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Topics This Course Will Cover

1. The Senate — Are there any meaningful limits on money in politics? Any way to depol the present auto of corrupt?
2. Civil rights partisan — should religion ever excuse discrimination? If so, how? If not, what if the preferences given you cause discrimination against others?
3. Big Money: should it be taken up, or subject to greater rules?
4. Gerrymandering — The 2020 census and redistricting
5. Is what exists in the President subject to legal control? Can laws be passed or made to change on the president's veto?

The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may all at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.

U.S. Const. Art. I sec. 4.

Definition of "gerrymandering"

The process of drawing the lines of election districts in a manner that intentionally and unfairly affects the interests of a particular person or group.

Definition of "partisan gerrymandering"

The process of drawing the lines of election districts in a manner that intentionally and unfairly affects the interests of a particular person or group based on their political party.

Bob Zener and Anthony Steinmeyer Teach Legal Issues in the Trump Era, an Analysis of Issues Prevalent in Current Politics, Spring Term 2019

July 5, 2019

Editor of the Week: Sheri Siessiger

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Alerts & Notices

- Reminder: No classes will be held at United Christian Parish in Reston from July 9-12. All other OLLI classes will be held as scheduled.
- Special event 1102, the OLLI Patriotic Potluck, will be held Friday, July 12 at 12:30 at Tallwood. Food to bring is based on your last name: A-F, salads; G-M, main course; N-S, side dishes; T-Z, desserts. Register for this event at the member portal.
- OLLI is holding an open house July 22 through August 2. Please invite a friend, family member, or neighbor to attend a class with you. Register your guest at the Tallwood office or with the campus site assistant.
- Note: The summer *Loudoun Newsletter* is available [here](#) and through the link below the banner at the top of this *E-News*.
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published Friday, July 12; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, July 9, at 6:00.

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How to Leave an "OLLI Footprint" at George Mason University



By Camille Hodges, Mason Libraries Advisory Board Member, and Jessica Clark, Development & Communications Officer, University Libraries

Have you ever wondered how to contribute to the George Mason University Libraries in a lasting manner? You may consider the example of OLLI Theater Lovers' Group Coordinator, Norma Jean Reck. Earlier this year Norma decided to make a contribution to the Mason Libraries in support of graduate study spaces. In recognition of her donation, a graduate study carrel in Fenwick Library was named in her honor. What a way to leave an "OLLI footprint" at Mason!



Mason held its annual Giving Day on April 4, but you may donate at any time and designate where you would like your contribution to make an impact.

If you are interested in donating to the Mason libraries, you may do so at <https://library.gmu.edu/support/give>. If you are interested in naming opportunities, such as

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having a graduate study carrel named in your or a loved one's honor, please contact Kathleen Kehoe at kkehoe@qmu.edu or 703-993-8740. Donations in support of study carrels begin at \$1,000.

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Tallwood Book Club Meets Monday



By Ceda McGrew, Tallwood Book Club Coordinator

The Tallwood Book Club will meet Monday, July 8, at 10:00 in TA-2. The book for discussion is *Where the Crawdads Sing*, the first novel of Delia Owens. Set in rural North Carolina in the 1950s, it was described in *The New York Times Book Review* as a "murder mystery, a coming of age narrative, and a celebration of nature." All OLLI members are welcome.

The Tallwood Book Club does not meet in August. The reading selection for Wednesday, September 11, is *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee.

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Notes from the June 26 Olive Tasting Party



By Bob Coffin, Instructor/Chef

"Olives—they are not just for martinis!" With this intro, instructor Bob Coffin offered up a history of olives, how folks figured out a way to eat them (raw they are very bitter), and a cornucopia of olive tidbits: Olives have zero sum calories—it takes as much energy to eat one as there are calories in the olive; the northernmost olive groves are on the Isle of Anglesey in northern Wales; and many more fun facts.

Participants tasted 16 kinds of olives in four "flights," each accompanied by accoutrements including stuffed grape leaves, brie, tzatziki, pickled radish, hummus, smoked almonds, provolone, and a dozen more. Menus were provided to help identify the olives, which ranged from pea-sized arbequinas to colossal, three-bite halkidikis, with



colors from Kermit the Frog green castelvetrano, to scarlet-red cerignolas, wine-purple botijas, and wrinkly inky-black Turkish kuru seles. The finale was cups of homemade tapenade and bruschetta for all. Forewarned to skip lunch, OLLI members were provided doggie bags to take home their extras.



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A crew of OLLI volunteers spent three hours the day before helping prep all the olives and the goodies that went with them. And they sampled the offerings to ensure they were "OLLI good to go." They returned the following day to serve their fellow members.

(Photos by Ligia Glass)

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Inside OLLI -Mason

Cameron Menchel is Off to Columbia University's MFA Program



By Nancy Scheeler, Program Committee Co-Chair

OLLI instructor Cameron Menchel will begin study toward a Master of Fine Arts in writing at the Columbia University School of the Arts in late August. He will concentrate in fiction. An English major, Cam received a BA from William & Mary in 2017, *Summa Cum Laude* and Phi Beta Kappa. His honors-winning senior thesis was on Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*.

While taking time off to decide what graduate work to pursue, Cam taught a series of literature courses at OLLI, including American short stories, the early work of Philip Roth, and happiness (or the lack of it) in literature. With his mother, popular OLLI instructor Kay Menchel, he also taught classes linking music and literature.



Cam reports that "Columbia has a phenomenal program—my hope is simply to get better at what I do with the help of enormously gifted peers and teachers. A two-year program gives one the freedom to be ambitious and potentially undertake a larger project, such as a novel or story collection. My hope is to end up teaching."

Cam has also been using his time this year to write. As part of his application, he submitted recently completed work. Although it is not yet published, he hopes to work toward that with "new material burnished . . . with the help of professors and peers."

Teaching at OLLI attracted him right away. It "allowed me to discuss subjects that

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fascinate me with people who are perceptive, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic. I hope, moreover, to do more teaching in the future, so simply being in a classroom with very bright people has been an invaluable experience."

OLLI members in his class immediately noticed Cam's skill in presenting literary material. He was extremely articulate, carefully choosing words to empower his comments and soliciting observations and questions from the class. He introduced each class with a short lecture about the author and his or her work, filled with his own insights, without any academic jargon, often quoting the authors' own comments about their work. Class members said that his close readings of passages enabled them see things they hadn't seen before.

Cam "would like OLLI members to know how grateful I am for the opportunity they gave me and for how much they've taught me." He sees OLLI members as "exceptionally open-minded and that the breadth of their experiences has brought enormous richness to every discussion."

Cam may return to OLLI next summer to give a presentation on his work in the MFA program. He will be very welcome.

(Photo by Nancy Scheeler)
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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

Identity

I walked around the campus today
 confused, lost, not sure
 how to get to Student Union Building #1
 Who can I ask?
 Young people with eyes glued to phones?
 an old geezer, a professor perhaps,
 patiently gave me directions

I walked around the campus today
 sky brilliant blue,
 breeze brisk and fresh
 noticing painted benches, robots

I walked around the campus today
 found SUB 1 and the Card Office
 smiled for the camera and thanked
 the young girl who handed me my
 George Mason University Student ID card

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I walked around the campus today
 confidence in my step
 a silly grin on my face
 and an even broader smile in my heart
 73 years old, now
 I belonged on the campus today.

Ginge Sivigny

Note to fellow OLLI students: The Mason student ID allows us to get discounts including 35% off at Arena Stage; 50% off at the Folger Theater; Amazon Prime free for six months, then 50% after that; access to Kanopy; and *The New York Times* online for \$4 a month. Those are just the ones I know about. Better than gold!

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Arts & Music at George Mason

Events, July 5 through July 19



By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468, buy tickets online through the event calendar (see links below), or visit the venue's box office. For more information, see the [CFA ticket page](#) or the [Hylton Center ticket purchase page](#).

At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Gallery Exhibit: Jordann Wine

Continues through July 9

Buchanan Partners Art Gallery

The Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue-Sat, 10:00-6:00.

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Meetings & Clubs

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office, with direct web links added when available. The list is accurate as of mid-week but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast

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of coming events on our website (News/[OLLI Calendar](#)). Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc. (**bolded** below).

Sat Jul 6	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Mon Jul 8	9:30am	What's in the Daily News-TA-1
	10:00am	Bridge Club-TA-3
	10:00am	Tallwood Book Club-TA-2
Fri Jul 12	9:15am	Recorder Consort-TA-3
	9:30am	Photography Club-TA-1
	9:30am	Craft & Conversation-Annex
	11:00am	Homer, etc.-TA-2
	12:30pm	OLLI Patriotic Potluck-TA-1
Sat Jul 13	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Mon Jul 15	9:30am	What's in the Daily News-TA-1
	10:00am	Bridge Club-TA-3
	10:00am	Mah Jongg Club-TA-2
Wed Jul 17	1:00pm	Audiovisual Committee Meeting-TA-1
Fri Jul 19	9:15am	Recorder Consort-TA-3
	9:30am	Craft & Conversation-Annex
	10:00am	Board of Directors Meeting-TA-1
	11:00am	Homer, etc.-Annex
Sat Jul 20	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
	1:00pm	Personal Computer User Group-TA-1

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About *OLLI E-News*

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

Editorial Staff

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel

Associate Editor: David Gundry

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Paul Van Hemel

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Jane Hassell

Backup Chief Editor: Alice Slayton Clark

Submissions: Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles, and photos. Submit material to: ollienewseditor@gmail.com.

Deadline: Tuesday, 6:00, for that week's issue (Monday, 6:00, for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.

Note: You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

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