in WWII

Anti-Asian violence: A modern day occurrence? Not at all. Fear, hatred, and racism toward the Chinese and Japanese began in the mid-1800s culminating with the incarceration of over 125,000 Japanese at the beginning of WWII, two thirds of whom were US citizens, just like you and me. From the perspective of a third generation Japanese-American (Sansei), we will discuss the how, when and why racism landed Americans in what is more accurately described as prison camps, and what we can do to countermand the effect of anti-Asian violence and racism in America today.

**Facilitator:** Dennis Kato is a Sansei, third generation Japanese American, born and raised in Cincinnati, OH and graduated from the University of Cincinnati. Dennis was also a 1st Lieutenant in military intelligence for the US Army. He currently give lectures on the Japanese incarceration camps in World War II; fifteen members of his immediate family were in three camps during that time.

**Dates:** 4 Tuesdays, 11/19–12/10

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Wednesday

### **Watercolor Painting**

This class is for anyone interested in learning the wonderful medium of watercolor painting! At the beginning of each class, the instructor will present a specific technique or concept through visuals and demonstrations. For the remainder of class, students will paint from a reference photo provided by the instructor or from a subject of their choice. Students with prior experience will have opportunities for additional challenges. Some prior experience with watercolor is helpful but not necessary. This course is taught entirely online through the Zoom platform.

Facilitator: Kate Nordstrom, see bio on page 14.

**Dates:** 6 Wednesdays, 9/11–10/16

Time: 10:00–11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Hands-on Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Is There Anything New in Opera?

"New" is a relative term in an art form that is over three hundred years old. For this course, "new" will pertain to operas composed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. While the Hollywood movie, *Oppenheimer* had great popularity last year, many might not know that opera composer, John Adams, in 2005, composed *Dr. Atomic*, also a telling of the struggles and conflicts of that scientist. Several contemporary novels have been made into operas as well as the moving memoir of Sr. Helen Prejean, *Dead Man Walking*. A groundbreaking event occurred at the Met in 2021 when the first work by a black composer, Terence Blanchard's *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* - the memoir of *New York Times* columnist Charles Blow - opened there. We will look at these and other newer operas in this course. *Note: the in-person section of this course will be held on Thursdays*.

Facilitator: Mary Doller is a graduate of Boston College and a retired educator. She first became aware of opera when, as a child, she saw artists from the Metropolitan Opera perform on the Ed Sullivan Show and enjoyed the Metropolitan Opera's Saturday afternoon performances as narrated by Milton Cross. As an adult, she has continued to enjoy opera both in live performance and in both audio and video recordings. She takes particular pleasure in sharing her enthusiasm with fellow OLLI members.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 9/11–10/16 (no class on 10/2)

Time: 1:30–3:00 p.m.
Location: ONLINE via Zoom
Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Why Should Exercise be Boring? Let's Dance!

Join the ultimate dance-fitness party that beats a boring exercise workout any day! Zumba® Gold is part of the Zumba® dance-based fitness program, specifically designed for active older adults, without any high impact moves. The class includes the same wide variety of Latin and Other International rhythms, with a little Disco, R&R and pop songs tossed in for good measure. It's not a dance class, though, so there are no "right" or "wrong" moves in Zumba® Gold. Dance with us either standing, or seated in a chair - or both! Wear workout clothes and sneakers, and keep your water handy.

Facilitator: Mary Ellen Reardon is a certified group exercise instructor and has taught Zumba® Gold classes in the Boston area for over 14 years. Her dance training is primarily tapdancing and Irish Step, which allows her to include "Fake Irish Step Dancing" as one of her "Other International Rhythms."

Dates: 8 Wednesdays, 9/18-11/6

Time: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



#### S Assassination and the Hunt for John Wilkes Booth

In this five-week course, we will discuss the tragic assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the formulation of the plots prior to that day in April. We will meet the conspirators, from John Wilkes Booth himself to Mary Surratt, who would become the first woman executed in American history. We will also go into detail about the twelve days Booth was on the run and the lengths Secretary of War Edwin Stanton went to in order to bring him into custody. Finally, we will discuss the most famous trial of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the captured conspirators faced a military tribunal for their crimes, their verdicts, and their long-awaited execution.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Kristie Poehler has studied, taught, and written about American history for over three decades. Specializing in the Civil War, Kristie has published two books, edited the Battlefield Journal, and created an award-winning Civil War documentary for a local PBS station. Kristie recently taught the OLLI course "The Gettysburg Campaign." Kristie lives in Western Mass with her son.

Dates: 5 Wednesdays, 9/18-10/16

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Exploring Identity: An Analysis of Internal and External Influences** That Impact Identities

How do we describe our identities? For some, it is merely based on biology and ethnicity. Yet, identity covers many other facets of one's life and how we relate to our environments. It is impacted by varying perspectives of religion, ideology, economics, and sociological constructs that mold us into who we are and what we believe in or follow. Identity has been formed via generational ideologies, stereotypes, and individual and collective perspectives. The following subtopics will be analyzed and discussed in relation to identity: race, ethnicity, self-identity versus socially constructed identity, stereotypes, colonialism, assimilation, the US Census, Christianity and slavery. The objective is to obtain a thorough understanding of the complexity of

identity, its myriad facets, and how one's own identity is formulated as a result, leading to better understanding of the surrounding world and societies. Articles, video clips, and discussion will be the format.

Facilitator: M. Teresa Mascarenhas is an immigrant who arrived in the United States at the age of five. The topic of identity has always been a most important and dear one to her heart. In all phases of life, she has analyzed her identity in relation to the various realities of her life: born under a colonized regime, adjustment as an immigrant, learning the nuances of a different culture and country, and development as a woman and mother of a special needs child. These experiences, among others, have helped mold Teresa. To further strengthen her interest in the topic, Teresa conducted research as a PhD student on the importance of identity in education. We all experience challenging moments that define us. Acknowledging and analyzing them is an important step to self-preservation and the development of a strong mindset and satisfying identity.

**Dates:** 6 Wednesdays, 9/25–10/30

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Creative Movement**

Our weekly virtual classes for elders employ adaptive ballet/modern techniques. They are specially designed to promote social/emotional/physical wellness and artistic expression while catering to students' interests and needs. These classes provide a welcoming and supportive environment where elders can explore the joy of dance, regardless of previous experience. These classes can be taken standing or seated to encourage students to acquire deepening connections to their body. Class highlights are as follows. Adaptive techniques: We adapt ballet and modern dance principles to accommodate various mobility levels, making it accessible to everyone. Gentle warm-up: Classes start with a gentle warm-up to prepare the body for movement and reduce the risk of injury. Technique and expression: Participants will learn the foundations of ballet and modern dance techniques, allowing them to express themselves creatively. Balance and strength: We emphasize exercises that improve balance and strength, supporting overall health and fall prevention. Community and fun: Our classes foster a sense of community and provide an enjoyable space for older adults to connect and engage with dance.

Facilitator: Madeline O'Brien has taught several classes for elders both in person and virtually with Abilities Dance over the past year. She graduated from UNCSA in 2022 with a BFA in contemporary dance and a minor in arts entrepreneurship. She is committed to creating intergenerational connections and sharing her love for dance. Abilities Dance is centered on disrupting antiquated beliefs and promoting intersectional disability rights. The performing company consists of adult artists with and without disabilities that represent a variety of diverse identities within and outside of the disabled community. Its community engagement work consists of teaching movement workshops and/or lectures on disability culture, intersectionality, and workplace culture.

**Dates:** 8 Wednesdays, 10/2–11/20

Time: 10:00-11:00 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream

Rediscover Shakespeare as we take a deep dive into pairs of his plays. The first two plays we will study are both tales of young love, written around the same time, one a tragedy and one a comedy. For each play, outside of class, participants will be expected to read the play and view a film version. The texts we will use are the Folger Shakespeare Library editions (under \$10 apiece at Amazon), but any editions with line numbers are acceptable. Both film versions are widely available for rent, but they may be viewed for free on Zoom (courtesy of the UMB OLLI program). In class we will discuss the plays in the context of Shakespeare's life and times, with reference to major critical research, in the hope of coming to a rich appreciation of his works.

Facilitator: For eight years, Evelyn Ryan facilitated "The Best of English Poetry," an OLLI course that surveyed 600 years of English language poetry. Evelyn has studied Shakespeare since she first saw Macbeth in junior high. Since then, she has read and viewed several Shakespeare plays, in London, New York, the Berkshires, Cambridge, and Boston, as well as in films.

Dates: 6 Wednesdays, 10/16–11/20. Note: the two course film showings will be held on 10/23 and 11/13 at 4:00 p.m.

via Zoom.

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## S Elections, Campaigns and Candidates: Parties and Policy from India and USA

How does the governing systems in US and India differ with election practices? Is there corruption in election campaigns in both countries? What are the social and political characteristics of candidates and political parties? How do election bodies work or do not work effectively with implications for people? Come and learn about the Elections, Campaigns and Candidates with practical and policy reflections from India and the US with recommendations for future policy actions for better democracies.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Mahesh Admankar is a PhD Candidate in public policy at UMass Boston. He earned his bachelor's degree in social science and master's in economics from India. Earlier, Mahesh Admankar worked as an assistant professor of economics for four years. His research interests are in business advocacy, social policy, labor market and climate justice in the USA and South Asia.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 10/23–11/20

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



#### S Feminist Literature

Let's break down the walls of traditional narratives and explore how women writers worldwide are rewriting the story. This five-week-long course is intended to help students understand the basics of feminist literature. This introductory course embarks on a global exploration of feminist literature, equipping you with the tools to critically analyze how women are portrayed and empower themselves across cultures.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Kohinur Khyum is a Ph.D. student at UMass Boston, researching forced marriage. She is a Fulbright scholar and has a professional background in journalism. Her work is focused on social justice. She worked with news organizations. She has two master's degrees, one in journalism and another in criminology.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 10/23-11/20

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture/Discussion/Activity Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Chair Yoga for Everyone

Chair yoga is so popular now....for many reasons. One is because people can get the benefits without getting on the floor and most everyone can do it. It increases circulation, keeps the joins lubricated, promotes relaxation, helps with better breathing, works on balance and increases strength. Come reap the benefits of this practice. You can do it!

Facilitator: Elaine Kerrigan became a yoga teacher at 50 years old and has been teaching it ever since in yoga studios, health clubs, and senior centers. Elaine has taught yoga on the mat and now in a chair....which is great for people who prefer not to get on the floor. Elaine hopes that you will join her and reap the benefits.

Dates: 4 Wednesdays, 10/30-11/20

Time: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Hingham Public Library

Format: Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### Redefining Progress: New **Paradigms in Global Development**

This course will explore contemporary challenges and innovative strategies that redefine what progress means in various societies worldwide. From emerging technologies and local grassroots initiatives to global policy shifts, we will uncover how these factors influence sustainable development and social equity. The fiveweek session is designed to inspire discussions and provide insights into the complex, dynamic factors that shape the future of development across diverse global contexts. Suitable for those curious about the next steps in global development and sustainability.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Racheal Inegbedion, a leader in disability, development, and social justice, is the founding executive director of the Special Needs Initiative for Growth (SNIG). Acknowledged by Ashoka and a Mandela Washington Fellow Alumna, her COVID-19 efforts were lauded by the UN Envoy on Youth. SNIG, awarded by the Zero Project, employs Information and Communications Technology (ICT) for inclusive education and employment. Racheal, a UMass Boston PhD student aims to shape global policy for disability rights and human development.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 11/6 – 12/11 (no class on 11/27)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



#### **Exercise with a Short Staff**

In this class, instructor Huan will teach you how to use Bian Gan (whip stick) for exercise. Bian Gan can be any staff chest level high (i.e., a walking stick). Exercises involve moving of neck, waist, shoulder, hips, sitting down, hand switching coordinating with the staff, and much more. It is the most popular class in Huan's Cambridge school.

Facilitator: Huan Zhang, see bio on page 8

Dates: 10 Thursdays, 9/12-11/21 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 9:30-10:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Shaolin Qi Gong

Shaolin Qi Gong is a good exercise that focuses on strengthening your Dan Tian (energy field) and connecting the energy inside your whole body through the meridians. With simple movements, you will be able to feel the energy moving. You will also be able to exercise each part of your body.

Facilitator: Huan Zhang, see bio on page 8

**Dates:** 10 Thursdays, 9/12–11/21 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 10:45-11:45 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Exercise

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### All Welcome to Poetry: Come, Write a Poem

This poetry writing workshop is designed to welcome those who might never have written a poem, or those who "learned" that only dead, white men wrote poems, or those who believe they have no poetic voice. This workshop will provide the opportunity to join OLLI members who do write poetry, who are working to refine their poetic voices because they believe that poetry is a living art. Together, we will work to expand our poetic skills and create a safe space for each person to grow as a contemporary poet.

Facilitator: Bill Valentine has facilitated and participated in writing workshops at OLLI as well as at Manhattanville College, the West Side Y, the 92nd St. Y, Bread Loaf, and The Frost Place. Bill has published poems in Poetry Porch and Watermark,

UMass Boston's literary journal.

Dates: 8 Thursdays, 9/12-11/7 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Discussion/Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Survival French for Travelers (or for Fun)

Are you going to France or to a French-speaking country? If so, you need to be able to communicate at least at a minimum to show that you are making an effort toward the culture of the host country. The people there will greatly appreciate (even if they answer in English) and may even be friendlier. In this class you will learn French basic vocabulary and phrases in a conversational setting. The course will integrate the Mango Languages computer program to practice and reinforce your new skills at home.

Facilitator: Hélène Olken is a native of France. She graduated in French and psychology from UMass and holds a master's degree in ESL. Hélène taught in Milton in the Grade 2 French Immersion Program for 25 years.

**Dates:** 6 Thursdays, 9/12–10/24 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## S Learning Physics Through **Simple Experiments**

"Learning Physics Through Simple Experiments" is a dynamic and engaging course designed to introduce students to fundamental principles of physics through hands-on experimentation. This course emphasizes a practical approach to understanding complex concepts by demonstrating various scientific laws and theories through easily replicable experiments. Students will delve into topics such as thermodynamics, waves, and light, gaining a deeper understanding of physics in an accessible and interactive environment. Through this course, students will develop critical thinking skills and a deeper appreciation for the practical applications of physics in everyday life. *Note: This course was offered* in Spring 2024. Experiments will be different from that semester and former students are encouraged to sign up again if interested.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Sachin Gupta is a PhD candidate in Physics at UMass Boston. Alongside his research, he is deeply passionate about physics education. Sachin is engaged in teaching various physics courses and labs fostering an environment where students can grasp the nuances of the subject and cultivate a profound understanding of its principles.

Dates: 5 Thursdays, 9/12–10/17 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Hands-on Activity Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## Staying Active: The Importance of **Physical Activity in Older Adults**

In this course you will learn how physical activity can impact your health as an older adult. Maddy will cover topics like improving symptoms of common conditions like arthritis and back pain, to combatting the natural effects of aging (sarcopenia), to learning how to pick up your grandchildren safely. You will also learn about multiple types of exercise, from aerobic exercise to resistance training and explore how to maintain good health, mobility, and independence. While this course will cover examples of activities to maintain physical health, it is NOT an exercise course.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Maddy Pollard is a passionate advocate for living a healthy, active life. She has a bachelor of science degree in Kinesiology and is working towards her Masters in Health and Exercise Science. She loves to help others learn about the benefits of an active lifestyle. Maddy is a former Division I rower who loves to play sports, travel, and

try new things - especially food!

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 9/12–10/17 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



## Wealth Inequality by Race

Household wealth is important: it acts as a safety net during emergencies, provides capital to start businesses, funds educational opportunities, and ensures a comfortable retirement. However, the distribution of wealth in the United States is markedly uneven across racial groups. In this course, you will learn about wealth inequality in America and discuss the causes, consequences, and possible solutions to these tough problems.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Sohyon Pak is PhD student at UMass Boston's School of Public Policy. Her primary research topic is wealth inequality. Sohyon is from South Korea where she studied business and economics. She enjoys talking to people and discussing social problems and how they can be changed. Sohyon looks forward to sharing her passion and knowledge about this topic in discussions with all OLLI students.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 9/12–10/17 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### Florence on the Elbe: The History of the City of Dresden

OLLI students will explore the history of Dresden through the lenses of music, art, and history in this course. They will read the novel Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut which takes place in Dresden, as well as the planet Tralfamadore.

Facilitator: David Pogue, see bio on page 10 **Dates:** 6 Thursdays, 9/12–10/24 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Is There Anything New in Opera?

"New" is a relative term in an art form that is over three hundred years old. For this course, "new" will pertain to operas composed in the 21st century. While the Hollywood movie, Oppenheimer had great popularity last year, many might not know that opera composer, John Adams, in 2005, composed *Dr. Atomic*, also a telling of the struggles and conflicts of that scientist. Several contemporary novels have been made into operas as well as the moving memoir of Sr. Helen Prejean, Dead Man Walking. A groundbreaking event occurred at the Met in 2021 when the first work by a black composer, Terence Blanchard's Fire Shut Up in My Bones - the memoir of New York Times columnist Charles Blow opened there. We will look at these and other newer operas in this course. *Note: the online section of this* course will be held on Wednesdays.

Facilitator: Mary Doller, see bio on page 18 **Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 9/12–10/17 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### Quantum Mechanical Puzzles

No math or physics background is required, only curiosity and a willingness to play! Since its introduction in the early 20th century, quantum mechanics has been a perennial source of philosophical puzzlement. While providing the basis for the most precise predictions in the history of science, it brought with it a bevy of seemingly counterintuitive ideas, from wave/particle duality to entanglement, forcing physicists and philosophers to reevaluate the nature of matter and the role of the observer. This class aims to provide a gentle introduction to the key conceptual issues, with a focus on the disproofs of local realism which were the subject of the 2022 Nobel Prize. Note: This course was offered in Spring 2024. There will be substantial alterations to it and former as well as new students are encouraged to sign up if interested.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Matthew Weiss is a fourth year PhD student in the Computational Sciences program on the Physics track at UMass Boston, working in the fields of quantum information theory and quantum foundations. In an earlier life, he obtained an MFA in Fiction from the Iowa Writers Workshop.

Dates: 5 Thursdays, 9/12-10/17 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### Representation of Women in Media

Do you want to be a cultural critique of women's representation in media? This course will help you explore the portrayal of women across various media platforms, examine how they are represented, identify media bias, the impact of these representations, and the ongoing fight for diversity and inclusion. This course is not a lecture. Students will participate in lively discussions and share their perspectives with the class. Students will pick a media content of their choice and critique it in the last class.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Kohinur Khyum, see bio on page 20.

Dates: 5 Thursdays, 9/12-10/17 (no class on 10/3)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture/Discussion/Activity Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## S Unlocking the Secrets of the **Digital Camera: Taking Photographs, Not Snapshots**

The digital camera is a powerful and amazing device that has the potential to deliver high-quality and creative photographs, but that potential is often locked behind a mysterious wall of camera settings, modes, and preferences. Whether you have a high-end Digital SLR or an inexpensive point-and-shoot digital camera, they are all controlled by the same basic settings that affect the digital photograph. This introductory "hands-on" course will explore the arcane world of the Automatic, P, S, A, M, Av, Tv, etc. camera settings as well as the weird dial/ screen icon settings that also affect photos. Each week, a few camera settings and modes will be explained in a non-technical way, demonstrated through digital slides, and then students will try the settings on their cameras in class. The "homework" each week will be to go out and take a few photographs using the settings explained and demonstrated in class. The following week, we will review the results in a non-critical way and see what we can learn from your photos, settings, and the valuable embedded photo information. The goal of the class is for each student to understand and exploit the capabilities of the digital camera, and gain the confidence to move from the safe "AUTO" zone setting to the more creative camera settings and resulting photographs.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Nicholas Lance Bradlev is a Gerontology graduate student at UMass Boston. Originally from California, Nicholas moved to the beach town of Winthrop, MA in 2022 to finish his Masters in Aging Services and pursue a PhD. Outside of his educational career, Nicholas is an artist with over 15 years of photography experience. He plans to bring his unique eye and talent to the OLLI scholars to help unlock the secrets of the digital camera.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 9/12–10/17 (no class on 10/3)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Activity

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Urban Housing: Community Resilience** and Social Policy Implications

This course is designed to introduce students and community residents to the sociological study and policy analysis perspective of urban housing and urban environment. Topics covered in this seminar include: urbanization, urban housing, neighborhood change/urban displacement, urban blight, community resilience/resistance, climate change and sustainable infrastructure, urban housing policy, revitalization and urban renewal, crime and social control, community engagement and legal challenges of reintegration, poverty, urban politics, and so forth.

Facilitator: James Eliscar holds a Master of Science in Public Affairs from John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston. His work and research focus on sustainable development, policy analysis and framework process, and local community climate resilience. He lectured in higher education institutions, both in the United States and Haiti, and held visiting research fellowships. Mr. Eliscar is active on a couple of boards and committees in the Greater Boston and is involved on a number of policy collaboratives. For the past 6 years, He has worked as Director of Operations for Sarepta Women and Children Empowerment Center, Inc., a Massachusetts-based nonprofit where he used his experience in coordinating strategic planning with resources mobilization. His work focuses around grants research, project management, and, strategic and development initiatives.

**Dates:** 3 Thursdays, 9/12–9/26

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### A Math Course That My Mom Would **Have Loved!**

Contrary to popular belief, mathematics has less to do with memorizing and more with thinking. Some of the many branches of mathematics are self-contained and seldom or barely taught in primary or secondary school. Anyone interested, open, and curious to learn them will be introduced to an engaging and rewarding practice that keeps our brains active and out of trouble. During this five-week course, we will go over carefully selected and curated mathematical concepts that require no prior mathematical knowledge. Starting from scratch, the initial concepts will evolve gradually by means of examples and practice. This will change your perception of math.

Facilitator: The prodigal son of math returns. Luis Roman, Ph.D., was a professor in academia for six years before transitioning to the financial sector for seventeen years. Mathematics is one of his passions, and he loves finding joyful and accessible ways to share this treasure with more people. He watched his mother do crosswords and puzzles for years, knowing she wanted to do something more challenging. He pulled concepts from logic, set theory, graph theory, and other topics, seldom or barely taught in primary or secondary schools and that are self-contained, to make a math course interesting and approachable to someone like her.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 10/24–11/21

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Activity **Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Five Obscure Presidents (And Why They Matter)

Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Wilson, Roosevelt (Theodore and Franklin), and a handful of other U.S. Presidents are household names. Their images appear on money; cities, towns, and schools are named for them; and one, Andrew Jackson, is associated with an entire age. Their impact on American society is unquestionable. However, there are a handful of lesser-known Chief Executives whose decisions changed the course of American history: Martin Van Buren, James K. Polk, John Tyler, Franklin Pierce, and Rutherford B. Hayes. This course will study their Presidencies and explain why they matter.

**Facilitator:** Jon Grogan earned a BA in political science from Tufts University, an MA in history from the University of San Diego, and a PhD in history from Loyola University, Chicago. Also, he served 21 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring as a major. Dr. Grogan has taught for OLLI programs at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and Tufts University. Additionally, he has taught at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, worked with several museums and historical associations, and judged at National History Day competitions at local, state, and national levels.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 10/24–11/21

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## **Great "Russian" Writers Who** are Ukrainian

Writers, such as Isaak Babel, Mikhail Bulgakov, Chekhov, and Gogol have been widely known as Russian. They are in fact Ukrainian. In this class, we will read short stories and excerpts of longer works by these and other authors, with a particular look at their brand of humor.

**Facilitator:** Monica Hileman is a writer of literary fiction. Her stories have appeared in journals such as *Arts & Letters, The Baffler,* the *Chicago Tribune's Printers Row Journal,* and *Catamaran Literary Reader*. Originally from the Chicago area, she holds an MFA from the University of North Carolina and

lives just north of Boston.

Dates: 5 Thursdays, 10/24-11/21

Time: 1:30–3:00 p.m.
Location: ONLINE via Zoom
Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## The Burgundian Netherlands & Flemish Art

Prior to the Dutch Golden Age of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Flemish Art was thriving from the end of the 14th until the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Territories (including the southern Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Northern France) became united under the control of the Burgundian Dukes, descendants of the French royal house of Valois. The Netherlands under Burgundian rule attracted some of the most talented artists of the Renaissance period. Their art resembled the Italian renaissance but was unique until the 1500s. Unlike the Dutch Republic which gained its independence in 1588, the south (Belgium today) remained under Spanish Habsburg rule. Artists, such as Flemish Baroque artist Peter Paul Rubens, promoted the dramatic style of the counter reformation into the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

**Facilitator:** Lucinda Gorry has facilitated several OLLI courses. In 2022, she facilitated a five-week course on the Dutch Golden Age and followed up with the 2023 course, "Dutch Golden Age: Landscapes, Seascapes, and Still Life." She has also researched and created lectures and courses on 19<sup>th</sup> century Boston women artists, James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903), Édouard Manet and Berthe Morisot, Edgar Degas and Mary Cassatt, and many other artists.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 10/24–11/21

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **UCLA Memory Training**

The goals of the Memory Training course are to help participants develop good memory habits and to teach techniques to improve memory. This four-week evidence-based program, designed by UCLA, is exercise for your brain! Helping you to "stay sharp," it's a fun, interactive, and innovative program that works to improve your memory. Participants learn effective memory-enhancing techniques, using group discussion, memory checks, and skill-building exercises. This program will help you remember names and faces, recall appointments/ messages and plans, avoid misplacing objects, and overcome "tip of the tongue" slips. This course is not intended for anyone with memory loss or dementia.

**Facilitator:** Corinne White is the Dementia-Friendly coordinator for the City of Boston's Age Strong Commission. The Dementia-Friendly initiative is a multi-sector approach to creating a supportive, safe, respectful, and engaging city for persons living with dementia, simultaneously encouraging healthy brain practices for all residents. Luz Leal is the assistant director of the East Boston Senior Center, operated by the City of Boston's Age Strong Commission. She is a master trainer for UCLA's Memory Training Program.

**Dates:** 4 Thursdays, 10/31–11/21 **Time:** 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

## Sex, Murder and the Meaning of Life: An Introduction to Evolutionary Psychology

Our brains of the product of millennia of evolution. Much of our behaviors have been shaped by needs of survival and reproduction. We will explore a myriad of preferences and why they came about.

Facilitator: David Pogue, see bio on page 10

Dates: 6 Thursdays, 10/31-12/12 (no class on 11/28)

Time: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Cognitive Upgrade**

In this class you will find the latest research & practical applications for a more resilient brain. Many people think that the aging process is only about decline and deterioration which can lead to a fearful and depressing outlook about growing older. The newest research offers a much more positive outlook about the amazing potential of the brain to grow, change, rewire and upgrade. Katherine will be combining the latest research about the brain along with stimulating exercises to activate the brain, including meditation which has been shown to remodel the brain to strengthen the qualities that psychologists say are crucial components of happiness, resilience, equanimity, calm and a sense of compassionate connection to others. The brain is a learning machine. (If you have already taken Katherine's Brain & Memory Activation course, this will be a review along with updated information, studies and practices.)

**Facilitator:** Katherine Robinson, see bio on page 13. **Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 11/7–12/12 (no class on 11/28)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Exercises **Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### Bowed, Plucked, and Strummed Stories: The Instruments of American Roots Music

This course is a collaboration with OLLI at Brandeis University.

The fiddle, banjo and other instruments in American folk and roots music have stories as rich and complex as the great artists who use them. Their sounds evoke powerful images and ideas that reflect the many ways they have been used to make music as well as the people and cultures they have been associated with at different points in history. In "Bowed, Plucked and Strummed Stories: The Instruments of American Roots Music," we will learn these stories, examining the fascinating processes through which musical instruments have traveled around the world, shaping and being shaped by the people who play and hear them. By focusing on instruments and the people who play them, we can move beyond the emphasis on the history of composers and songwriters. This allows us to understand the ways that the musical practices of poor and working-class communities have been a driving force in American music. "Bowed, Plucked and Strummed Stories: The Instruments of American Roots Music" can be taken as a continuation of the Great Artists in American Roots Music series or as a stand-alone course. Each session will involve a dynamic mix of lecture, performance, and discussion. There will also be time in some class meetings for participants who play music to bring their own instruments to show the class and talk about their own music-making.

Facilitator: Taylor Ackley is first and foremost a folk musician. Born into a working-class family with a remarkable musical heritage, his work was influenced by generations of pickers, singers, songwriters and fiddlers across his family. He holds a master's degree and PhD in Composition and a master's degree in Ethnomusicology from Stony Brook University. Taylor is a professor at Brandeis University. His work examines American folk and popular music through analysis, composition, historical research, performance, and ethnography.

**Dates:** 8 Fridays, 9/13–11/15 (no class on 10/4 and 10/11)

Time: 10:00-12:00 noon

Location: IN-PERSON at Mt. Ida Campus in Newton

Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Discovering Documentaries**

This is a viewing and discussion program. First we watch, then we talk. We grow as we discover the value or purpose of what we watch. How well was it put together? Did you enjoy watching it or if not, why? A full list of films will be provided at the first class.

**Facilitator:** Lee Colello is an offsite OLLI facilitator who has been facilitating "Discovering Documentaries" in Braintree and other classes in Hingham. She graduated from UMass Boston and has had various instructor/facilitator roles in her church,

Parents Helping Parents, and the IRS.

**Dates:** 6 Fridays, 9/13–10/18 **Time:** 10:00–12:00 noon

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

# S A Brief History of the Revolutions in Latin America: From Independence to Modern Times

In this course, we will explore the dynamic and transformative history of Latin America through the lens of its most significant revolutions. This course delves into the conceptual foundations of what defines a revolution, followed by an examination of pivotal movements that have shaped the region. From the Mexican Revolution's fight for social justice to the enduring impact of Cuba's leftist upheaval, we will analyze the diverse motivations and outcomes of these transformative events. Additionally, we will investigate the so-called modern revolutions in Ecuador, Bolivia, and Venezuela, and discuss the recent rise of right-wing parties that challenge the achievements of previous democratic governments while branding their movements as "revolutions." Join us on this journey to understand the complexities of revolutionary change and its lasting legacy on Latin American societies.

**Facilitator:** Mario Portugal Ramirez is a sociologist from Bolivia who has a deep passion for learning and teaching about Latin American culture, particularly that of his own country. He is a returning facilitator at OLLI.

**Dates:** 5 Fridays, 9/13–10/11 **Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m. **Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Lecture

**Price:** \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Great Conversations: The Imperfect Ideal**

We all imagine a more perfect world and fear a less perfect one, but our visions of those futures differ widely. In Great Conversations we will explore a range of utopian (and dystopian) societies, as imagined and described in fiction and non-fiction selections by authors ranging from Aristotle, Lenin and St. Augustine to Dostoevsky and Margaret Atwood. The themes we will explore include not only what types of political and social organization might work best but also what contributes to personal fulfillment and what in human nature gets in the way of forming a more perfect union. The selections we will read come from Imperfect Ideal: Utopian and Dystopian Visions, available from the Great Books Foundation for \$24.95 at https://store.greatbooks. org/imperfect-ideal-utopian-and-dystopian-visions/ (and possibly from Amazon).

Facilitator: Linda Seale loves exploring new ideas with friends and colleagues and feels that "Great Conversations" is a perfect vehicle for doing so. She loves the wide-ranging discussions prompted by the readings and the mutual respect that develops among the participants who continue to enjoy this course, which has been an OLLI tradition for more than 20

Dates: 6 Fridays, 10/4-11/15; one skip class TBD

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

Islam and the West: Historical **Perceptions and Political Narratives** 

"Islam and the West: Historical Perceptions and Political Narratives" examines the historical relationship between Islam and the West. Using an interdisciplinary approach, participants/students explore Western perceptions of Islam, analysing the impact of colonialism, Orientalism, and political interests. The course critiques narratives portraying Islam as a threat to Western civilization, drawing parallels with historical views of communism. Through study and discussion, students gain insight into Islamophobia, media representations, and contemporary dialogue challenges. Equipped with analytical tools, they navigate complex Islam-West relations, understanding historical and political dynamics.

Facilitator: Muhammad Arif Igbal holds a diverse academic background, with a bachelor's in English literature, a master's in governance and public policy focusing on women's electoral rights, and a PhD in Environmental Governance. His research spans developmental studies, climate change, ethnicity, gender, religious studies, international relations, and human rights.

Dates: 6 Fridays, 10/18-11/22 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



#### S Exploring Longevity Series 7: **Human Posture**

This is the 7th series of Exploring Longevity, which focuses on human posture including the concept of human posture and its psychological and physiological impacts. Posture at an advanced age is closely associated with the risk of falls, functioning of the musculoskeletal system, depressive symptoms, and mobility. This course continues the dialogue started from its 1st OLLI course series "Is Longevity a Lifelong Effort?" in fall 2021. Each series has been independently designed and delivered. Even if you skipped previous ones, you will still be able to participate in and thoroughly enjoy this one.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Hua Chen is a graduate student at the Donna M and Robert J Manning College of Nursing and Health Sciences. He is now studying geriatric nursing. His goal is to become a geriatric nurse educator and researcher. Hua feels humbled to explore, share with, and learn from OLLI members the science and art of longevity.

Dates: 3 Fridays, 11/8-11/22 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### Poems That Tell a Story

Some of the best stories ever written are poems. In this course, we'll be reading them: poems that stun with their language and narrative, that spin a story in such a small amount of space. We'll be exploring work from T.S. Eliot, Sharon Olds, Pablo Neruda, Patricia Smith, B.H. Fairchild, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Mark Doty, Margaret Atwood, and many others, which will be distributed throughout the class.

Facilitator: Michele Harris received a BA in English from Allegheny College and an MFA in poetry from UMass Boston. She is the author of the poetry collection Blackdamp (David Robert Books, 2019), a recipient of the 2011 David A. Kennedy prize, and a finalist for the 2018 New Millennium Award. Her writing has appeared in Cicada, New Millennium Writings, The Tishman Review, Anderbo, The Prose-Poem Project, Dirtflask, Escarp, The Columbia College Literary Review, Stirring, and elsewhere. She has been a facilitator with OLLI since 2009.

Dates: 6 Saturdays, 9/14-10/26 (no class on 10/12)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Famous Boston Landmarks and Haiti: Surprising Connections**

It is hard to understand the full dimensions of some historical Boston sites and the illustrious leaders who visited them without evoking a Haiti connection. Spaces such as the USS Constitution, the Harrison Gray Otis House (Cambridge St), the State House, the Massachusetts 54th Regiment, and Revolutionary Space, help establish such connections with voices that advocated for Haiti (C. Sumner, F. Douglass, Mayor Harrison Ottis, 1829). Educators, historians, and international relations fans will enjoy this interactive class featuring related videos and special guests.

Facilitator: Charlot Lucien is a public health professional and a history instructor interested in the connections between the U.S. and Haiti. He holds degrees from the University of Haiti (Management) and the University of Massachusetts (International Relations). He is a member of the National Council on Public History, the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti, and the Toussaint Louverture Cultural Center.

Dates: 4 Saturdays, 10/19-11/9 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom Format: Lecture/Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

### **Hooked: A Study of Openings**

The advice that opens *The Great Gatsby* is intended to steer our reading, help us judge the characters, and establish why Nick is our guide. Like Gatsby, the opening of a book should tell us how to read it, and I'd like to take a look at several of those openings. We'll look across genres, look at books you may or may not have read, and consider if these books have "hooked" us; would you read the rest, after studying the first few pages? No books required and with minimal prep work, this course is all about the openers.

Facilitator: Andréa Kossyrev is an online writing and reading instructor for 6th-12th graders, a writer, and a new mom. She has a Creative Writing MFA from UMass Boston, and has been working with OLLI since fall 2020. Though busy, she's keeping up on reading so that she can engage with all of you!

Dates: 5 Saturdays, 11/2-12/7 (no class on 11/30)

Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)



### S Exploring Longevity Series 7: **Human Posture**

This is the 7th series of Exploring Longevity, which focuses on human posture including the concept of human posture and its psychological and physiological impacts. Posture at an advanced age is closely associated with the risk of falls, functioning of the musculoskeletal system, depressive symptoms, and mobility. This course continues the dialogue started from its 1st OLLI course series "Is Longevity a Lifelong Effort?" in fall 2021. Each series has been independently designed and delivered. Even if you skipped previous ones, you will still be able to participate in and thoroughly enjoy this one.

Facilitator: OLLI Scholar Hua Chen, see bio on page 28.

Dates: 3 Saturdays, 11/9-11/23 Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m. Location: ONLINE via Zoom

Format: Discussion

Price: \$40 (for OLLI Carte members)

#### **Teach for OLLI!**

The OLLI Curriculum Committee is always looking for new course facilitators and OLLI Talk presenters. If you (or someone you know) would enjoy sharing knowledge and experience with our members through a course or OLLI Talk, please contact the OLLI office.

**Deadlines for Course/OLLI Talk Proposals:** early May for the fall catalog; early November for the spring catalog.

OLLI offers a future-facilitator workshop prior to each of these deadlines, to help members develop their ideas and transform them into actual proposals (workshop details and dates are announced in the OLLI newsletters). Prior to the beginning of each term, an orientation session is offered to all new (as well as returning) facilitators to help them become better acquainted with OLLI and to learn and share best practices for facilitating and presenting in OLLI classrooms. Questions? Contact OLLI Project Coordinator Genny Peterson (617.287.7322 or Genevieve.Peterson@umb.edu)

#### **Fall 2024 OLLI Talk Presentations**

OLLI Talk presentations are usually held in-between the morning and afternoon classes; they start at noon. Specific dates and locations (whether ONLINE or IN-PERSON) will be announced approximately three weeks prior to each event. Members will be notified, and they can sign up at that time. *Please do not put any of these OLLI Talk presentations on your Course Request Form.* The detailed descriptions of the content and the presenters will be listed on the OLLI website. Additional presentations may be announced later.

Why Is It Important to Keep a Language Alive? by Rosiane Barcelos de Oliveira

Writing After 50 by Mike Bernard

The Six Pillars of Brain Health by Theresa Chaklos

**Let's Talk About Dogs: Everyone's Best Friend** *by Lauren Chandler-McCluskey* 

"P is for Patrick" - Creating Books for Family by Lauren Chandler-McCluskey

**Self-Publish Your Book** *by Lauren Chandler-McCluskey* 

The Rise of Loneliness: Understanding and Mitigating Loneliness Across a Lifespan by Myrna Finn and Alexa Fleet

The Economics of Immigration by Jon Haveman

The Economics of Inequality by Jon Haveman

The U.S. Federal Debt by Jon Haveman

American Indian Dwellings in Our National Park System by David Kroese

**The World Wars in America's National Park System** by David Kroese

A Castle in Connecticut? It's Elementary, My Dear by Marguerite Magri

Getting to the Sole of the Matter: A Discussion of Foot and Ankle Anatomy and Conditions That Affect Walking by Marguerite Magri

**Hypnosis for Holistic Healing** by Kathryn McGlynn

Nell Irvin Painter - Historian, Author, Artist by Mary-Anne Morrison

A Christmas Tree from Nova Scotia to Boston: The Great Halifax Explosion by Howard Muise

Al: The New Frontier of Artificial Intelligence by Alison Murray, Adam Sylvestre, and Cameron Hughey

Madagascar - Africa Tradition in a Natural Paradise by Barry Pell

The Shetland Islands - Epic Landscape With a Viking Soul by Barry Pell

**Let's Talk Anime** by Genevieve Peterson

Bach's Greatest Hits by David Pogue

**Nuts About Squirrels** by David Pogue

John Brown's Boston by Shawn Quigley

Welcome to UMB's 3D Printing Lab! by Zack Ronald

**Pundits, Polls & Politics! The '24 Election!**by Douglas Stowell

Hearing Loss in Aging: What Do We Need To Know? by Peg Toro and Deb Waldman

**History of Environmental Protection** by Helen Waldorf

The Paranal Observatory: Astronomy's Premier Ground-Based Eye on the Sky by Timothy Wheelock

## Fall 2024 In-Person Walking Tours

The Synagogues of Woodrow Avenue by Jeff Calish

A One-Block Walk Around Longwood Medical Area by Jocelyn Loftus

Explore the Neponset River Greenway - Mattapan to Lower Mills by Lauren McCluskey

Savin Hill Walking Tour

by Nancy White, Jean Hunt, and Katie Kelly

## Fall 2024 Day Trips

Sign-ups for Fall Day Trips will occur at a later date once times and prices are determined.

#### **Historic Plymouth**

Friday, September 6

Enjoy a trip to explore the historic district of Plymouth and have lunch at 71° West Atlantic Steakhouse. OLLI members will get a chance to learn about and explore 17th, 18th and 19th century homes and sites in Plymouth. *Note: This trip is not going to the Plimoth Patuxet Museum/Plantation.* 

#### **Quabbin Reservoir**

Tuesday, October 8

Do a little leaf peeping during a day trip out to central Massachusetts to see the Quabbin Reservoir.

#### American Heritage Museum

Wednesday, November 13

At the American Heritage Museum, you explore America's conflicts, beginning with the Revolutionary War to today. In this remarkable place, American history will be explored, studied and most of all, remembered. Among the staggering variety of rare relics, the American Heritage Museum features over fifteen tanks and artifacts that are the only ones on public display in North America.

## **Upcoming Overnight Travel Opportunities**

All participants in OLLI's overnight travel programs must be an OLLI member at the time of travel. Future overnight trips not published in the catalog will be announced in OLLI's newsletter, *Connections*.

#### **Japan's Cultural Treasures**



Immerse yourself in this travel experience to four different Japan cities: Tokyo, Hakone, Kanazawa, & Kyoto. Visit a small mountain town and experience a unique

opportunity to witness one of Japan's rural towns.
Get a fuller picture of Japan when we learn about the
Controversial Topic of the often misunderstood profession
of geisha from the madam of a geisha house in Hakone.
No more than 16 travelers, guaranteed.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader Elaine Kerrigan at 781.985.4222 or email gowithinyoga@verizon.net

Date: March 9-23, 2025

Cost: \$7,045 (including international airfare)

#### **National Parks of America**



Experience the grandeur of the American West as you explore five fantastic national parks on this exciting journey. In Arizona, contemplate the vast beauty of the Grand Canyon,

and in Yellowstone, relish iconic sights like Old Faithful and Yellowstone Lake. Marvel at the magnitude and color of Zion's cliffs and the hoodoos and spires at Bryce Canyon. Enjoy 2-night stays in Springdale, Utah (Zion) and Jackson Hole. Drive through the incredible Bighorn Mountains

and the great Sioux Nations Territory before seeing Mt. Rushmore and Crazy Horse Monument. Meet a local Lakota Native American at dinner and learn about their fascinating way of life, past and present. Gain new appreciation of the great outdoors on this journey that takes you from the Grand Canyon to Mount Rushmore National Memorial and everywhere in between.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader Eileen Condon at 617.470.5612 or email elcondon104@gmail.com

Dates: May 20-May 31, 2025.

Cost: \$5,999 (includes airfare from Boston)

## Sicily & Malta: Cultural Crossroads of the Mediterranean



The trip begins with a five-day exploration of Malta, including a visit to ancient Hagar Qim, one of the oldest religious sites on Earth. Then it is off to Sicily! Dangling off the boot tip of Italy,

embraced by two fabled seas, and crowned by legendary Mount Etna, Sicily proudly retains its own distinct cultural flavor. Join OLLI as tapestry of cultures is unveiled as you stroll through the markets in the lovely capital of Palermo, marvel at Mount Etna in Taormina, and enjoy stunning views of the Mediterranean. Pre- and Post-Trips options available.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader Pat Flynn at 617.312.5190 or email caleighsnan@gmail.com

Dates: October 16-November 1, 2025

Cost: \$5,245 (includes international airfare from Boston)

## Let's Go to the Theatre

OLLI at UMass Boston is excited to offer the following theatre performances for fall and early witer at very low discounted prices. All tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Limit two per member. At the time of the catalog printing, dates, times, and prices were not available. OLLI theatre outings are mostly held on Saturday afternoons. More specific details for the following performances will be announced via the OLLI newsletter, *Connections*, as well as on the ticket order form.

## Huntington Theatre presents Leopoldstadt



Winner! Four Tony Awards, including Best Play. Winner! Two Laurence Olivier Awards, including Best New Play. The latest masterpiece and most personal play from Tom Stoppard, *Leopoldstadt* is a stirring and epic story of love, family, and enduring bravery. In Vienna, the heart of European culture at the rise of the 20th century, two brothers have conflicting visions of prosperity – both for their family and the Jewish people – a tension that will echo through the generations that follow. Produced in association with Shakespeare Theatre Company.

## SpeakEasy Stage presents Laughs in Spanish



"A captivating theatrical experience that seamlessly blends humor, heart, and cultural exploration." — Broadway World.
From award-winning Boston playwright Alexis Scheer (Our Dear Dead Drug Lord) comes this cafecito-infused comedy

about mothers and daughters and art and success. On the eve of Art Basel, Mari is about to open a career-defining show in her Miami gallery, when suddenly all the paintings go missing. To make matters worse, her once-famous, mostly-absent mother hits town with a mysterious agenda. Part telenovela and part whodunit, *Laughs in Spanish* is a poignant and playful exploration of family and identity, bursting with joy.

#### SpeakEasy Stage presents

### **Pru Payne**



"Sublime, heartbreaking, funny, and fiercely intelligent" – Broadway World. East Coast Premiere! Prudence "Pru" Payne is a contemporary Dorothy Parker: a sharp-tongued intellectual and critic who recently signed on to share her extraordinary

life in an eagerly-awaited autobiography. But when Pru's memory starts to fade, her son sets her up in a state-of-the-art care facility, where love takes hold just as the world she once knew begins to slip away. With wit, verve, and above all, heart, Pulitzer Prize nominee Steven Drukman explores questions of memory, identity, and connection.

#### GET INVOLVED WITH OLLI!

OLLI at UMass Boston is a member-driven organization, and we could not function without the willingness of our members to volunteer their time and talents. Additionally, volunteering provides a way to meet new friends and become engaged in the OLLI Program. We encourage all members to share their ideas, expertise and enthusiasm, as committees are always seeking new ideas. Please consider serving on one of the committees listed below. To join a committee, please email the OLLI Office (ollireg@gmail.com) to get more information and be placed in touch with the current chair.

- Curriculum Committee
- Day Trips Committee
- Development (fundraising) Committee
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Outreach Committee
- Technology Committee
- Theatre Committee
- Travel Committee

## Let's Go to the Theatre

#### **Huntington Theatre presents**

### Sojourners



Rising star playwright Mfoniso Udofia launches her sweeping cycle with a family's origin story. Marriage, migration, and the pursuit of education collide when a young and brilliant Nigerian couple arrives in Houston, looking to earn their degrees and bring insights back to their home country. But when Abasiama discovers that her husband has been seduced by Motown records and American culture, she has to choose between the Nigerian Dream and her obligations as a matriarch. Director Dawn M. Simmons helms the lively and funny *Sojourners* at the historic Huntington Theatre following her acclaimed production of K-I-S-S-I-N-G at the Calderwood Pavilion.

## SpeakEasy Stage presents Ain't No Mo'



"Explosive as a hand grenade of laughing gas, AIN'T NO MO' is heady and hysterical and fiercely provocative!"—Variety. 2023 Tony Nominee—Best Play! "The powers that be have reassured me there's room for everyone"

declares Miss Peaches, the drag queen flight attendant tasked with welcoming the entire Black population of the United States to Gate 1619 for a free one-way flight back to Africa. So begins an early scene in Jordan E. Cooper's blisteringly funny satire, a series of sharp comic vignettes about Black American life, history, and identity. SpeakEasy Stage is proud to team up with the Front Porch Arts Collective to bring new life to this acclaimed show, one of the first productions since its groundbreaking Broadway run.

#### **Huntington Theatre presents**

#### The Grove



Playwright Mfoniso Udofia stages a family homecoming, asking what it means to draw on the wisdom and beauty of our ancestors when the bonds of family are stretched to the limit. Abasiama's eldest daughter Adiaha wants to become a writer to make her family proud, but at her graduation party, she has to choose: fulfill her parents' desires to settle with a traditional Nigerian man, or stay true to her own romantic match. Director Awoye Timpo (*The Bluest Eye* at The Huntington) reunites with longtime collaborator Udofia for a play with the rich heart of a family drama against the thrilling theatrical backdrop of a Greek chorus of ancestors.

#### HARRY GLOSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The purpose of the Harry Gloss Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships (full or partial) to individuals who cannot afford to pay the annual OLLI membership fee due to financial hardship. It was named in memory of the late Harry Gloss, who was a founding member, course facilitator, and member of the OLLI Board of Directors.

Individuals who need financial assistance with the OLLI membership fee should email the OLLI office (ollireg@gmail.com) to inquire about the scholarship forms and process.

Contributions to this scholarship fund can be accepted at any time and are tax deductible. Please send a separate check made out to "Friends of OLLI" with your registration and/or course request forms if you care to make a donation at this time.

Thank you for your generosity!

#### **OLLI Board of Directors (2024–Spring 2025)**

OLLI at UMass Boston has a volunteer advisory board composed of current members that oversees the governance of OLLI. It provides tremendous support to the OLLI office staff and helps shape the overall direction of the organization and its programs. It is also a working board, meaning that its members are part of other OLLI committees and contribute their ideas and time to achieving various goals and projects. Members are listed below, along with their current town of residence and any committees on which they currently serve.

#### **Board Officers**

Steve Vorenberg (Hingham) – Board Chair

Paula Gehr (Dorchester) – Board Vice Chair. Technology (chair) and Curriculum Committees

Vivian Unterweger (Jamaica Plain) – Board Treasurer. Curriculum Committee

Cathy Clancy (Roslindale) – Board Secretary. Outreach Committee (chair)

#### **Board Members**

Deborah Baron (Brockton) – Day Trips (chair), Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committees
Denise Berkley (Taunton) – Curriculum, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and Outreach Committees
John Cheney (Rockland) – Curriculum, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and Outreach Committees
Beverly Cohen (Milton) – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee
Eileen Condon (Watertown) – Curriculum and Travel Committees
Karen Gill (Boston) – Curriculum Committee Member
Anne Kelly (Somerville) - Outreach and Theatre Committees
Howard Muise (Braintree) - Technology Committee
Mary O'Connor (Milton) – Development Committee Member
Christine O'Toole (Jamaica Plain) – Outreach Committee
Karen Perry-Daley (Randolph) – Curriculum and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committees
Anne Semler (Marshfield) - Curriculum Committee

#### **Board Chair Emerita**

Sharon Carey (Boston)

Development Committee

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- Travel (chair) and Development Committees

Ed Ford (Boston)

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Development Committee

Marilyn McElaney (Harwich Port)

- Development Committee (chair)

#### **Professional and Support Staff**

Jim Hermelbracht – Director Genny Peterson – Project Coordinator Molly Murphy – Operations Coordinator Drew Glazier – Office Manager

For more information on the OLLI at

UMass Boston Program, please contact us:

Phone: 617.287.7312 Fax: 617.287.7076 Email: ollireg@gmail.com Website: www.umb.edu/olli

**Sponsored by** 

The Bernard Osher Foundation
The Gerontology Institute
The Donna M and Robert J Manning College
of Nursing and Health Sciences

Mailing Address: OLLI

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UMass Boston 100 Morrissey Blvd. Boston, MA 02125



A copy of this publication is available in alternative format upon request. Please go to www.ada.umb.edu.

## OLLI AT UMASS BOSTON COURSE REQUEST FORM — FALL 2024

Last Name	Preferred First Name				
Note any changes to the below contact information if there have been changes since Spring 2024.					
Address					
City, State		Zip			
Primary Phone ()	Cell Phone ()				
Email					
Emergency Contact	Phone ()				
	Important Information				
A priority system is used to determine who believe it to be the most equitable method participate in this system, you must return of priority for each course (1st choice = mon a first-come, first-served basis.	od of deciding who gets into those rn your request form to us by <b>Aug</b> i	classes. In order for you to ust 19, indicating your order			
Please indicate which courses you are requesting, including location. For locations, use the following abbreviations: <b>UMB</b> = UMass Boston Campus, <b>HPL</b> = Hingham Public Library, <b>BR</b> = Thayer Public Library, Braintree, or <b>Z</b> = Zoom. Please print the full course title.  ( <b>DO NOT</b> include OLLI Talk, Walking Tours, or SIG registrations on this form!)					
1 <sup>st</sup> Course Choice	Day	Location			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Course Choice	Day	Location			
3 <sup>rd</sup> Course Choice	Day	Location			
4 <sup>th</sup> Course Choice	Day	Location			
5 <sup>th</sup> Course Choice	Day	Location			
It is <b>IMPERATIVE</b> that all request forms are reincluded in the lottery process. Registrations a					
<b>For OLLI Carte members only</b> . Your membership category allows you to add courses for an additional fee of \$40 per course. <b>Course Registration Fees: courses x \$40</b> = Do <b>not</b> include this amount with your membership payment. Course fees are due a week after course confirmations are sent.					
Course Confirmation  You are not registered for courses until you receive a confirmation letter by email in late August.					
Ouestions about registration?					

Call 617.287.7312 or email ollireg@gmail.com

Mail to: OLLI, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393

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#### OLLI AT UMASS BOSTON **MEMBERSHIP FORM FALL 2024** Preferred First Name Last Name Please note any changes to any of the contact information since you last renewed your membership. If no changes, you can leave blank. City, State \_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_ Primary Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER PROFILE We require your responses to the following questions, which will be used for statistical purposes only. This information will help us to better serve our members. How did you hear about OLLI? \_\_\_\_\_ Would you be interested in facilitating a course? ☐ Yes ☐ No Gender Male ☐ Female What topic(s)? \_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ (required) Are you a new member? ☐ Yes □ No College Degree ☐ Yes □ No Ethnicity ☐ Black/African/Caribbean UMass Boston Alumnus/a ☐ Yes ☐ No Caucasian Chinese Hispanic Korean Do you consider yourself to be retired? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Native American ☐ Vietnamese Current/Former Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ **ORDER INFORMATION** Membership Pricing Options **AMOUNT** For Office Use Only Select **ONE** option below Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Full Membership \$245 (\$460 for two at same household) Payment Information: \_\_\_\_\_ □ OLLI Carte Membership \$120 Membership Expiration: \_\_\_ (\$225 for two at same household) Membership ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ General Membership \$65 Notes: (\$125 for two at same household) Membership is valid for one year and expires July 1, 2025. **PAYMENT INFORMATION** For Credit Card Payment VISA ☐ MasterCard Please make checks payable to Discover American Express "OLLI/UMass Boston" and return this form to Name on Card OLLI, McCormack Hall, 3rd Floor, UMass Boston, Card Number 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393. Expiration Date Annual membership dues must be paid in full Amount to be Charged \_\_\_\_\_ at the time of course registration and are

non-refundable after September 20, 2024

Signature



#### **Land Acknowledgement**

We wish to acknowledge that the University of Massachusetts Boston is situated upon the traditional, ancestral, and unceded land of the Pawtucket and Massachusett First Nations. We pay respect to the elders, both past and present, as well as future generations. This acknowledgement demonstrates our commitment to working to dismantle the systems of oppression that have displaced Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism.



**OLLI** 

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125-3393

## Let's Turn a Page and Get Reading Together

**OLLI Reads** is an initiative that was created by OLLI's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee in summer 2022. Along the way we will read and discuss various books in the hope of having a better understanding of the world around us. **OLLI Reads** is open to all OLLI members and guests and enables us to come together as a community that is reading and discussing the same book. We hope you will be part of our **OLLI Reads**.

**Book selection.** *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride is a vibrant, compassionate, and often humorous story about small-town secrets and a community intertwined of immigrants, African American people and centered around the Jewish-owned Heaven & Earth Grocery store. The story takes place in Pottstown, Pennsylvania in the mid-20s and 30s and is a murder mystery locked inside a Great

American novel. The author, who is both African American and Jewish, explores what it means to be in a community and to live in the margins of "white" American.

End of summer book discussion. Readers will have two opportunities to discuss *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*. An in-person forum will take place on Monday, August 26 at 11:30 a.m. at the UMass Boston Campus. Folks can also gather via Zoom on Wednesday, August 28 at 10:00 a.m. for an online book discussion. Participants can register for these two events by visiting the OLLI website.

