Learning in Retirement Institute

George Mason University

Fall 1991
Catalogue

Membership Information & Registration
Courses Start September 23rd

Kathryn Brooks Center, 4085 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-4444 Telephone 703-385-1593
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The Basic Concepts

University level education
Membership management and operation
Members learn, teach and volunteer
"Off-campus" trips and special events
Informal social activities
$ 200 a year to participate

Join a growing trend.

Continuing Education

Having succeeded in at least one career and being interested in the changing world we live in, you are ready to keep on learning in a comfortable setting with other active adults. LRI seminars reflect the experience and knowledge of the members.

Organize your expertise, share your insights, improve your intellect, and advocate solutions.

Located at George Mason University, the Learning in Retirement Institute is part of a national association of teaching, studying, and travelling adults.

Kathryn Brooks, president
Shirley Fox, vice president
– the Board of Directors –
Martha Poling, secretary
George Felton, treasurer
Shelia Coates
Esther Eisenhower
Martha Ford
Thea Johnson
Audrey Markham
Dorothy Millner
Alixa Naff

Henry Shenker
Donald Simpson
Lilyan Spero
Edward Strait
Evelyn Wade
Ellis Woody

The Leading Members

Committees
Curriculum: Shirley Fox
Publicity: Frank McMahon
Finance: George Felton
Membership: Audrey Markham
Special Events:
Administration
Staff Coordinator: Carol Ferrara
Newsletter: Garrett Ruhl
Computer: Henry Shenker
Legal Counsel: Abe Spero
Enjoy learning without tests or grades. Meet new people.

Socializing is in the curriculum.

The classes are small so that we all get to know each other. Please introduce yourself as you prefer to be addressed. There is plenty of time and opportunity to continue friendly conversations between classes. Every eight week semester starts with an open-house and ends with a celebration.

The members run things and do the work. Please come to the committee meetings to shape what LRI is, and to be in on things. Your skills are needed in our activities of administration, publicity, budgeting, planning, and membership services. You will be working with people who appreciate your contributions.

How easy is participation in Learning in Retirement?

LRI is located in the Fairfax historic county seat just one block east of the Courthouse complex on Route 123. There are parking spaces in the back of 4085 University Drive, and lots of restaurants in Fairfax City for after-class sessions.

Classes are scheduled in non-rush hours. Refreshments are available.

Library facilities are nearby.

Getting out.

On occasion a colleague will organize a field trip with a prepared interpretive guide. You can enjoy the sights, new and old, with expert commentary. Even familiar places seem fresh with an insider’s perspective. Everything is possible so novel proposals are welcome.

Staying tuned in.

Call LRI any time at 385-1593 and leave a recorded message. LRI publishes a newsletter and this catalogue "in-house" so articles, writers, editors, and artists are needed.
Dates and Times for Your Calendar

August
20  Board of Directors 10 am and Curriculum Committee 1 pm.

September
12  Teacher Orientation 10 am.
14  Open House from 2 to 4 pm.
    Bring a potential member.
23  Fall classes begin.

October
1   Forum: guest lecturer to be announced.
15  Forum: Sarah Lawless, Director, Institute of the Arts, George Mason University, "The Role of the Arts on the GMU Campus".
29  Forum: Walter Scheiber, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Public Policy, George Mason University, "Regional Issues in the Washington Area".

November
12  Forum: Stephen Shaffer, Deputy Director, Office of Research, U.S. Information Agency, "Foreign Public Perceptions of the U.S.: the Gulf War and After".
22  Fall classes end.

Forums are open to all members of LRI from 2 to 4 pm.
Please register so that LRI may contact you if there are any changes.

The Institute operates on a modest annual membership fee, and does not charge for individual courses. As a member-operated organization, LRI encourages active involvement. It does take all kinds of skills and experiences to run the Institute. Suggest what you are interested in doing.
Look over the courses for the fall semester of 1991. The details follow.

Arts
101.........................Art Gallery Touring ...... Mildred Bain

History
301.....................Women in the 20th Century ...... Kathryn Brooks
302.........................European Miracle ...... George Bain
303.........................History of World War I ...... Mathew Gallagher

International Relations
401...........Middle East, Society & Culture ...... Charles Cremeans
402.........................Reinventing the USSR ...... Garrett Ruhl
403.........................Change in Superpowers ...... Bernard Kassel
404.........................Great Decisions ...... Mary Jenkins

Language
501.........................Listening with 3rd Ear ...... Ellis Woody
502..................................French ...... Catherine Deverall
503..................................Spanish ...... Marta Ferreira

Literature
601...19th Century American Literature ...... Dorothy Millner
602...........Journalism and Public Relations ...... John Sulllivan
603..................................Writing Poetry ...... Evelyn Wade

Religion
701..................................Religions of Man ...... Jane Wilhelm

Government
801..........................U.S. Legislative Process ...... William Hogan & Ed Swoboda
802...........American Educational Reform ...... William Cooley

Technology & Science
901..........................Word Perfect Processing ...... Kenneth Oates
902..........................Physics: What is Light ? ...... Wilfred Palmer

General
1001..........................Current Events ...... Leo Resnick and others
1002...........Creative Living in Retirement ...... Howard Binkley and others
101 Art Gallery Touring
The Fine Arts

Refine your appreciation in docent-led visits to galleries. Visit eight sites in the District of Columbia and in Northern Virginia including the National Gallery of Art, Phillips Collection, National Museum of Women in the Arts, and National Museum of American Art. Sample the varied forms of creative expression. Students consider the cultural context of the works.

Meet at LRI/GMU for the first session to receive the complete schedule, and to walk to a local gallery.

Students meet area artists and exhibitors.

No prerequisites or required texts.

Mildred Bain has a degree in fine arts, and is a well-known water-colorist whose paintings are in private collections around the world.

301 Women in the 20th Century
Basis of Feminism

This seminar course explores the development of the women's movement in the United States from its origins in the 19th century. The class discusses such topics as the divisive strategy for women's suffrage, the post-suffrage activities, and the impact of the present ERA movement.

Participants develop an understanding of the history and present position of women in American society.

No prerequisites. Required reading: William H. Chafe, The Paradox of Change, and Sue Evans, Born for Liberty. A list of supplemental readings will be available in class.

Kathryn Brooks taught social studies in Virginia high schools. She is a frequent lecturer and lobbyist on women's rights and feminist issues.

302 The European Miracle
Europe to the 20th Century

This seminar course covers broad comparative societal issues. What was distinctive about the rise of modern European culture? Why did other societies not achieve economic expansion until so recently? How are religion, science, and commerce interrelated in material development? What are the major beneficial institutions of economic progress?

Participants compare the progress and adaptations of European culture around the world.

No prerequisites, but prior reading of surveys of European history helpful. Required reading: W. H. McNeill, The Rise of the West, chapters 4, 5, 8, 9, 13; and E. L. Jones, The European Miracle. Supplemental reading list in class.

George Bain taught at the University of Toronto, and is a student of history and comparative politics.
303 History of World War I
An Epic Tragedy

In both lecture and seminar sessions this course covers the main developments of the Great War. Lectures follow the chronology of the western front fighting up to the armistice. Seminars discuss the human consequences and legacies as well as the allied strategies, tactics, and weapons. Students select an individual sub-topic for further reading and reports in class.


Matthew Gallagher is a veteran of the CIA and other government departments. He wrote several scholarly books and articles on military affairs. He has a doctorate in history from Harvard University, and taught at several colleges.

402 Reinventing the USSR
The origins and current revisions

Classes briefly survey Russian history, culture, and geography. Seminar discussions analyze the present institutions of the Soviet Union and the factors that shape popular choices. Students comment on the present challenges of reforming a political system in stress. The class together evaluates the USSR's domestic options for changes in the 1990s considering international pressures.

Students analyze the effects of the Soviet experience and assess the prospects of improvements.


Garrett Ruhl served as a policy analyst and research director on Soviet affairs for the Department of Defense. He has a masters degree in Soviet Area Studies, and has travelled in the USSR and East Europe.

401 The Middle East
Social & Cultural Aspects

This seminar complements 401 given in the Spring, "The Middle East, Problems and Prospects", which, however, is not a prerequisite. The course concentrates on the people of the region: the structure of society, social classes, childhood and education, values and religion, and conflicts between traditional and modern values. Some slides will be shown.

No specific reading requirements; an extensive reading list will be distributed at the first class with material to be used as a basis for discussion.

Charles Cremeans has been a teacher, government analyst and consultant on the Middle East. He has a doctorate in history and was a Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations where he wrote a book, The Arabs and the World, Nasser's Arab Nationalist Policy.

403 Change in Superpower Status
Soviet Union & Far East

A combination lecture and seminar presenting an overview of events that have led to the present status of the USSR as a superpower and to rise of the Pacific Rim as a power base. The course explores the effects of these developments on the status of the United States as a superpower and on the future status of the European Community.

Students discuss the historical development of superpowers, and how they interacted.


Bert Kassell is a retired naval officer with expertise in international relations, with emphasis on the Soviet Union and the Far East. He is the author of numerous articles on naval and economic subjects.
404 Great Decisions in Foreign Policy
   International options

This study-discussion course covers eight American foreign policy issues. The Foreign Policy Association publishes objective background material in its annual, non-partisan publication. The moderator opens with a short update of the background. Students are invited to moderate topics.

There are no prerequisites, but each participant should purchase the FPA briefing book direct from the publisher at $8 for reading in advance of class. The book has a bibliography of additional material.

Mary Jenkins organized the Great Decisions for the National Capital Area, and chaired it for many years. She has been a member of the United Nations Association Board since 1964.

502 French for Travellers

A refresher course for those who have studied French, but forgotten a lot. Practical French to make a trip to France more enjoyable and to foster a better understanding of France and the French.

Improve your listening and speaking skills through class discussion.

Catherine Deverall taught French for twenty-four years and developed a program for gifted and talented children. She has a Degre Superieur from the Sorbonne and a master of arts degree in French Literature from George Washington University.

--- Language ---

501 Listening with a Third Ear
   Improving Communication

Course discusses the importance of perceptions and an open mind for effective communication, and techniques for improving discussion in family, business, social and other aspects of living. Explore some psychological principles, including one's area of freedom, barriers to communication, and the art of listening. Examine the use of words as symbols, and a person's emotional attachment to certain words and phrases.

Students participate in small groups and as a class in solving problems of communication. This is not a public speaking course. It concentrates on communication experiences in daily living.

No prerequisites or required reading.

Ellis Woody taught at George Washington University and conducted other courses on behavior for government and business. He has a masters in counseling and guidance from George Peabody College, Nashville.

503 Conversational Spanish

Basic conversational Spanish will be centered around topics of interest to the students. Topics may include: household management, travel accommodations, shopping, restaurants, transportation, site seeing.

Some familiarity with Spanish is advantageous.

Marta Ferreira is a native of Argentina and has ten years teaching experience.
____ Literature and Writing ____

601 Self and Society
19th Century American Literature

The objective of the course will be a better understanding of American ideas in the 19th century and their relevance today, as well as the appreciation and enjoyment of the essays, novels, and poetry.

No requirements. Students should individually obtain the essays of Emerson and Thoreau, Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter and short stories, Melville's Billy Budd, and Whitman's poetry.

Dorothy Millner has a doctorate from the Graduate Center: City University of New York, and taught literature at Pace University.

603 Poetry
Writing and Publishing

This class is primarily a workshop for students to submit original work for comment and class discussion. Students will be encouraged to develop skills in individualized styles.

Techniques of composition will be stressed: verse forms, rhyme and rhythm, humor, irony, and paradox. Students and guests share their work, and discuss the possibilities of publication.

No prerequisites. No text.

Evelyn Wade is an award–winning author, presenter, and frequent workshop leader. She taught writing poetry at American University for six years.

____ Philosophy and Religion ____

602 Journalism and Public Relations
Good Principles and Bad Practices

Students survey the methods used in good and not–so–good journalism and public relations.

Explore originality and ethics: plagiarism, libel, and copyrights. Discuss how to accentuate the positive in public relations. Examine current stories in the media.

No prerequisites. No required text.

John Sullivan worked forty years in newspaper reporting. He established the first public information office for the Defense Department's Defense Communication Agency (DCA).

701 Religions of Man
Compare seven world religions

This class studies seven world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. The class will visit houses of worship of different faiths in the area. Students discuss the holy writing of various religions.

Students compare the elements of man's religions.


Jane Wilhelm has taught extensively, has a masters degree in religion from Duke University, and has done doctorate work at Yale University.
801 U.S. Legislative Process
The Federal Congress

Students discuss the origins and practices of law-making in the U.S. Congress. Moderators cover the organization, politics, staff, ethics, and budgets of both the House and the Senate. Consider the complex specialization of the committee system.

No prerequisites. Recommend reading the Constitution prior to first class.

William Hogan served as General Counsel for the House Committee of Armed Services for 12 years before retiring after 21 years on the staff. Ed Swoboda served on the Senate Appropriations Committee for 5 years, and in the Budget Analysis Division of the Congressional Budget Office for 8 years.

802 American Education Reform
Criticism of Kindergarten through 12th Grade

This is a seminar evaluation of US public education from kindergarten through high school. Students are introduced to the state of the schools through lectures, panelists, and visits to model and needy schools. Explore the innovations in methods and materials.

Students discuss the paradox of the system being unsatisfactory in result while most parents and teachers are satisfied with their school. Particular emphasis on the "difficult subjects" of science, engineering, mathematics, and languages which are so important in the future.

No prerequisites; note emphasis above. Required reading: C. H. Finn, Jr, We Must Take Charge —Our Schools & Our Future. Guest panelists from school system.

William Cooley has a doctorate in engineering from MIT and taught at GMU. He is an education advisor to Fairfax County, and a member of the American Society for Engineering Education.

901 Word Processing / Word Perfect
Typing Computer Software

Participants learn to write on a personal computer using the Word Perfect software. Each of the eight sessions includes a description of typing functions followed by a practical exercise with "hands on" the keyboard. The course covers starting the Word Perfect program, formatting correspondence, printing, cut-and-paste operations, font selection, search for text, and basic composition.

Students use a computer for word processing.

No prerequisites. Students are required to purchase a 5.25 inch floppy disk for personal use for $1 at the Institute. Other resource materials will be provided.

Kenneth Oates was a scientist and engineer at IBM for 32 years, and has taught computer processing and design.

902 Physics: What is Light?
History of Discovery of the Principles

This class presents a history of the major developments in the scientific understanding of the nature and the propagation of light. Students consider the challenges and stages of discovery from the early disputes over light's wave or corpuscular character to the ultimate rejection of the hypothesized medium in which it travelled, the "ether," as a meaningless concept.

No prerequisites.

Wilfred Palmer has a doctorate in physics from the University of Texas and concentrated mostly on solid state physics.
1001  Current Events and Issues
The Week in Review

Review the highlights of a week's news around the table with your colleagues. Local, regional, national, international. What was important and why? How was the issue presented or dodged?

Moderator will suggest several themes for the next session but this is "live." At the first meeting students identify their interests and sources that they will monitor. Panelists prepare background information to start each session.

No prerequisites, but assume that everybody has read the Washington Post and watched the networks.

Students and guests act as panelists and experts.

Leo Resnick was a communications lawyer in private practice and hearing examiner for the FCC.

1002  Creative Living in Retirement

The course presents varied ideas for study, employment, public service, and recreation. The emphasis is on using or developing skills that enrich one's life. Guests will describe particular opportunities. Participants will be introduced to the programs of other senior service organizations, both public and private.

No prerequisites. Materials furnished in class.

Howard Binkley is active in community and international affairs and has taught senior activities workshops previously. Audrey Markham is president of the Widow's Service of Northern Virginia and a member of the leadership council of the American Association of Retired Persons.

Call
if you need a map
of LRI's location.
How LRI / GMU Functions

The Learning in Retirement Institute is open for classes Monday through Friday from 9 to 4 o'clock; during semester breaks, Tuesday through Thursday from 9 to 12.

Classes are scheduled for one meeting a week of an hour and a half duration for eight weeks.

We'll close for legal holidays and bad weather, or open late, just like the Fairfax County elementary schools as announced on local media. Classes at other times or locations are arranged with the instructor. Each class should have its own "telephone tree" for passing special notices.

Keep posted on LRI activities by stopping by the Bulletin Board even when you don't have class. We are glad to talk over ideas for our development. Read and keep handy the almost--monthly newsletter, or call 385-1593 to hear or record a message.

Donations are a good idea. We keep a lengthening list of what we need. Ask.

Food and drink are part of our lives. Bring and share refreshments or bag lunches. You can have "free" coffee for $5 a year or a two-pound can. Clean up after yourself. Room 215 is free for lunch and discussions from 1 to 2 daily except on Tuesdays.

No smoking.

Parking is available in the rear of the building. Metro and Fairfax buses are two blocks away. CUE bus stops at the front door. For the GMU main campus down the street you may get a parking permit for the day at the booth to visit the library or bookstore.

Special Needs: just let us know. Your fellow members have solved a lot of problems. Do tell us if you must miss class because of travel or sickness.

No commercials:

please, no soliciting clients on the premises.

Board meetings are monthly and open to the members. Committee meetings and improvement workshops are open to all who can help, and suggestions are encouraged.

During class periods, administrative assistance is available to members and teachers.

Schedule of Classes for Fall Semester 1991

Classes meet in Room 215 unless otherwise noted.
Check the Calendar for meetings and forums.

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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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Registration Form

Learning in Retirement Institute
George Mason University
4085 University Drive, Room 215
Fairfax, Virginia 22030 – 4444

Call (703) 385–1593

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Please list below, in order of preference, the number and title of the course for which you wish to register. Classes are filled in the order in which registrations are received. You are guaranteed two courses with additional courses on a space available basis. Indicate the total number of courses in which you want to enroll here:  1  2  3.

Three-digit Class Number       Title
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

List more alternatives if you would like. Registration open from August 23rd.

Send in ideas for new courses. Indicate if you would like to carpool: ride only or drive/ride. _____

The schedule of classes is on page 12. Refunds only through 1st week of term.