

# Osher Lifelong Learning Institute



[olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu)

George Mason University

Fairfax • Reston • Loudoun • Online



## SPRING 2025 CATALOG

March 24 – May 16

Spring 2025 Registration:  
Begins February 18





# Take Advantage of OLLI Mason Social Events!

**Strong social connections are key to healthy aging.** Interacting with others is exercise for the brain; it enhances mental well-being and boosts cognitive abilities. The OLLI Mason Diversions Committee plans a variety of social events throughout the year. There is something for everyone, from dance parties to picnics to board game events. Be sure to check out the social event opportunities in the Special Events section of the catalog!



**BOARD GAME BLAST** OLLI Mason members showed off their board game skills and had the chance to learn new games during this social event.

Winners received awards and prizes at the end, and everyone was invited to a follow-on lunch at a nearby restaurant. *Photo by Marilyn Harriman*

**PICNIC IN THE PARK** At this bring your own picnic lunch event, OLLI Mason members gathered to enjoy camaraderie, a scenic garden setting, and outdoor games. Food and beautiful landscaping encouraged relaxation, while Croquet, Badminton, and Cornhole games encouraged friendly competition. *Photo by Marilyn Harriman*

**60'S DANCE PARTY** Whether OLLI Mason members decided to get on the dance floor and rock n' roll or sit back and listen, they definitely "tripped the light fantastic" like the "fab good ole days" with their friends. The DJ, Captain Dave of Dave's Classic Rock & Roll Dance Co., "spun the platters" and took requests from the 1960s, 1970s, and even the 1950s. *Photo by Marilyn Harriman*

**OKTOBERFEST** OLLI Mason members gathered to enjoy traditional German foods, beverages, and music. Members' knowledge of Germany and the Oktoberfest tradition was tested during a trivia game and contest. The party also included a fun variety of dances, such as the polka and the Chicken Dance.

*Photos by Paul Van Hemel (left), and Michael Emery (below)*



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**Cover photo by George Bradshaw**

“Decorating George” is one of GMU’s traditions in which “student groups decorate the George Mason statue to advertise activities or commemorate university milestones.”

# All About OLLI Mason

## Who We Are

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University (OLLI Mason) offers daytime courses, lectures, special events, and other activities during eight-week terms in the spring and fall, a four-week winter term, and a six-week summer term. There are no exams, no credits, no college degree required or offered, and no age threshold.

Course leaders are members of OLLI Mason, George Mason faculty, or others who enjoy sharing their knowledge. OLLI Mason is particularly proud of all of its volunteer teachers and speakers, many of whom are well-known experts in their fields. The views expressed are those of the instructors and do not reflect the official policy or position of OLLI Mason or George Mason University.

Members pay dues and may attend as many activities as they wish, subject to space availability. There may be charges for materials or for some special events.

OLLI Mason publishes an email newsletter (*OLLI E-News*), a catalog each term, an online membership directory, and a *Member Handbook*. An annual literary journal, *OLLI Ink*, and, from time to time, *The Poets of OLLI* collection, are also published.

OLLI Mason is one of many Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes affiliated with the Bernard Osher Foundation and is also a member of the Road Scholar Institute Network. OLLI Mason is a nonprofit, equal-opportunity 501(c)(3) organization and does not discriminate on any basis.

## How to Join

To register online, go to [olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu) or complete the registration form on **page 30** and provide it to OLLI Mason with payment.

## Give the Gift of OLLI

What better way to show appreciation for someone special than by giving an OLLI Mason eGift card? The card can be purchased in any amount to apply toward an OLLI Mason membership or event/materials fee. It makes the perfect retirement, birthday, or holiday gift. The gift of OLLI Mason is great: captivating classes, fabulous field trips, and sensational socials to indulge both mind and soul! Purchase the eGift card on the OLLI Mason member portal ([olligmu.augusoft.net](http://olligmu.augusoft.net)) or by emailing the OLLI Mason registrar: [ollireg@gmu.edu](mailto:ollireg@gmu.edu).

## George Mason University Privileges

OLLI Mason members with an annual membership are entitled to a George Mason University ID card, which provides library privileges, discounted Mason aquatic and fitness membership, and other benefits (subject to Mason policies). A free Mason email account with access to the Mason intranet is also available. To apply for an ID card/G Number, fill out an online application, available at

- [olli.gmu.edu/university-privileges/](http://olli.gmu.edu/university-privileges/)
- [patriotperks.gmu.edu/](http://patriotperks.gmu.edu/)

## Status of Spring Term 2025

To optimize the OLLI Mason experience for everyone, OLLI Mason will provide in-person, Zoom, and hybrid offerings. Should you wish to experience OLLI Mason from the comfort of your home, you will have access to many excellent virtual offerings. If you plan to attend in-person offerings, we ask that you be aware of and are prepared to follow our most up-to-date health and safety protocols found on our website:

[olli.gmu.edu/health-and-safety/](http://olli.gmu.edu/health-and-safety/)

## Membership Promotions

**Spring 2025 Promotion:** a one-time low fee of \$300 for those new to OLLI Mason who purchase an annual membership (those who have never been OLLI Mason members, are returning after a hiatus of more than a year, or have previously been introductory members and are converting to annual members).

**George Mason and Northern Virginia Public School Retirees:** a one-time annual membership discount of \$100, which may be applied to the special \$300 promotion (for those new to OLLI Mason).

### **\*\* IMPORTANT REGISTRATION DATES \*\***

**Spring term registration begins on February 18 at 9:00 am and continues throughout the term.**

Register online at [olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu)

Registrations also may be mailed to:  
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
4210 Roberts Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032

**Members are encouraged to register before March 1st to determine the viability of classes.**



# OLLI Mason Organization

OLLI Mason is a member-driven organization with a volunteer Board of Directors, elected by the membership to 3-year terms, representing all OLLI Mason members. OLLI Mason programs and activities are developed, managed, and produced through the combined effort of member volunteers and OLLI Mason staff.

## Board of Directors

*President* ..... Debbie Engleson  
*Vice President*..... Emily Roudebush  
*Secretary* ..... Bob Heyer  
*Treasurer* ..... Dick Crawford

Toni Acton	Dick Crawford
Marilyn Harriman	Suresh Mohla
Camille Hodges	Peter Ansoff
Bob Heyer	Zachary Teich
Michele Romano	Debbie Engleson
Carolyn Wyatt	Bonnie Nelson
Lillian Brooks	Harry Johnson
Emily Roudebush	

Jennifer Disano, *Executive Director*

## Other Key OLLI Mason Positions

<i>Audiovisual Support</i>	Paul Howard
<i>Development</i>	Al Smuzynski
<i>OLLI E-News</i>	Paul Van Hemel
<i>Facilities</i>	Mel Russell
<i>Finance</i>	Dave Osterman
<i>Governance</i>	Peter Ansoff
<i>Landscaping</i>	Vince Modugno
<i>Member Services, Office Volunteers</i>	Toni Acton
<i>Member Services, Chair</i>	Toni Acton
<i>Outreach</i>	Debby Mossburg
<i>Strategic Planning</i>	Zachary Teich
<i>Website</i>	Dennis VanLangen
<i>Health and Safety Advisory</i>	Michele Romano

## Catalog Production

*Production Team* ..... Nancy Klein, Susan Job, Shannon Kim Morrow, Stefan Hansen

## OLLI Mason Program Planning

*Committee Chairs*.....Doris Bloch, Beth Lambert, Kathryn Russell, Russell Stone, Bill Taylor  
*Loudoun Program*... Vera Wentworth, Barbara Wilan  
*Reston Program* ..... Anita Lasansky, Suresh Mohla  
*Lead Program Associate* ..... Shannon Kim Morrow  
*Program Associate*..... Susan Job  
 Program planning subject group chairs are listed at the beginning of each subject section of the catalog.

## Staff: 703-503-3384

*Executive Director* ..... Jennifer Disano  
 jdisano@gmu.edu, x108  
*Administrator* ..... Susan Todenhoft  
 olli@gmu.edu, x104  
*Finance Associate* ..... Karen Nash  
 knash2@gmu.edu, x224  
*Communications Associate*..... Nancy Klein  
 nklein4@gmu.edu, x222  
*Lead Program Associate* ..... Shannon Kim Morrow  
 smorrow4@gmu.edu, x225  
*Program Associate*..... Susan Job  
 sjob2@gmu.edu, x223  
*Registrar*..... Meg Przybylski  
 ollireg@gmu.edu, x221  
*Video Editing Associate*..... Sarah Rovnak  
 Snash9@gmu.edu  
*Site Assistants*.....  
 Ben Thrower ..... Mike Emery  
 bthrower@gmu.edu ..... memery6@gmu.edu, x105  
 Richard Hoback ..... Griffyn Caires  
 rhoback@gmu.edu ..... gcaires@gmu.edu  
 Madison Evans ..... Spencer Keen  
 mevans44@gmu.edu ..... skreen3@gmu.edu  
 Winston Harvey  
 wharvey3@gmu.edu

## General Contacts

Fairfax Tallwood office ..... 703-503-3384  
 Email..... olli@gmu.edu  
 Website..... olli.gmu.edu  
 Member portal..... olligmu.augusoft.net  
 Mason mail stop number ..... MSN 5C1



# Courses: March 24 - May 16

## Fairfax/Loudoun/Reston/Zoom

Fairfax courses are indicated by the suffix "F," Loudoun by "L," Reston by "R," and Zoom by "Z."  
For in-person courses/events, see the 'In-Person Program Locations' page at the back of the catalog for locations and their addresses. Primary locations are used unless otherwise indicated.

Courses will be offered in various formats for the term. **Please carefully note the title format for each course** when considering your registration list. In-person offerings will include a campus designation suffix (ex: **101F**). Zoom only offerings will include the 'Z' suffix (ex: **101Z**). Hybrid offerings will have both in-person and virtual title formats listed in the course description (ex: **101F / 101Z**). You must decide which format you prefer when registering for hybrid courses and select the corresponding title format.)

### 100 Art & Music

Program Planning Group Chairs:  
Linda Harber, Joan Lunsford, Christine Narbut

#### 101F / 101Z Music Sampler

Eight sessions

Coordinators: Linda Apple Monson, Ina Mirtcheva-Blevins

Tuesdays, 9:30–10:55, Mar. 25–May 13

Note time

Location: Fairfax Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd, Fairfax, 22032

This course highlights examples of the musical talent that abounds at Mason. Each week, knowledgeable and enthusiastic professors from the Dewberry School of Music of George Mason University, often accompanied by their most promising students, will generously share their musical gifts in presentations that are varied, lively, informative, and entertaining.

**Linda Apple Monson**, International Steinway Artist, serves as director of the Reva and Sid Dewberry Family School of Music in the College of Visual and Performing Arts at George Mason University where she is a University Distinguished Service Professor. She has performed and lectured throughout the world.

**Ina Mirtcheva-Blevins** is a graduate of George Mason University with a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance. She currently teaches keyboard skills at Mason and is also a faculty member of the Mason Community Arts Academy.

#### 102Z "Artists Always Paint Themselves": Art History Through Self-Portraits, Part Three

Six sessions

Instructor: Christopher With

Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 25–Apr. 29

This third and last series explores nineteenth and twentieth century art. This was a momentous period of upheaval. In rapid succession, the world experienced wars, revolutions, economic fluctuations, new societal theories, and industrial change. These trends in the societal fabric disrupted establish paradigms. Without a commonly accepted worldview, artists were forced back upon themselves. Working in isolation, each artist translated his/her personal beliefs into their own artistic style. To unpack all this, to see how personal vision was translated into art, and what acclaim artists achieved, each session will focus on one particular male or female

painter. Using self-portraits as a starting point and central focus, each session will explore their biography; detail their personal vision and its conversion into aesthetic terms; enumerate their commercial success; and reveal how, if at all, they advanced the history of art. The first two series are not prerequisites.

**Christopher With** worked in the education department of the National Gallery of Art for 32 years and has a PhD in European History from the University of California, Los Angeles.

#### 103F Watercolor: Beginners and Beyond

Eight sessions

Instructor: Christine Narbut

Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 25–May 13

Class limit: 14

If you always wanted to paint with watercolor or have painted in the past and want to refresh your skills, this class is for you. Students will have the opportunity to develop watercolor painting skills with emphasis on composition, style, and techniques for landscapes, flowers, birds, and animals. In addition, guest artist **Marni Maree** will again teach a session demonstrating special techniques.

**Chris Narbut** has been a member of OLLI since 2018. She has taken watercolor classes at the Torpedo factory and has been instructing basic watercolor skills for OLLI for the past 2 years. She also coordinates the Dabbling Artists club.

#### 104Z Black Broadway Composers of the 1920s

One session

Instructor: Dan Moskowitz

Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 26

In the 1920s, some two dozen all Black musicals played on Broadway, gaining fame for such performers as Ethel Waters and Bill Robinson. Less well remembered are the Black composers and lyricists who provided the music for many of those shows—and for some Broadway hits with White stars. We will spotlight the life and careers of these creators and hear many of their songs for these shows, including "Ain't Misbehavin'", "Way Down Yonder in New Orleans", "I'm Just Wild About Harry", and what became the very soundtrack of the decade: "The Charleston". But we'll also hear some lesser known, even forgotten, worthy tunes as well. The list of performers we will hear includes Al Jolson, Ella Fitzgerald, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, and the Mills Brothers.



**Dan Moskowitz** is a magazine writer with an avocational interest in American popular music in general and Broadway musicals in particular. For the past decade he has led courses in that area at the OLLIs at George Mason and American Universities.

## 105Z American Art at the National Museum of Asian Art

One session

Instructor: **Charles Silver**

Thursday, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 27

That's not a typo. While the Smithsonian has many museums, only one is dedicated just to American art (SAAM). The National Museum of Asian Art (best known for its collection of Asian art) is also home to the work of a number of late 19th and early 20th century American artists, including the world's largest collection of James McNeill Whistler's works. This course will look at how the collection came about; the relationship between the museum's founder, Charles Lang Freer and these artists; and the relationship between Western art and Asia during this period.

**Charles Silver** is a retired Foreign Service Officer who served widely in East and Southeast Asia. He is currently a docent at the National Museum of Asian Art.

## 106F Singing for Fun

Eight sessions

Instructors: **Gayle Parsons, Linda Harber, Linda Gordon, Sophia Elberti**

Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 27–May 15

Bring your voice and if you wish, your guitar, ukulele, or other instrument, and join us in singing songs that span the time from the 30s to today. The only singing talent required is a desire to sing. Class members are encouraged to bring in songs they would like the group to sing. We have an enthusiastic keyboard accompanist, a percussionist, an occasional banjo, and a great deal of fun.

**Gayle Parsons** is retired from a career in tax law. She has been playing keyboard for Singing for Fun classes for about ten years—and is thrilled to still be co-leading this fun class!

**Linda Harber** has been an OLLI member since 2018 when she retired as Mason's VP of Human Resources and Payroll. She is a chair of the OLLI Arts and Music program planning committee, is the co-president of Friends of Music at Mason, and a singer from her school years. It is a joy to sing again with OLLI's Singing for Fun.

**Linda Gordon** is retired from a federal career in refugee and immigration statistics and policy. She has sung with Singing for Fun for more than 10 years and is happy to be singing again.

**Sophia Elberti** retired from federal service in 2021 with a background in strategic communications. She joined OLLI shortly thereafter and became a member of Singing for Fun, which she has thoroughly enjoyed.

## 107R Meet the Artists

Six sessions

Thursdays, 2:15–3:30, Mar. 27–May 1

**Mar. 27: Beverly Cosham**, cabaret singer. Cosham has performed at nightspots all over the country from Los Angeles to New York to San Antonio, as well as in theatres

throughout the Washington area.

**Apr. 3: Mark Irchai**, pianist, returns to Centerstage once more. On this afternoon of music making, he performs with frequent duo partner mezzo-soprano Amanda Zoe Vest in a recital of art song, weaving together tales of love and loss with music set by Johannes Brahms and Nico Muhly.

**Apr. 10: Francesca Hurst**, pianist, presents "Reflections", a solo recital featuring works by Elena Kats-Chernin, Michael Thomas Foumai, Florence Price, and an exploration of the nocturne from John Field to today. She will provide commentary about the works performed. [www.francescahurst.com](http://www.francescahurst.com)

**Apr. 17: Clayton Bourassa** is a pianist local to Northern Virginia, and as part of his spring concert series will be performing various compositions from well-known composers including Ravel and Rachmaninov. This performance will be both melodic and technically demanding, while also captivating an audience of all musical tastes.

**Apr. 24: Linda Monson and her piano studio.** Dr. Linda Apple Monson brings her gifted students from George Mason University to present a diverse program of classical piano repertoire.

**May 1: Dr. Vera Kochanowsky**, harpsichordist, will offer a lecture-recital demonstrating the harpsichord's subtle expressive power with examples of works from the instrument's heyday (17-18th centuries), with special focus on French composers and J.S. Bach. Subsequently, due to the rising popularity of the piano, the harpsichord became nearly extinct until the mid-20th century, when serious revival efforts began.

## 108F / 108Z How the Military Broke the Rules and Saved Thousands of Performances from Musical Greats

One session

Instructor: **Karen Wheelless**

Friday, 11:00–12:25, Apr. 4

The Landing, 2620 Main Line Boulevard, Alexandria, 22301

Did you know that the years 1942-1944 might have changed the course of popular music as much as any time since Edison introduced the phonograph in 1877? So, you may be thinking, what did WWII have to do with changing the course of popular music? You'll learn the answer to that question in this session. We'll explore how an agreement between the War Department and James Petrillo, union boss of the American Federation of Musicians (who had begun what would turn out to be the longest strike in entertainment history), would record a treasure trove of live musical performances that were never supposed to be made available to the general public. Yet because the military violated this agreement, we now have thousands of performances from musical luminaries such as Glenn Miller, Doris Day, Ethel Waters with Duke Ellington, and even the "last of the red-hot



mamas,” Sophie Tucker. Come learn some little-known history and enjoy a few musical performances that you were never supposed to hear.

**Karen Wheeless** has spent a decade teaching university graduate and undergraduate courses in several areas of study, such as organizational behavior, writing, marketing, and IT policy and planning. She also had a previous career as a civil service executive in multiple federal agencies.

## **109F / 109Z Sponsored by GMU Retired Faculty Association: Twenty-four Artful Frames Per Second: Movies and the Craft of Visual Storytelling**

**One session**

**Instructor: Joel Foreman**

**Coordinator: Julianne Mahler**

**Monday, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 7**

The impact of movies depends upon myriad decisions about the storytelling elements from each of the approximately 180,000 frames in a typical Hollywood movie. The setting, the relative positions of the actors, their facial expressions, dialogue, and sound effects are just a few of the elements combining to manage the emotional and aesthetic responses of an audience. This presentation will analyze single frames from major movies to illustrate how stories emerge from a stream of well-crafted sights and sounds.

**Joel Foreman** served as a member of the George Mason University English Department. While teaching film courses, he produced and directed a number of broadcast documentaries on such writers as William Styron and Rita Mae Brown and on such subjects as the Vietnamese diaspora and women’s work. Foreman is currently creating videos with the newly emerging AI movie making tools.

## **110Z Meeting the Bible Musically: Broadway Shows, Folk Songs, Operas, Oratorios, Symphonies, and More**

**Three sessions**

**Instructor: Stephen Ruth**

**Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 28–May 12**

When you hear “Swing Low Sweet Chariot”, it may not be obvious that it’s a famous Bible story—Elijah entering heaven. George Handel also wrote many stirring oratorios centered on famous Bible heroes and heroines. In this course, we will encounter dozens of wonderful melodies from operas, symphonies, Broadway shows, popular music, and more. They are all based on famous or not so famous Bible stories. We’ll see and hear excerpts and also get to know the Bible stories better too. “Jesus Christ Superstar”, “Godspell”, “Technicolor Dreamcoat”, Frankie Laine’s “Jezebel”, and Louis Armstrong’s “Shadrach”—the hits keep coming. You don’t have to know anything about the Bible for this course, but you do need to love great music.

**Stephen Ruth** is professor emeritus of Public Policy from the Schar School at George Mason University. He is a frequent lecturer on Bible topics and his book *One Year Trip through the Bible: A*

*Layman’s Fresh View of the Complete Old and New Testaments* examines 73 books of the Hebrew Tanakh (Old Testament) and the Christian New Testament.

## **200 Economics & Finance**

**Program Planning Group Chairs:**

**Leo Brennan, Marvin Singer**

### **201F / 201Z The Investment Forum**

**Eight sessions**

**Moderator: Al Smuzynski**

**Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 26–May 14**

The Investment Forum, which has been meeting continuously since 1995, addresses investment topics of particular interest to retirees. A weekly agenda is distributed, and sessions begin with an open discussion of recent events in the economy and the financial markets, and their impact on investment decisions. Member presentations and discussions typically include such topics as: recent market indicators, stocks, bonds, funds, real estate investment trusts, options, commodities, sector allocations, investment strategies, and choosing financial advisors. Investment trades are collected each week from Forum members, and those trades are discussed. The class uses analyses and data from the financial press.

**Al Smuzynski** is a retired federal bank regulator, banker, and real estate developer, and has led the Investment Forum since 2011.

### **202F Beyond the Basics: Navigating the Obstacles in Estate Planning and Administration**

**Three sessions**

**Instructors: Sarah Parks, Dina Shaar**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 27–Apr. 10**

This course deals with unexpected issues that arise in estate planning or estate settlement situations. Preliminary instructor lectures will be followed by an open forum discussion of experiences students and instructors have had in these areas to arrive at possible preventative solutions.

**Sarah Parks** is an attorney who limits her practice to estate planning. Her firm is Custom Estate Planning, which she has been operating since 1995. She has a JD degree from the Mason School of Law and an LLM from the Georgetown University Law Center.

**Dina Chatila Shaar** brings a decade of experience to her work in estate planning. A graduate of George Mason University, she earned her undergraduate degree in Criminology, Law, and Society in 2021, followed by her Juris Doctor from Mason Law School in 2024. Dina finds immense satisfaction in helping clients navigate the estate planning process. Her commitment to her clients makes her a trusted advisor in the field.

### **203Z Budgeting During a Crisis**

**One session**

**Instructors: Iram Sikander, J.J. Ortuno Reintsch**

**Tuesday, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 1**

Due to unprecedented times during Covid, our financial

team realized that this impacted our communities significantly. We saw that people lost their jobs, businesses were shut down, fraud increased, government assistance was needed more than ever, and all of us had to make huge adjustments to our lifestyles. This session covers how to prepare for crises and be able to manage our finances through the impact of outside stressors. The class will cover how to identify and prevent fraud, the importance of budgeting and saving, knowing your banking system, and having a strong source/personal banker in place to assist you throughout the process.

**Iram Sikander** began her career with Truist in March 2016. Iram has served as the branch leader role in Virginia for seven years and in various branches, starting her banking career over 17 years ago. Iram is passionate about financial literacy and serving her community.

**J.J. Ortuno Reintsch** serves as a vice president of Financial Inclusion for the Greater Washington area. He has been in the banking industry for over 13 years. JJ holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and an MBA with an Executive Coaching concentration. JJ's team provides empowerment to minorities through the delivery of financial education workshops as well as resources to help communities move forward in their financial journey.

## 204F / 204Z Copyright, Trademarks, Service Marks, Trade Secrets, and Intellectual Property

Three sessions

**Instructor: John Pellegrin**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, May 1–May 15**

The instructor, with first-hand experience dealing with the following issues, will share case studies.

**Session 1: What does copyright mean?** This session will explain the procedure required to have a trademark registered and the use of the circled R designation on various products.

**Session 2: Trade Secrets** and maintenance of goods and products sold in commerce, as well as protection of their respective secret formulae/ingredients.

**Session 3: Intellectual Property ("IP").** There have been incredible leaps forward in communications over the past few decades, including mobile phones, cable TV, and satellite reception.

**John Pellegrin**, an attorney, received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and his law degree from Fordham University. He is admitted to practice in New York, the District of Columbia, and Virginia before all of their highest courts, local federal courts, and the United States Supreme Court.

## 205R Building Financial Confidence

Two sessions

**Instructor: Linda Black**

**Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, May 7–May 14**

Through organizational tools and a bit of education, you can increase your understanding of your financial picture. In this class, we will provide the tools you need to thrive in your financial decision-making. Topics covered include setting goals, creating spending plans, managing risk, and investing wisely.

**Linda Black**, a Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC), a Chartered Federal Employee Benefits Consultant (ChFEBC) and Retirement Income Chartered Professional (RICP), has extensive experience counseling clients on portfolio construction, retirement issues, estate planning, and asset protection. She has been an investment advisor for more than 20 years.

## 206Z The Road to Freedom: Estonia's Rise to One of the Freest Nations on Earth

One session

**Instructor: Peter Boettke**

**Monday, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 31**

This talk will explore the long history and consequences of Soviet occupation and eventual escape from that oppressive arrangement by the Estonian people. From the Singing Revolution which helped topple a regime to the first fully functional e-Government, we will explore how Estonia has fared so well during the post-communist era. Here is a mini documentary that was produced alongside the book release [https://youtu.be/B3a87z3rt\\_I](https://youtu.be/B3a87z3rt_I)

**Peter Boettke** is a distinguished university professor of Economics at George Mason University. He is a specialist in comparative economic systems and he has published books and articles dealing with the history of the Soviet Union, Poland, Estonia, and the Czech Republic. He has been a visiting scholar at the Academy of Science in Moscow, a Fulbright Fellow in Czech Republic, and visiting professor at Max Plank Institute, Central European University, Charles University, Prague University of Economics, and CEVRO Institute.

## 300 History

Program Planning Group Chairs:

Emmett Fenlon, Irene Harworth,

Beth Lambert, Bernie Oppel

## 301F / 301Z Mary McLeod Bethune and Frances Perkins: Two Important Women in the New Deal

One session

**Instructor: Elva Card**

**Monday, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 24**

In the 1930s, administration of the government was the domain of men. Women might be secretaries, but only men held positions of power. During the New Deal, two incredible women managed to succeed to important positions. Mary McLeod Bethune was appointed director of the Division of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration in 1938. She became the first African-American female division head, the only Black agent of the NYA who was a financial manager. Frances Perkins was chosen by FDR to become the first female Secretary of Labor. She and Interior Secretary Harold Ickes were the only Cabinet officers to serve for the entire Roosevelt presidency. Everyone receiving a Social Security check today is benefiting from her work. In this class, we'll explore the lives and legacies of these two women.

**Elva Card** taught World History for 31 years in Fairfax County. She earned a BA in History from George Washington University, and MAs in History and in English from George Mason University.



## **302F Doing History: Who Freed the Slaves?**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructors: Wes Boutchard, Tom Brannan, Jim Robinson**  
**Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 24–May 12**

The most familiar account of emancipation is that President Lincoln was primarily responsible for it due to his issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation. However, the story of the slaves reaching freedom is much more complex. This course will examine Lincoln's role and the impact of other actors, such as Union military and Confederate leaders, Black soldiers, abolitionists, Congress, foreign countries, and the enslaved themselves. Students will learn to apply the historical method by identifying the values and limitations of primary source documents to investigate the course of the emancipation of the slaves.

**Wes Boutchard, Tom Brannan, and Jim Robinson** have a combined 78 years of experience teaching American History. They taught together in the International Baccalaureate program at George C. Marshall High School for more than a decade. The hallmarks of IB History at Marshall are academic rigor, communication skills, and teacher collaboration.

## **303R / 303Z World War II and the Rise of American Intelligence**

**One session**

**Instructor: Nicholas Reynolds**  
**Wednesday, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 26**

This course explores the birth, infancy, and adolescence of modern American intelligence in a sweeping look across the landscape of World War II. Prior to 1940, the United States did not systematically recruit spies and steal secrets or intrigue against enemies overseas. The country had just a few codebreakers, isolated in windowless vaults on the National Mall, and a few FBI counterspies based nearby. Everything changed as the country mobilized to fight and win the war between 1940 and 1945.

**Nicholas Reynolds** has held two of the best niche jobs in the U.S. government: officer-in-charge of USMC field history and historian for the CIA Museum at Langley. His most recent book is *Need to Know, World War II and the Rise of American Intelligence*. He holds a PhD in History from Oxford.

## **304R / 304Z The Civil War in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864**

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: Phillip Massey**  
**Wednesdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 26–Apr. 2**

Union General Grant had a plan for 1864—advance on every front, simultaneously in the spring. For the Valley, the goal was to disrupt the railroads and destroy crops that would support the Confederates around Richmond. However, after the Confederate victory in the Second Battle of Kernstown, the advance on Washington, and the burning of Chambersburg, the military and political importance of the Valley increased. Grant was forced to divert troops from the advance on Richmond. He sent his valued subordinate, Philip Sheridan, to lead the Army of the Shenandoah. In the

crucial battles of 3rd Winchester and Cedar Creek, Sheridan eliminated the threat posed by Confederate General Early's Army, and he established permanent Union dominance in the Valley. The Union victory in the Valley was important for the reelection of Lincoln, and it hastened the end of the war in Virginia. We will trace the events in the Valley from early May to the end of October. This will include a close look at 3rd Winchester and Cedar Creek.

**Philip Massey** is a former radiologist with a longtime interest in the American Civil War. He has taught four OLLI courses on Civil War topics.

## **305Z The History of Climate Change Politics**

**One session**

**Instructor: Chelsea Henderson**  
**Thursday, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 27**

The instructor is the author of *Glacial: The Inside Story of Climate Politics*. She will highlight the turning points in climate policy history as well as some of the unsung heroes of climate action.

**Chelsea Henderson** is the author of *Glacial: The Inside Story of Climate Politics*. She currently hosts the podcast *EcoRight Speaks* and serves as the director of editorial content for [republicen.org](http://republicen.org), a project of the GMU Center for Climate Change Communication.

## **306Z Watergate's Unexpected Hero: The Life and Times of Peter W. Rodino Jr.**

**One session**

**Instructor: Lawrence Spinelli**  
**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 9**

This course will focus on the life and career of Peter W. Rodino Jr., who became a national hero in 1974 for his leadership of the Nixon impeachment. But beyond this event, Rodino played a major role in a variety of issues that continue to resonate today including immigration and civil rights. He worked closely with seven presidents and a wide variety of national figures including Dr. Martin Luther King. His life reflected the major contours of the last century, and this course will examine the impact of these events in preparing Rodino for his most challenging assignment.

**Dr. Lawrence Spinelli** is the author of *Watergate's Unexpected Hero: The Life of Peter W. Rodino Jr.* He held a variety of senior-level positions in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government including serving as press secretary for Congressman Rodino and Senator Joe Biden.

## **307Z Lessons from The Great Depression**

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: Ed Linz**  
**Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 10–Apr. 17**

The course will cover events in the 1920's leading up to the start of The Great Depression, including ominous parallels between the 1920's and the 2020's. We will discuss political and economic conditions during the 1930's and the early years of WWII with detailed examination of the lives of a diverse group of Americans who provided first-hand accounts of their lives during

this tumultuous period of American life. There will be a discussion of lessons learned with questions and comments solicited.

**Ed Linz**, a 1965 graduate of the Naval Academy, is the author of five books, including works on the Great Depression and the Vietnam War. He holds advanced degrees from Oxford University and George Mason University.

### **308Z Heading to the Poor Farm: The Alms and Poor Houses of New York State and New England**

**One session**

**Instructors: Cynthia Miller, Irene Harwarth**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 16**

In 1824, New York State passed a mandate that every county erect a poorhouse (the only state to do so), which spread to other states. This presentation will give a brief overview of what happened during this time, the issues related to the poor houses until the farms were closed (with the last one closing in 1968). These tax-supported, residential institutions were for those who had no place to go—the indigent, unwed mothers (and pregnant, underage girls), and others. For many, this was a horrific element in the history of New York State. These institutions varied in how they were run and while many agreed that the initial idea was probably well-intentioned (which, in some other countries it is), some of the institutions turned into warehouses that housed the disabled and mentally ill and where conditions were described as horrific. The goal of this presentation is to share the story of these invisible people who lived and died on the farm(s).

**Cynthia Miller** earned her PhD in Educational Leadership at the University of North Texas. She has worked for local and federal government, taught for several universities (in education, research, political science and criminal justice), and has over 25 years of research experience.

**Irene Harwarth** earned a PhD in Public Administration and recently retired from the federal government after 30 years of service.

### **309Z “When I Rise”**

**Five sessions**

**Instructor: Edward Ingebretsen**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Apr. 17–May 15**

The history of enslavement and the moves towards freedom for Black Americans are a testament to the enduring human spirit. The legally supported horrors of enslavement dramatize the courage of those who first freed themselves and then sought freedom for others. The limited scope of Lincoln’s Emancipation was made possible by the hand-to-mouth emancipation events: Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, and still ongoing through the Civil Rights era to George Floyd. This narrative underscores the complex and multifaceted struggle for true emancipation. The re-enslavement of Black Americans after the Civil War has still not been addressed. This study examines the trajectory of a people struggling for legal and personal and spiritual freedoms.

**Edward Ingebretsen** holds advance degrees in Theology and Ethics (JSTB 1982) and a Doctorate in American Studies (Duke 1986). His publications (books, journals) consider the intersection of gender, race, theology, and popular cultures. He concentrates in non-human ethics and American social history.

### **310F / 310Z The Women’s Suffrage Movement in England and the United States**

**One session**

**Instructor: Priscilla Godfrey**

**Monday, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 21**

This class will be a study of the different ways on each continent that women decided to campaign for the right to vote. In-depth biographies of the “leading ladies” of the suffrage movement will be included.

**Priscilla Godfrey** is a member of the League of Women Voters in Loudoun County and has done research on the suffrage movement in general and in Loudoun County specifically.

### **311R / 311Z Park Ranger Potpourri**

**Four sessions**

**Coordinator: Jen Epstein**

**Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 22–May 13**

The National Park Service will reveal four new topics, one in each presentation. If you enjoy surprises, this is the course for you! National Park Service Rangers have participated in OLLI programs since 2001 by offering scores of thematic courses, special events, and trips.

### **312F Reflections on The Holocaust 80 Years Later**

**One session**

**Instructor: Rabbi Bruce Aft**

**Coordinator: Velma Berkey**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 30**

This presentation will focus on the experiences which a GMU student and Rabbi Bruce Aft had when they were in Poland in spring 2024 as part of the Holocaust program at George Mason University. What should we learn from this horrible time that can help us deal with the challenges in our world? What can we do to prevent future genocides?

**Rabbi Bruce Aft**, currently Rabbi Emeritus, served as the spiritual leader at Congregation Adat Reyim in Springfield, VA for 29 years. A graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia, Rabbi Aft received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 2006. In retirement, he continues to be an adjunct professor at George Mason University, visiting scholar at the Carter School at GMU, hospital chaplain for the Jewish Social Services Agency, and is the past president of the Community Board for Hillel at GMU. For recreation, Rabbi Aft is a pitcher in the Ponce de Leon Baseball League.

### **313F / 313Z The Swamp Fox: How Francis Marion Saved the American Revolution**

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: Jim Anderson**

**Monday, 11:50–1:15, May 5–May 12**

We will examine the life and exploits of Francis Marion,



better known to those of us who watched Disney's 1950's TV show as "The Swamp Fox." In the Revolution's darkest days, Marion and his band of militia fighters, employing guerrilla tactics, kept hope alive for the patriot cause during the critical British "southern campaign." We will discuss both the legend, as depicted in popular media, and the actual exploits of Marion's brigade, which were no less heroic. He succeeded, against all odds, in repeatedly foiling the highly trained, better equipped British regular and Loyalist forces sent against him.

**Jim Anderson** spent 30 years with the Air Force and CIA, followed by 11 years conducting corporate leadership seminars on Civil War battlefields. He holds an MA in History from the University of Memphis. Since 2009, he has taught courses and conducted tours at OLLI on the Civil War and the American Frontier.

## **314F "The Only Unavoidable Subject of Regret": George Washington and Slavery**

**One Session**

**Instructor: Dr. Peter Henriques**

**Coordinator: Velma Berkey**

**Wednesday, 11:50–1:15, May 14**

The early 21st century has been hard on the reputations of the Founding Fathers who were slaveholders, regardless of how significant their contributions may have been. While George Washington was the only Founder to present a plan to free his enslaved workers, it is also true that he lived with slavery and benefited from slavery throughout his life. In this unflinching but fair and balanced assessment of Washington and slavery, the instructor attempts to go beyond name-calling and examines the dilemma Washington (and the nation) faced and what his actions reveal about the man and the country he founded.

**Peter R. Henriques** received his PhD in History from the University of Virginia and is professor emeritus of History at George Mason University. He is the author of *First and Always: A New Portrait of George Washington*, *Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington* and *The Death of George Washington: He Died As He Lived*. His latest book, a brief biography "George Washington and his Quest for Honor and Fame", published by the University of Virginia Press, will be available Fall 2025. Honors include a George Washington Fellowship by Mount Vernon and the George Washington Memorial Award given by the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association.

## **315F / 315Z Bridges: History and Construction**

**Three sessions**

**Instructor: Ed Baranoski**

**Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 25–Apr. 8**

Bridges have played a critical role throughout human history. This course will cover the evolution of bridge building technology from wood and stone arch bridges through today's cable-stayed aesthetic wonders.

**Ed Baranoski** is a retired engineer now exploring multiple intellectual and artistic endeavors. He has formerly worked for MIT Lincoln Laboratory, DARPA, and other defense research roles in and out of the government. He has a PhD from Carnegie Mellon and is an IEEE Fellow.

## **400 Literature, Theater, and Writing**

**Program Planning Group Chairs:**

**Pat Bangs, Jane Fitzgibbons, Norma Jean Reck**

### **401Z "Like a Colossus": Honor, Error, and Power in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar***

**Six sessions**

**Instructor: Charles Chadwick**

**Mondays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 24–Apr. 28**

No other Shakespeare play deals so directly with politics and the exercise of power as does *Julius Caesar*. This play fascinates modern audiences as much as it did the Elizabethans. The obvious political nature of the play and its memorable language draws us into its web. The questions it raises resonate. Can power be used to resist power? Should we seek stability at any cost? Can a good man act badly for honorable reasons? The course will be an in-depth examination of the play. We will view a video production of the entire play, accompanied by lecture material on what we have viewed in each session.

**Charles Chadwick** has an M.A. in Literature. He has taught eleven previous courses on the plays of Shakespeare, four courses on the plays of Eugene O'Neill, and courses on contemporary literature for OLLI organizations. He is a retired executive in organizational ethics and government contracting.

### **402Z E. M. Forster: The Novels and Journalism**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Ellen Moody**

**Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 25–May 13**

In this course, we'll read three of Forster's renowned novels: *Howards End*, *A Passage to India*, and *Maurice*, together with a selection of his non-fiction essays. In the case of the novels, we'll discuss what makes them such distinctive literary masterpieces capable of delivering such pleasure while delineating the realities, tragedies, comedy, and consolations of everyday human life. We'll also talk about their groundwork in a political vision by discussing his radio broadcasts, political and cultural talks, and essays from Volume Two *Cheers for Democracy*. We should not ignore the wonderful films made from these, so the instructor will give a choice of which ones to see. They all stream online or are available as DVDs.

**Ellen Moody** holds a PhD in British Literature, taught in colleges for over 25 years, and now at two OLLIs for 11 years. She has long loved the writing of E.M. Forster, all the Bloomsbury group, and the film adaptations. Her publications on-line include essays on Forster, Bloomsbury, and on film adaptations.

## **Update Your Zoom!**

Zoom regularly provides updates to release new features and fix bugs. To receive the best video and audio experience, remember to check for updates.

### 403Z Poetry Workshop

**Eight sessions**

**Moderator: Jan Bohall**

**Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 25–May 13**

**Class limit: 14**

This workshop allows both novice and experienced poets the opportunity to share their work and receive suggestions for improvement. Workshop members should prepare an original poem in draft or in revised form for each session. The moderator will email students after class confirmation with further instructions.

**Jan Bohall**, a long-time OLLI member, has had poems published in various periodicals and has won awards from the Poetry Society of Virginia. She has been writing verse for nearly 30 years, and has collected a sample of her poems into a chapbook, *Tasting Life Twice*.

### 404R / 404Z The Art and Craft of Reading Aloud

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Theodore May**

**Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 25–Apr. 15**

We have many opportunities to read aloud: in book groups; to our children or grandchildren; in worship, memorial services, or at weddings; at work, or wherever we volunteer. We may audition for a community theater production or read something we have written in an open poetry or story slam. We may read aloud when simply sharing something of interest with a partner or friend. But many of us are uncomfortable reading aloud and even avoid it altogether, especially when we are called upon to read in front of an audience of any size. This course offers you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the art, craft, and ultimately very human experience of reading aloud. You'll be introduced to basic performance techniques and discover the ease, joy, and rewards of bringing written words to life with a combination of spoken language, insight, and personal experience. You'll learn how to align your body, voice, and text to read with the authority, conviction, and imagination that captivates audiences. Bring something you love to read, suitable to share with others, and enjoy—be it poetry, prose, humor, or wisdom.

**Ted May** is an executive presence coach who was a member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA in New York City, and with leading regional theaters. He has a BFA from The Juilliard School and is currently on the board of the Mosaic Theater Company of D.C. Ted also has an MBA from NYU and is an executive presence coach in the media, entertainment, and technology sectors. He has led workshops and teaches master classes on performance technique for graduate students at the Costello College of Business at George Mason University.

### 405Z Writers' Workshop

**Eight sessions**

**Instructors: Ed Sadtler, Margie Wildblood**

**Wednesdays, 9:15–11:05, Mar. 26–May 14**

**Note time**

**Class limit: 12**

This class uses a roundtable format to foster an environment for writers of all levels to give and receive encouragement,

feedback, and constructive criticism. All genres of writing are welcome, including poetry, fiction, memoirs, and historical pieces. To each of these categories we apply the same underlying commitment—to write a compelling work that fully conveys the author's intentions.

**Ed Sadtler**, a graduate of Shippensburg State College in Pennsylvania, has conducted many writing workshops at OLLI, and has taught poetry writing classes for the Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia Community College.

**Margie Wildblood** is a native of Salem, Virginia. She has degrees in English, Psychology, and Education. She retired from Northern Virginia Community College where she was faculty and a counselor in student services. She writes poetry, fiction and nonfiction prose, and is currently marketing a romance memoir.

### 406F / 406Z Vanished or Not? A Study of Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With the Wind*

**Five sessions**

**Instructor: Marilyn Harriman**

**Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 26–Apr. 23**

In this course, we will study Margaret Mitchell's classic novel, *Gone With the Wind*, a powerful historical epic set in America's antebellum and Civil War South. A sweeping period piece, Mitchell depicts the life of a spoiled, wealthy plantation owner's daughter, Scarlet O'Hara, who is forced to come to terms with a changing world. Although some view the story as a romance novel, its themes are much more consequential. Through *Scarlet*, Mitchell illustrates the horrors of racism and immoral practices, while also portraying the importance of hard work, family, and women's independence. As we become immersed in Scarlet's heartbreaking and heroic life as a headstrong woman, we learn about life in America's South in the mid-1800s: love, marriage, miscarriages, typhoid fever, death, rape, torture, slavery, lynching, and the repulsive cruelties of the Civil War era. As our country grapples with white supremacy once again, *Gone With the Wind* reminds us why America should never forget its past.

**Marilyn Harriman** is a retired Fairfax County advanced placement language and composition instructor. She also taught high school and college English and journalism in Oregon, Texas, and Germany. She holds an MEd from the University of Virginia, and B.A. degrees in Journalism and English from the University of Oregon.

### 407Z Literary Roundtable

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Ben Gold**

**Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 26–May 14**

This is an on-going short story discussion class in which we will begin a new anthology, the *Big Book of Victorian Mysteries*, edited by Otto Penzler. This is a selection from the best of the world's short fiction, bringing together writings by great masters of the genre. This wide-ranging anthology of stories is designed for readers to meet new writers and be surprised by some famous writers not known for their short stories. The book is available online from a variety of sources including on Kindle.

**Ben Gold** has a BA in Political Science from Stanford University and



also holds an MS degree in Computer Science. He will serve as moderator.

## **408F My Hand a Needle Better Fits: Early American Women's Literature**

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Tamara Harvey**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 27–Apr. 17**

In a poem published in 1650, Anne Bradstreet wrote about the critics who felt she shouldn't and couldn't write: "I am obnoxious to each carping tongue/Who says my hand a needle better fits." Women writers repeatedly defended their abilities, apologized for their faults, and modestly protested against publication even as they produced some of the best-known works in and about early America before 1810. In this class, we examine the works of women writing in the Americas from 1630-1810 including Anne Bradstreet, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Mary Rowlandson, Phillis Wheatley, and Hannah Webster Foster.

**Tamara Harvey** is chair and associate professor of English at George Mason University. Her research focuses on women and early America with attention to women across the Americas.

## **409Z Essentials of Self-Publishing: Print, Digital, and Audio**

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Fred Rexroad**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 27–Apr. 17**

This course is an introduction to the world of independent publishing. We'll compare Indie publishing with traditional publishing, emphasizing why you may want to go the indie route. Your goals for a published product will determine which process you choose. Also covered will be manuscript preparation and the mechanics of the independent publishing process, including ISBNs, Library of Congress numbers, publisher and imprint names, formatting and cover creation, and printing options. In the first class we'll create a Kindle e-book and see it go on sale on Amazon. We'll discuss how to prepare your book for the global market in multiple formats; discover the affordable, rapid, and straightforward eBook publishing process; explore the enduring appeal of physical books and their creation; navigate the booming world of audiobooks; and make informed choices. You'll walk away with valuable insights for your publishing journey.

**Fred Rexroad** has independently published multiple books. He has also produced software for college financial textbooks and written a story for a children's anthology for HarperCollins. He belongs to many writer's organizations and is treasurer of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Mystery Writers of America.

## **410Z So You Wanna Write Poetry**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructors: Ed Sadtler, Carolyn Wyatt**

**Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 27–May 15**

**Class limit: 12**

This is a class for those who would like to write poetry

or already write poetry and would like to improve their skills. Each session will be divided into three segments: a discussion of craft, a time to write, and a time to share what's been written. Come and surprise yourself!

**Carolyn Wyatt** is a retired federal information officer who traveled widely in that position. She has an M.A. in Spanish from Indiana University and aspires to be a poet and a wise woman.

**See 405Z for Ed Sadtler information.**

## **411Z Fall for the Book: *Their Divine Fires: Love and Secrets in the Shadow of Chinese Revolutions***

**Instructor: Wendy Chen**

**Coordinators: Suzy Rigdon, Kate Lewis**

**Thursday, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 3**

Spanning three generations of Chinese and Chinese-American women, Wendy Chen's debut novel, *Their Divine Fires*, is both passionate and spellbinding. When a marriage is violently destroyed in 1917 at the dawn of the Chinese Revolution, a woman's grief and secrets are passed down to her daughters, and in turn, to her granddaughter, haunting each woman through the Cultural Revolution and beyond. The characters' love affairs and secrets are interwoven with folktale and myth, in a novel author Ruth Madievsky calls "utterly hypnotic—the kind of novel only a poet could write. Never before have I read a debut that captures so perfectly the ache of what is left unsaid between generations." This event is part of Fall for the Book's spring lineup. View the full schedule at [fallforthebook.org/schedule](http://fallforthebook.org/schedule).

**Wendy Chen** is the author of the novel *Their Divine Fires* (Algonquin) and the poetry collection *Unearthings* (Tavern Books). She is the editor of *Figure 1*, associate editor-in-chief of *Tupelo Quarterly*, and prose editor of *Tupelo Press*. Her poetry translations of Song-dynasty woman writer Li Qingzhao are forthcoming in a collection titled *The Magpie at Night* from Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2025. She earned her MFA in Poetry from Syracuse University and her PhD in English from the University of Denver. Currently, she is an assistant professor of creative writing at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

## **412R Classic Films**

**Six sessions**

**Instructor: Ben Gold**

**Wednesdays, 2:15–4:30, Apr. 9–May 14**

**Note time**

If you like old movies, this is the class for you. Each week a different classical film will be presented, designed to spark your awareness of critically acclaimed films and make you aware of significant historical motion pictures. The instructor will introduce the film, and depending on time constraints, will lead a post-viewing discussion. Films are chosen in all genres based on critical recognition and popularity.

**Ben Gold** is a bona fide movie junkie. He spends much of his free time watching movies and doesn't care if they are extremely old ones, the latest popular ones, or the best in foreign films.

**413Z Fall for the Book: *With Love, Mommie Dearest*: The Making of an Unintentional Camp Classic**

**One session**

**Instructor: A. Ashley Hoff**

**Coordinators: Suzy Rigdon, Kate Lewis**

**Thursday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 10**

*Mommie Dearest*, by Christina Crawford, daughter of iconic actress Joan Crawford, chronicled the child abuse she suffered at the hands of her mother and became a blockbuster sensation. But the film by the same name remains one of the most legendary critical bombs in film history. Despite this, the movie was a commercial success and four decades later is still wildly popular. In *With Love, Mommie Dearest*, Hollywood historian, A. Ashley Hoff, details the drama surrounding the publication of the book as well as the filming of the movie, all while exploring the phenomenon, the camp, and the infrequently addressed social issues addressed in both. Author Alonso Duralde calls the book, “Dishy and thoroughly researched, (a) page-turner (that) takes us deep inside a movie that wrecked careers and reputations while launching a thousand midnight screenings.” This event is part of Fall for the Book. View the full schedule of spring events at [fallforthebook.org](http://fallforthebook.org).

**A. Ashley Hoff** is the author of *Match Game 101: A Backstage History of Match Game* and *My Huckleberry Friend: Holly Golightly and the Untold History of Breakfast at Tiffany’s*. He previously worked for talent agencies in Chicago and Los Angeles and has written articles on Hollywood for *The Advocate* and *Films in Review*. He has been interviewed on numerous pop culture subjects on *The Nick Digilio Show* on WGN Radio, *The Frank DeCaro Show* on Sirius XM, *Feast of Fun* on iTunes, in magazines such as *Closer Weekly*, and on various local talk shows and podcasts.

**414F Let’s Read a Play Together: Wilde’s *A Woman of No Importance***

**Five sessions**

**Instructor: Doris Bloch**

**Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 17–May 15**

**Class limit: 25**

Participants will be reading the lines of the play aloud in class and will analyze the characters and plot. The instructor will provide background on the playwright, Oscar Wilde; on the cast and original production of the work; and will show video clips of several productions. *A Woman of No Importance* is rarely performed nowadays. It is a drawing room drama, which both portrays the mores of Victorian upper class society and satirizes the hypocrisy of that time and class. Oscar Wilde includes many hilarious one-line zingers, some of which are aimed at us clueless Americans. Class members are not expected to memorize or act out their lines, merely to read them with some understanding and humor.

**Doris Bloch** has presented Let’s Read a Play Together at OLLI at least 13 times previously, with chosen genres as varied as Commedia del’Arte, Wodehouse’s Bertie Wooster, Agatha Christie mysteries, Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, Wilde’s *Salome*, and

Voltaire’s (and Leonard Bernstein’s) *Candide*.

**415Z *Catch 22* by Joseph Heller**

**One session**

**Instructor: Michael Mason**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 23**

*Catch 22*, a satirical war novel published in 1961, is often cited as one of the twentieth century’s greatest novels. As both tragedy and farce, the novel explores the absurdity of war and bureaucratic military life through the experiences of Yossarian, a bombardier during World War II. Yossarian and his comrades attempt to maintain their sanity while fulfilling their service requirements so that they may return home. The novel includes colorful characters such as Colonel Cathcart, Doc Daneeka, Major Major, Hungry Joe, Lieutenant Scheisskopf, and Milo Minderbinder, who often use circular reasoning to justify their actions and opinions. The phrase “catch-22” has entered common usage to mean a tricky problem or a no-win or absurd situation. Although the novel won no awards upon release, it has remained in print and has sold over ten million copies. The lecture will discuss the novel’s plot, style, and meaning and why it became so popular during the turmoil of the 1960’s.

**Michael Mason** retired from the federal government after over 30 years of service. He has a BSc in Biology and an MA in American History. He has had a lifelong love of literature, especially satire, and is a member of several OLLI literature and writing clubs.

**500 Languages**  
**Program Planning Group Chairs:**  
**Pat Bangs, Linda Bergman, Jane Fitzgibbons,**  
**Norma Jean Reck**

**501Z Latin: Level 4**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Alana Lukes**

**Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 27–May 15**

This continuing course is for Latin students with knowledge of indicative and subjunctive verb tenses as well as the five noun declensions. The instructor takes a modern reading approach to learning this ancient language. The course explores Latin grammar, vocabulary, mythology, and ancient Roman culture in first and second century CE Rome. Students will look at the time of Emperor Domitian as well as Roman authors such as Pliny, Martial and others. Class meetings will use the *Cambridge Latin Course, Unit Four, North American Fourth Edition* as the required text, as well as adapted texts from other instructor-provided sources.

**Alana Lukes**, an OLLI member, has taught Latin for over 25 years

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at the middle school, high school, and college levels. She has also taught 12 years at OLLI.

## **600 Philosophy and Religious Studies**

**Program Planning Group Chair:  
Jim Cantwell**

### **601F / 601Z The Lives of Great Christians**

**Seven sessions**

**Instructor: Jim Cantwell**

**Mondays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 24–May 5**

**Class limit: 20 in-person, 30 Zoom**

Using the Great Courses DVD series, this seven-week course will explore the lives of 14 great Christians including the following: St. Francis, Martin Luther, John Wesley, Dietrick Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther King, and Father Damien. The DVD presentations will be supplemented with other sources and quotations. This will provide a firm foundation for some stimulating discussion.

**Jim Cantwell** is chair of the OLLI Religious Studies program planning group and has taught numerous courses at OLLI.

### **602Z Heretics, Zealots, and Schisms: They Also Played the Jesus Game**

**Six sessions**

**Instructor: Jeffrey Marston**

**Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 25–Apr. 29**

**Class limit: 50**

The early years of Christianity, up to 461, were full of battles over “everything” involving the emerging Jesus movement. This course compliments the traditional courses, books, and church teachings about the early years that were actually much more complicated (and interesting). Who was the first Christian heretic? Learn about the Gnostics, Marcion, Montanus, Pelagian, and Arius. What did “the son of God” and other foundational Christian words mean 2000 years ago?

**Jeffrey Marston** has a History degree from Princeton and a Masters of Public Administration from Cornell. He has studied the history of early Christianity and Christian-Jewish linkages for over 25 years. He has taught this course at three additional universities and three churches.

### **603F Introduction to Islam**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Haris Raja**

**Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 25–May 13**

In this course, you will explore the full sweep of the religion of Islam. Your instructor will answer your critiques and most essential questions about the second-largest and fastest-growing religion in the world. The course will begin with the basic tenets of Islam, followed by its sources (Quran, Sunnah, and Hadith), the life of Muhammad, and a brief history of Islam. Next, we will analyze the main Islamic sects and their origin, the concept of Jihad in Islam, and

Islam in the later days. You will learn about the Islamic understanding of Jesus, Mary, and the People of the Book. Finally, we will discuss Islam in the current world. Ideal for beginners, this course answers questions of particular concern to Christians who care about the West’s relation with Islam. Listening to and discussing the topics will broaden your capacity for inter-religious dialogue and understanding of Abrahamic religions.

**Haris Raja** has a Bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering and an MBA from the University of Maryland. Haris currently serves as the VP of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (Northern Virginia chapter) and is an NVA Tahir Academy Board Member. Haris has delivered multiple lectures on Islam.

### **604Z Tibetan Buddhist Philosophy in a Nutshell**

**Five sessions**

**Instructor: Charlene Wilson**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 27–Apr. 24**

This year the course will include some basic tenants including reincarnation, karma, enlightenment, and the Eastern concept of deities. At the final session, a short but powerful meditation will be given. The meditation can be beneficial, no matter what spiritual path you follow. In addition, the concepts can be used in most spiritual paths.

**Charlene Wilson** has studied Tibetan Buddhism for almost 40 years and taught at George Mason OLLI for the last few years. Although the classes have been similar, each time changes are made. She is a Ngagma (Yogi) and wrote a book called *Tibetan Buddhism, Philosophy for Everyone* available on Amazon.

### **605F The Parables of Jesus**

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Steve Goldman**

**Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 22–May 13**

The class will examine Jesus’ use of parables as a means of teaching about the nature, character, and will of God; the foibles and possibilities of humans; and the obligations of humans toward each other and their Creator. Many of Jesus’ most well known parables will be analyzed and discussed, including the different ways these parables have been understood as guides to Christian doctrine.

**Steve Goldman** has taught numerous courses on alternative understandings of biblical doctrine at OLLI Mason.

### **606F / 606Z Speaking Biblically ... Words Have Meaning**

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: John Rybicki**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Apr. 24–May 15**

There are so many versions of the scriptures today, both Hebrew and Christian, in which key words from both scriptural Hebrew and Greek, when translated into English, no longer encompass their early meanings, subtleties, and nuances. Various English translations oftentimes result in differing understandings of biblical

teachings. In the fall of 2023, we began an examination of certain key words and concepts from the scriptures, both Hebrew and Christian, and continued this into the spring of 2024. Within these sessions we will continue with the examination of key words to include spirit (of God), Shekinah, holiness, wisdom, worship et al. ... and examine the etymology and ancient uses of these words in an attempt to get a better understanding of the scripture writer's intent. Neither of the previous courses are a prerequisite for this continued study.

**John Rybicki** has been an OLLI contributor for over 20 years. He received a Master of Theology degree from St. John of Damascus Institute of Theology, Balamand University. He served as a pastoral associate at the Riderwood Retirement Community in Maryland where he was responsible for religious education and facilitating Jewish-Christian dialogue.

### **607R Introduction to Islam**

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: Haris Raja**

**Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, May 7–May 14**

This is a repeat of 603F.

See 603F for instructor information.

## **650 Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Program Planning Group Chair:  
Camille Hodges**

### **651Z Big Issues, Complex Challenges, and No Simple Solutions**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Glenn Kamber**

**Mondays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 24–May 12**

This course is intended to expand participant knowledge and appreciation of challenges we face in modern society, including such issues as global warming; increased polarization among political, social, and economic groups; the nature and pace of scientific and technological change; and the role of media and modern communications. Each week the instructor will introduce a big issue through a brief oral and video presentation. The sessions will involve engaging discussion among participants facilitated by the instructor. Topics will be new each week and each semester; few will be repeated.

**Glenn Kamber** has taught many courses at OLLI that focus on current events and political and social issues. He is a retired senior executive from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where he managed policy and program development in the offices of eight HHS secretaries.

### **652F / 652Z Anthropology of Culture Wars 2.0**

**Six sessions**

**Instructor: Tom Carroll**

**Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 26–Apr. 30**

"Today the central problem is commitment: to what past,

present, or future can we commit ourselves." (Margaret Mead). This sequel to the 2024 *Anthropology of Culture Wars* will examine the current status of national debates about race and gender, reproductive choice, education, aging, globalization, immigration, and climate change. Mead foretold how younger and elder generations could collaborate to become agents of cultural transformation. Building on the winter 2025 OLLI course: "Be The Change," this course will review a wide range of volunteer service and social action opportunities, including numerous Northern Virginia organizations as well as regional and national initiatives. Particular attention will be given to multigenerational partnerships that enable young leaders and older allies to collaborate on community improvement and social change.

**Tom Carroll** holds a PhD in Cultural Anthropology. He did research at Clark University, Columbia University, the U.S. Department of Education, and the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future. He participated in the launch of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

### **653L TED Talk Discussion Group**

**Three sessions**

**Instructor: Barbara Wilan**

**Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 27–Apr. 10**

**Limit: 20**

**Location: TBD**

TED (Technology, Entertainment, and Design) is a growing collection of brief recorded talks on a wide range of topics. The speakers are leading figures chosen for their ability to express ideas clearly and succinctly. We will watch and discuss a TED talk each week. The general topics will be Health, Democracy, and Fashion.

**Barbara Wilan** retired as a full-time English teacher at the Annandale campus of Northern Virginia Community College and is currently an adjunct there. She has also taught at the University of Maryland and for the University of Maryland's European Division.

### **654Z Classical and Hellenistic Greece**

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Tom Manteuffel**

**Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 27–Apr. 17**

No matter what fields you discuss, the ancient Greeks seem always to have been there first. To us in the Western world, our creation story is that of Athens in the 5th century BCE, later spread by Hellenism and copied and adapted by the Romans, and then filtered through the Renaissance. What made the Greeks so universal and so central to our art, architecture, science, philosophy, theater, literature, history, and political science? Why then and why there? We will look into the Greeks bearing cultural gifts and examine how and how much they really shaped our Western civilization. There is much in the story that may be surprising.

**Tom Manteuffel** has taught a variety of topics at OLLI, including cybersecurity (which was his career); artificial intelligence; cybercurrencies, the Impressionist's color revolution; the two Renaissances, in Italy and Northern Europe; Stonehenge; the history of the English language; and Shakespeare.

## **655F Black Communities of Fairfax: A History and A Place Called Ilda**

**Three sessions**

**Instructors: Etta Willson, Rita Colbert, Rondia Prescott, Linneall Naylor, Jenee Lindner, Tom Shoop**

**Coordinator: Camille Hodges**

**Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 7–Apr. 21**

**Location: Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22030**

An untold story, the free Black population of Fairfax Court House (now called Fairfax, Virginia) dates to at least the 1820s. After the Civil War, newly freed Black citizens expanded the hamlet of Jermantown dramatically. Additional segregated neighborhoods, including School Street, which overlapped today's George Mason University, and Ilda, off Guinea Road, grew and thrived. In the second half of the nineteenth century, residents built schools, churches, and a cemetery. These families persevered under Jim Crow in the early twentieth century. After incorporation, the City of Fairfax annexed these historically Black localities and their separate character began to disappear. This group of authors with deep roots in Fairfax tells the stories of their communities. The book *Black Communities of Fairfax: A History* by Etta Willson, Rita Colbert, Linneall Naylor, Rondia Prescott with Jenee Lindner won the Fairfax County History Commission's Cultural Heritage Engagement Award. The book, *A Place Called Ilda* by Thomas Shoop won the Fairfax County History Commission's Nan Netherton Award for excellence in history.

**Etta Willson**, former resident, is well known by local African American historical research groups and is going on 43 years as a genealogist. She is a poetic writer about her family and her ancestors.

**Rita Colbert**, former resident, is the Fairfax City Black community photo acquisitions coordinator, receiving photo albums after friends and family pass away.

**Rondia Prescott**, former resident, is vice-president of the Jermantown Cemetery Preservation Society and Fairfax County Public Schools SAC program assistant director.

**Linneall Naylor**, president of the Jermantown Cemetery Preservation Society and FCPS teacher, was raised in D.C. but returned to find her roots. She is a well-regarded family history speaker.

**Jenee Lindner** is a Fairfax County History commissioner and gives Fairfax City and County historical lectures and tours. She has been chosen as volunteer of the year for Fairfax City and Fairfax County.

**Tom Shoop** is a former Fairfax County History commissioner and former editor in chief of *GovExec*.

## **656F Censorship: Exposing Its Stratagems**

**One session**

**Instructor: Daniel Klein**

**Monday, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 14**

The censorship stratagems that the instructor will examine are conceptual stratagems. They are used to disguise or justify censorious actions. The chief conceptual stratagems to be addressed are combating 'misinformation' and

combating 'hate.' Other terms will also be taken up. The censorship efforts are vitally needed to protect propaganda efforts—without censorship, big lies are torn to shreds.

**Daniel Klein** is professor of Economics and JIN Chair at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, where he leads a program in Adam Smith. He has published on 'misinformation' as a censorship stratagem in the *Wall Street Journal*, *The Spectator*, *CapX*, and *Brownstone*, and in scholarly writings. He has also published on 'hate' as a censorship stratagem. He is the author of *Smithian Morals and Central Notions of Smithian Liberalism*.

## **657F Reading Du Bois's Black Reconstruction**

**One session**

**Instructor: Rutledge Dennis**

**Tuesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 15**

The reading, W.E.B. Du Bois' *Black Reconstruction*, explores Du Bois' very radical thesis—that Black Americans were the prime agents in fostering the ideas and institutions central in the making of American social democracy and as central agents, were active in assisting in the Northern victory over the south.

**Rutledge Dennis** has a PhD in Sociology. He has been a professor of Sociology/Anthropology for 31 years and was the first coordinator of African American Studies at VCU in Richmond, 1971-1978. He joined the Department of Sociology and Anthropology (SOAN) at GMU in 1989. His teaching specialties are W.E.B. Du Bois, the sociology of ideas, sociological theory, and racial and ethnic relations.

## **658F Values Clarification and Goal Setting for Personal Growth**

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: Eduardo Rodela**

**Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Apr. 17–Apr. 24**

**Class limit: 20**

This course provides participants with tools and strategies to identify and align their core values with actionable and meaningful goals. Through interactive exercises, reflection, and guided discussion, participants will engage in value clarification to better understand what truly matters to them in personal contexts. The course will then transition to practical goal-setting techniques, focusing on SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) that reflect these clarified values. By the end of the course, participants will have developed a personalized plan to pursue their goals with intention and purpose, enhancing self-awareness, motivation, and success.

**Eduardo S. Rodela**, MSW, PhD is a former adjunct professor at George Mason University's School of Social Work. He has experience working in the United States Army as a Social Work Officer. He was a clinical social worker, clinical coordinator, and director of Readjustment Counseling with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in San Antonio, Texas. Eduardo is a federal retiree. In his last position, he served as a management analyst with the Environmental Protection Agency.



## 659R Behind the Prize...Nobel, That Is

Two sessions

Instructor: Michele Romano

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Apr. 23–Apr. 30

This class is all about Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, and the quirky characters who won hands-down, the most coveted prize on planet Earth. We will start with Big Al as I like to call him, and how the prize came to be. It reads like a soap opera. Who is eligible for the prize, what are the rules, and who decides? It's all spelled out in his will. The youngest recipient was 17 and the oldest 97. Three were dead and three were in the slammer. The awards ceremony itself is choreographed right down to the dress code. We will look at the back stories of some of the more colorful recipients and talk a whole lot of trash. Many people who deserved a Nobel never got it. There were also many people who should have never been nominated in the first place. It's a colorful group. There are steps that you need to take in order to win a Nobel (spoiler alert: being born a white male is a major advantage). We will finish with a round of Nobel Jeopardy, not to be missed.

**Michele Romano** is a family physician who retired in 2015. She attended Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine and held a faculty appointment as an associate professor of Clinical Medicine at VCU. She served on both the VCU board of trustees and the VCU health system board.

## 660Z TED Talk Discussions

Four sessions

Instructors: Russell Stone, Stephanie Simcox

Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 24–May 15

TED (Technology, Entertainment, and Design) is a growing collection of brief recorded talks on a wide range of topics. The speakers are leading figures chosen for their ability to express ideas clearly and succinctly. Participants will watch and discuss three or four related TED talks each week.

**Russell Stone** retired from a 40-year career as a professor of sociology, most recently at American University, and before that at SUNY Buffalo. He taught "Sociology of the Future" for many years, before realizing that the future isn't what it used to be! He now relies on the next generations to supply up-to-date information. He is co-chair of the OLLI program committee.

### Need Additional Help with Zoom?

OLLI Mason has Help pages that will point you in the right direction:

The Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS) has plenty of helpful information for all devices:

[www.patacs.org/zoom.html](http://www.patacs.org/zoom.html)

Visit the OLLI website at:

[olli.gmu.edu/online-classes-resources/](http://olli.gmu.edu/online-classes-resources/)

Or you can email the OLLI Help Desk at:

[ollizoomhelp@olligmu.org](mailto:ollizoomhelp@olligmu.org)

**Stephanie Simcox** attended George Mason University, then moved to California for 30 years, working for non-profits. After moving back to Fairfax a few years ago, she discovered OLLI and has been happily taking classes ever since.

## 700 Current Events

Program Planning Group Chair:

Camille Hodges

## 701Z What's in the Daily News?

Eight sessions

Moderators: Dorsey Chescavage, Richard Crawford, John Quinn, Ann Smith, Al Smuzynski

Class liaison: Dennis VanLangen

Mondays, 9:30–11:00, Mar. 24–May 12

Note time

Class limit: 80

This is a weekly forum for thoughtful, forthright, and respectful exchange of information and opinions on current world, U.S., and regional news. Class participants bring to the table a wealth of knowledge and experience in international affairs, government, industry, education, economics, the military, and other areas. The discussion is always lively, and all participants have an equal opportunity to comment.

## 702Z The Women Who Wore White: 160 Years of Unfinished Business

Four sessions

Instructor: Edward Ingebretsen

Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 25–Apr. 15

Kamala Harris's nomination for a national election (the fourth woman, historically) represents a reminder of the "unfinished business" of equality in America. Her career embodies the intersectional challenges that all women (and men) face; and her candidacy provides an opportunity to focus attention on the systemic racism and gender privilege that still shape American society. The current political discussion is critical in advocating for policies that address the deep-seated inequities in American society. Prejudice is deeply cemented in law. This study group examines this complex history of the "repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman", examining historical challenges made to full legal rights for all American women, irrespective of race or ethnicity.

See 309Z for instructor information.

## 703F / 703Z Great Decisions

Eight sessions

Moderator: Ted Parker

Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 25–May 13

Class limit: 30

For over a century, the Foreign Policy Association has sponsored discussion groups throughout the U.S. to investigate and discuss some of the world's most challenging problems affecting our lives. This year's eight discussion topics include: 1) American Foreign Policy

at a Crossroads; 2) U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy; 3) U.S./China Relations; 4) International Cooperation on Climate Change; 5) The Future of NATO and European Security; 6) AI and American National Security; 7) India Between China, the West, and the Global South; 8) After Gaza: American Policy in the Middle East. A briefing book and video related to each topic will set the framework for weekly class conversations. **Please purchase your book directly from FPA Bookstore** [https://www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions/?act=gd\\_materials](https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_materials) or [https://www.fpa.org/news/index.cfm?act=show\\_announcement&announcement\\_id=439](https://www.fpa.org/news/index.cfm?act=show_announcement&announcement_id=439)

**Ted Parker**, a retiree from the U.S. Department of Education, had a 40 year career in education that included teaching and managing at local, state and college levels. He is a long-time member of OLLI.

## **704F / 704Z U.S./China Relations and the Search for a New International Order**

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Stephen Wickman**

**Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 26–May 14**

This class will explore American, Chinese, and East Asian relations based on a review of our competing intellectual histories and political development, with a view to determining a proper course for U.S. foreign policy. The primary resource will be the instructor's unpublished manuscript based on his academic and government work that occurred over a thirty-year career. Further readings can be pursued through the footnotes and references in the text. Given the election of Donald J. Trump to a second term as president, we will discuss the apparent triumph of nationalist/realist perspectives in American foreign policy and how these relate to East Asia and the multilateral international order.

**Stephen Wickman** is an international economist and national security expert with more than 27 years of experience in China, Korea, and Japan. He was the U.S. consul general in Shenyang, China (2007-2010). He has an MS in Strategic Studies from the National War College, National Defense University and an MA International Economics, Johns Hopkins SAIS.

## **705F / 705Z All the News That's Fit to Print**

**Six sessions**

**Instructor: Zachary Teich**

**Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 27–May 15**

**Note no class Apr. 10 and Apr. 17**

All the News That's Fit to Print meets in-person and online to discuss current affairs issues in a friendly and collegial manner. The instructor provides a topic list drawn from the week's news and serves as 'traffic cop' for the freewheeling discussion. All opinions are welcome; the only rules are to be courteous and to allow the moderator to call on those who raise their hands to speak.

**Zachary Teich** has a BA in Political Science from the University of South Florida, a Master's of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown, and an MS in Strategic Studies from the Marine Corps War College. He was a State Department Foreign Service officer from 1979-2006 and a negotiator at State's Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund from 2006-2012.

## **706F / 706Z Countering Misinformation in Cognitive-Emotional Conflicts**

**One session**

**Instructor: Linton Wells II**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 9**

Today's information sharing tools let adversaries, foreign and domestic, interfere more directly than ever with a targeted nation's political processes and the minds of its citizens. Operating effectively in such "cognitive-emotional conflict" requires that information-based capabilities be employed and countered in agile, integrated ways across many domains: military, government, and civil society. Coherent narratives tied to strategy and backed by actions are important. Technical cyberspace activities need to be well coordinated with content-based approaches like political and military information operations, broad-area messaging, and intelligence gathering. Even more important is to build a society's resilience against persistent, disruptive, or disinformation campaigns that aim to undermine citizen confidence and core beliefs. This lesson will address some forms of current misinformation/disinformation campaigns and how to counter them.

**Dr. Linton Wells II** served 51 years in the Department of Defense (30 years Navy, 21 civilian), much of it at the interface of policy and technology. He has worked on information operations and cybersecurity, as well as community resilience and emergency response.

## **707R / 707Z Guns In America: Facts, Opinions, and Controversies**

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: Zach Teich**

**Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 23–Apr. 30**

This discussion course will outline key facts about firearms, how they are regulated by federal, state, and local governments, and how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Second Amendment. It will then critically examine the arguments made by advocates on both sides of the "gun safety/gun control" debate.

**Zach Teich** has been an OLLI member for over 10 years. He has taught a lecture/discussion class on U.S. Foreign Policy, and for the past four years has led the All The News That's Fit to Print /All the News, Continued discussion groups that meet throughout the year except summer term.

## **708F / 708Z Money in Politics: A Citizens' Advocacy Opportunity**

**One session**

**Coordinator: Nancy Morgan**

**Friday, 11:00–12:25, Apr. 25**

**Location: The Landing, 2620 Main Line Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22301**

Do you believe that large donors have too much influence on our elections? Join this class to review the role of money in our political system and explore with expert guests not only the issue and the implications for public policy, but also how citizen advocates can raise their voices for change. Entry points for action include getting legislation

passed in our Virginia General Assembly and supporting on the federal level the passage of an amendment to our Constitution allowing Congress and the states to regain their rights to regulate election spending.

**Nancy Morgan** received her Master's degree in Applied Economics. She was an economist in the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization. She has worked in Tunisia, Rome, Bangkok, and Washington, D.C. where she served as a senior economic and UN liaison at the World Bank. Prior to that, she worked with the Peace Corps in Togo and Cameroon and served as a policy analyst at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington D.C. She is currently the coordinator of the Virginia chapter of American Promise (BigMoneyOutVA), a volunteer non-partisan group advocating for getting big money out of politics through a U.S. constitutional amendment and campaign finance reform in Virginia.

## 800 Science, Technology, and Health

Program Planning Group Chairs:  
Suresh Mohla, Michele Romano

### 801F Essential Tech Literacy for the 21st Century

Eight sessions

Instructor: Victor Rezmovic

Mondays, 9:40–11:05, Mar. 24–May 12

Technological innovations have been transforming various aspects of our lives at a rapid pace. While newer technologies often offer more features and cost savings, many people continue to use older devices and applications. One such example is the landline phone, which can be replaced by Voice over Internet Protocol solutions that allow users to retain their phone numbers while enjoying substantial cost savings. We will review many of today's innovations that may not be widely known such as mesh Wi-Fi solutions; the newest cellular options to provide whole house Internet; devices such as cameras and doorbells; cloud applications including private clouds; streaming TV and music; and the newest recommendations for staying safe online. We will also introduce practical uses of AI. By staying informed about these and other technological innovations, consumers and businesses can make more informed decisions about adopting new technologies that can enhance their lives and operations.

**Victor Rezmovic**, PhD, is a technology educator who has spent the last 30 years in academic, corporate, and government settings. He was a faculty member at the University of Illinois and he trained network administrators at the Department of Justice. He currently teaches cybersecurity at Montgomery College.

### 802F Thirty-five Trillion Microbes Make Up the Human Microbiome: Is It Friend, a Foe, or Both?

Four sessions

Instructor: Suresh Mohla

Mondays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 24–Apr. 14

Over thirty-five trillion bacteria, yeasts, and viruses coexist in various sites of the human body (gut, skin, lung, oral cavity) and contain over 150 times more genes compared

to 20,000 human genes. The composition of microbes varies from site to site but over 80% reside in our gut. The microbiome affects biological processes including healthy food absorption; metabolism and immune systems; synthesis of key vitamins, proteins, amino acids and healthy lipids; and protection from external pathogens via synthesis of antimicrobials. However, the microbiome varies by age, type of food intake, and human pathologies (e.g., inflammation, cancer, autoimmune diseases, stress, obesity, and diabetes). Fortunately, novel strategies to use healthy gut microbiome transplantation or probiotics to increase the effectiveness of chemotherapy and longer remission, reducing inflammation and symptoms of autoimmune diseases, and in improving the overall quality of life and survival, are highly promising.

**Suresh Mohla**, PhD and endocrinologist, did his postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine. He has over 45 years of experience in cancer research including 25 years at the National Cancer Institute. He has taught at OLLI on multiple topics in cancer since 2020.

### 803Z Climate Change Solutions

Eight sessions

Instructor: Ron Edelstein

Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 24–May 12

After a brief review of climate change science, this course will examine potential solutions to climate change and rising global temperatures. The Paris Agreement to limit global warming to no more than 1.5C seems unattainable. Getting above that is looking inevitable since it has already reached 1.2C. What can the world do to prevent further global temperature increases and the accompanying climate disasters? We will examine the promise and possible consequences of geoengineering—both solar radiation management and carbon dioxide removal. We will then go to demand sectors, residential, commercial, transportation, and industrial. What can we do as residential and commercial consumers to decrease our energy use and carbon footprint? We will look at conservation, electric heat pumps, and high-efficiency appliances. We will look at low-carbon alternatives for industrial processes. Finally, we will examine adaptation and resiliency—can we design homes, businesses, and cities to deal with impacts of climate change? Finally, the instructor will run En-ROADS climate solutions simulator with students as energy czars.

**Ron Edelstein** has 50 years of experience, including solar and natural gas R&D. He has three engineering degrees, including in Environmental Science and Technology. He is a "climate ambassador", trained in the En-ROADS Climate Solution Simulator by MIT Sloan. Ron has taught climate courses at Osher JHU and OLLI AU.

### 804R Thirty-five Trillion Microbes Make Up the Human Microbiome: Is It Friend, a Foe, or Both?

Three sessions

Instructor: Suresh Mohla

Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 26–Apr. 9

This is a repeat of 802F.

See 802F for instructor information.



## 805F Weather Basics

Three sessions

Instructor: Barry Haack

Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 27–Apr. 10

We are constantly aware of weather conditions and changes on a day to day or even hourly basis. Weather is also a common topic of conversation in part because unlike politics, it is a neutral topic. Most of us monitor weather on television, on-line, or in newspapers. However, we frequently do not really understand the processes that cause weather to change; this is the purpose of the class. We will examine the atmosphere and the primary weather elements including temperature, pressure, wind, humidity, precipitation, frontal conditions, and severe weather events. Please join us for this basic introduction to the meteorological conditions we experience every day.

**Barry Haack** is a geographer and a career faculty member at GMU. His primary academic interest is the use of satellites to map resources and the environment. He has conducted these activities in almost thirty countries providing an opportunity to explore many weather events.

## 806R / 806Z Out of This World

Three sessions

Instructor: Bruce Cranford

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Apr. 2–16

This course will comprise three presentations that will discuss various aspects of outer and inner space, from the grandiose to the very physical essence of humans. The first session is a brief 1,000 years of history and the quest for space flight, which allowed humans to understand the mysteries of the universe. The second session will focus on the world's two greatest spacecraft observatories; the Hubble and James Webb Space Telescope Comparison, how they work and how they contribute to new mysteries. The third session will explain what humans are physically made of and how the nursery rhyme, "what are little girls made of" and "what are little boys made of" comes close. All are related to out-of-this-world space.

**Bruce Cranford** has been an adjunct professor at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD since June 2021. He regularly teaches space classes for OLLI Mason as well as at the Montgomery College Lifelong Learning Institute, Rockville, Md.

## 807Z Biology of Aging

Two sessions

Instructor: Lee De Cola

Mondays, 11:50–1:15, May 5–May 12

About the only thing universally acknowledged about aging is that it's the period between maturity and death. Beyond that, the topic ranges from the scientific study of biological senescence, through geriatric medicine, to policies to improve the welfare of "older" people and their families. Session one will be an introduction to what is known about the biology of aging, mainly in humans. Session two will be devoted to sharing personal accounts of aging in light of the ideas from the previous session.

**Lee De Cola**, PhD, is a retired U.S. Geological Survey scientist who

studies environmental change in space and time. He has studied spatial epidemiology, land cover dynamics, African development, and fractals, and has taught in Nigeria and around the U.S., including at George Mason University.

## 808Z Sponsored by GMU Retired Faculty Association: Biodefense: High Containment Labs, Biosafety, and Biosecurity

One session

Instructor: Gregory Koblentz

Coordinator: Julianne Mahler

Tuesday, 11:50–1:15, May 6

The instructor will present the results and recommendations of the Global BioLabs Initiative, which has been tracking high and maximum containment laboratories and national bio risk management policies around the world since 2021. The Initiative's latest report, issued in 2023, identified several trends that raise biosafety and biosecurity concerns. The presentation will include recommendations for strengthening bio risk management at the laboratory, national, and international levels to ensure that high-consequence research is conducted safely, securely, and responsibly.

**Gregory D. Koblentz** is an associate professor and director of the Biodefense Graduate Program at George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government. He is editor-in-chief of *The Pandora Report*, an online newsletter that covers global health security and is a member of the Scientists Working Group on Biological and Chemical Security at the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation. His research and teaching focus on understanding the causes and consequences of the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons to state and non-state actors, global bio risk management, and the impact of emerging technologies on international security.

## 809F Dirt

Two sessions

Instructor: Barry Haack

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, May 7–May 14

Pedology is the science of the study of soils and is a very complex discipline, as are soils or dirt. Soils are of course critical to all vegetative growth and of importance to all of us for agricultural production. These sessions will examine the physical and chemical properties of soils including texture, pH, structure, color, and others. In addition, factors which control the creation of soils and their differences such as precipitation and temperature, topography and parent material will be presented.

Mapping soils is very challenging because of their variability. The first modern soil map for Fairfax County produced in 1963 included over 100 different soils. There are multiple local, national, and global soil classification systems. The most universal global system is hierarchical and descriptions of the first level orders as well as the five major global soil processes will be presented to provide a global understanding of soil distributions and characteristics. Finally, there will be information on soil erosion and conservation.

**Barry Haack** is a geographer and a career faculty member at

GMU. His primary academic interest is the use of satellites to map resources and the environment. He has conducted this work in almost thirty countries, providing an opportunity to observe many soil types.

## 900 Other Topics

### 901Z Monday Lecture Series (formerly Monday Morning Lecture Series)

#### Eight sessions

**Instructors:** Douglas Povich, Bill Williams, Susan L. Slocum, Melissa Perry, Shivaji Seth, Erdal Yiğit, Martin Wiener, Dirk Fischbach

**Mondays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 24–May 12**

#### Note time

**Mar. 24: Smart TVs and Streaming Video: Trends and Insights for Modern Viewing. Douglas Povich.** The old days of analog TVs and watching a few broadcast channels over-the-air are long gone. Modern “Smart TVs” and video programming delivered over the Internet and social media have drastically transformed our viewing experience. Given the importance of video services for keeping us connected to the world through news and entertainment, it’s important for us to get comfortable with these technologies rather than feeling confused and overwhelmed. Learn about the features of high-definition digital televisions, the new world of “streaming” video content, economic and privacy considerations, and where the video industry is heading.

**Douglas Povich** is a management analyst for Fairfax County’s Department of Cable and Consumer Services. Before joining the county, Doug practiced telecommunications and technology law for over 30 years. He holds a B.A. in English and Philosophy from Union College and a J.D. from Georgetown University.

**Mar. 31: What Happened to the Keystone Pipeline? Bill Williams.** This course will focus on how sponsors build and finance infrastructure by examining the steps required for interstate oil pipeline projects in the U.S. This involves the construction, ownership, and operation of project facilities. It will review how Keystone implemented these steps, which included the necessary review at the initial stage, the permitting and environmental review, commercial arrangements and lenders’ requirements, shippers’ rate elections, and the filings requiring government approval before the pipeline begins providing service. Following this introduction, the course will cover the history of Keystone’s efforts (one successful and one not) to obtain border crossing permits for the project.

**Bill Williams** was previously a partner in the energy regulatory group in Sidley Austin’s Washington, D.C. office. Prior to joining Sidley, Bill was a partner at Fulbright & Jaworski, (now Norton Rose). His practice has dealt primarily with the representation of interstate natural gas and crude oil and products pipelines and other clients before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Bill has a B.S. in Economics from George Mason University and a J.D. from the University of Virginia.

**Apr. 7: Dark Tourism: Death and Travel. Susan L. Slocum.** Explore some of the world’s darkest tourism sites through the lens of history, heritage, and the human

obsession with morbidity. Dark tourism, or travel to sites of death and suffering, is on the rise globally. Let us take a tour of some internationally renowned dark tourism sites, while exploring why visitors are drawn to such sites, how communities engage with dark histories, and the economic, social, environmental, and political controversies surrounding these attractions. While the commodification of such sites has garnished negative attention to dark tourism, social science has uncovered deep spiritual significance and connections with historic victims of genocides, marginalization, forced subjugation, natural disasters, and tragic accidents.

**Susan L. Slocum** is a professor in the School of Sport, Recreation, and Tourism Management at George Mason University. She specializes in finding sustainable solutions to some of the negative impacts of tourism, specifically focusing on building sustainable communities and supporting small, locally-owned businesses. Sue has published 12 books, including two authored books, and was selected as a Fulbright Scholar in 2020.

**Apr. 14: Digital Induced Amnesia: Why the Digital World is Making Us Forget Things. Dean Melissa Perry.** This class will explore the phenomenon of digital-induced amnesia, where the constant influx of digital stimuli hampers our ability to process, retain, and recall information. Dr. Perry argues that the convenience of having information at our fingertips has led to a decline in our memory and retention capabilities. This shift is attributed to the overwhelming amount of information available and the reliance on machines to process it. She will highlight the impact of this change on critical thinking skills, which are now often outsourced to digital devices. She will discuss the broader implications of this trend, suggesting that our brains are becoming more like human routers, constantly receiving and transmitting data without truly retaining it. Ultimately, Dr. Perry calls for a balance between leveraging digital tools and maintaining our cognitive abilities to process and retain information, emphasizing the importance of remembering what we are losing in this digital age. Link to article:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/blog/the-mindful-epidemiologist/202402/why-the-digital-world-is-making-us-forget-things>

**Dr. Melissa Perry** is the inaugural dean of the College of Public Health at George Mason University. Trained as an epidemiologist in public health, she is internationally respected for her work as a scientist, educator, and academic leader. Dr. Perry’s research in occupational and environmental epidemiology has been well-funded by both federal agencies and foundations. She has published more than 150 frequently cited manuscripts, technical reports, book chapters, commentaries, and book reviews and has presented at over 25 American universities and in over 17 countries.

**Apr. 21: Global Warming and the Challenge of Carbon-Free Energy. Shivaji Seth.** We are at a critical juncture due to global warming and the potential for severe climate change. While carbon emissions must be reduced, providing a sustainable carbon-free energy supply is a huge challenge. Could we meet the agreed-upon climate goals? This class will provide a simple, factual picture of our use of

diverse energy sources, associated carbon emissions, and a systematic basis to address the key issues.

**Dr. Shiv Seth** was in the energy field throughout his 50 year career in industry and in a senior advisory capacity in the government. He has lectured on global warming and energy topics. Dr. Seth has a PhD in nuclear engineering from MIT, and is an emeritus member of the American Nuclear Society.

### **Apr. 28: Space Exploration and Mars. Erdal Yiğit.**

Humanity has always been intrigued by the red planet Mars, the fourth planet from the Sun and the second most explored planet in the Solar System. We will review Mars's whole atmosphere system from the surface to the exobase, comparing its main characteristics to Earth. We will provide an overview of the history of Martian missions and space exploration. We will discuss space travel, coupling and the interaction process between Martian atmospheric gravity waves, dust storms, atmospheric escape, and space recently presented in "Exploring Mars's Harsh Atmosphere" in *Physics Today*, <https://doi.org/10.1063/pt.sjcv.azbb>.

**Erdal Yiğit** received his PhD from the University College London, UK, in 2009 in Physics and is currently a full professor of Physics at George Mason University's Physics and Astronomy Department. He is the recipient of the 2016 Zeldovich Medal jointly presented by COSPAR and the Russian Academy of Sciences for his significant contributions to the study of coupling between the lower and upper atmospheres on Earth and Mars by gravity waves. He is the sole author of the Springer's two-volume monograph series, "Atmospheric and Space Sciences", one on neutral atmospheres, and another on ionospheres and plasma environments.

### **May 5: Time and Memory in Human Thought. Martin**

**Wiener.** How does our sense of time affect the way in which we interact with the world around us? Experiences that seem to drag on in the moment appear relatively brief in our memory, whereas those that flew by due to their enjoyment loom large in our thoughts of the past. In this talk, the instructor will outline the connection between our sense of time and the memories we retain, with insight to how the brain encodes information in a rapidly changing world. He will also highlight work collected during the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic, when our collective sense of time became "warped" due to lockdowns and changes in our daily routines.

**Dr. Martin Wiener** is an associate professor in the Department of Psychology at George Mason University. He is an expert in the field of time perception and temporal processing, having authored over 50 papers and book chapters on the topic. Dr. Wiener received his PhD in 2011 from the University of Pennsylvania, where his work focused on understanding how time is measured in the brain, using a variety of methods including functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), electroencephalography (EEG), and transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS). Dr. Wiener's work has been featured as well in *The Economist*, *The Guardian*, *Axios*, and *BBC*.

### **May 12: Practical Mixology for the Home Bartender.**

**Dirk Fischbach.** Join your instructor, a certified mixologist, for a fast-paced tutorial on making your home bar a great watering hole for family and friends. You will learn how to stock your bar on a budget and how to make classic and contemporary cocktails in a variety of styles. The sessions will cover tools, techniques, spirits and mixers, as well as

drink histories and tips for serving large groups with hand-crafted drinks.

**Dirk Fischbach** is a certified mixologist and Tiki cocktail enthusiast. Traveling extensively, he is well-versed in regional specialty cocktails, as well as setting up a home bar with a minimum of expense and hassle.

## **902F / 902Z Trip Tales**

### **Eight sessions**

**Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 24–May 12**

**Note some sessions are virtual only, others are hybrid**

**Mar. 24: Virtual only.** Join retired federal employees, **Dave Cammarota** and **Mike Morrow**, for a virtual tour of the fascinating island of Cuba. In 2023, they completed a 10-day cycling trip across central Cuba, ranging from the bustling capital city of Havana to the now-tranquil waters of the Bay of Pigs, the culturally rich interior cities of Remedios, Sancti Spiritus and Trinidad, and the centuries-old port city of Cienfuegos.

**Mar. 31: Hybrid.** Come along with **Kathryn and Mel Russell** to Southern Sicily and Southern Italy as we explore some familiar sites as well as some less traveled. We'll wander through the Greek ruins of Taormina to the top of Mount Etna, from the cave city of Materna to the trulli dwellings of Alberobello, and finally to the beautiful coastline of Amalfi and Capri, enjoying the enduring attractions of these ancient civilizations.

**Apr. 7: Hybrid.** Join **Sandy and Tom Hoch** on a Kenya and Uganda wildlife exploration. Watch the migration of the wildebeest from the skies over the Masai Mara in a hot air balloon, be up close to the big five animals and so many more. Conclude your trip with a trek to see the gorillas and chimpanzees in the mountains of Uganda.

**Apr. 14: Hybrid.** During September 2024, **Stan and Judy Schretter**, traveled from Lake Como to the Swiss Alps to the Dolomites. Join them and meet some of the interesting folks they met along the way and enjoy the beautiful scenery of northern Italy.

**Apr. 21: Virtual only.** **Mack and Paulette Miller** share their journey through Switzerland, France, Austria, and Italy to see the towering Alps and Dolomites. Time in idyllic storybook towns; visiting the cities of Lausanne, Lucerne, and Innsbruck; and lunches on family farms in Switzerland and Italy invigorate the appetite for scenery and experiences.

**Apr. 28: Hybrid.** **Kim Skotzko** takes you on her May 2024 trip to Scandinavia via Viking's Ocean Cruise, "Viking Homelands". This cruise focused on the Scandinavian countries where the homelands of the Vikings were located and educated passengers on Viking history and culture. Ports visited included Stockholm, Sweden; the Aland Islands (Finnish); Gdansk, Poland; Berlin, Germany (docked in Warnemunde); Copenhagen and Alborg, Denmark; and Oslo, Stavanger, Eidfjord, and Bergen, Norway.

**May 5: Virtual only. A Taste of Istanbul and More of Türkiye, Too.** Unique geography, ancient history, modern development, and an exotic culture—that's the Istanbul that enticed **Bonnie Becker** and her adult son Geoff Polk to



Istanbul and Türkiye's Turquoise Coast. Along the way they paid respects to Gallipoli of WWI fame, the "Fake Horse" at Troy, and the famous Library of Celsus in Ephesus. The high point of the trip (literally!) was hot air ballooning over Cappadocia!

**May 12: Hybrid. Alana Lukes** will present a fast-moving 2024 8-day trip to Munich, Salzburg & Vienna. Stops along the way include a brewery, Kaiservilla in Bad Ischl (mentioned in recent PBS show, *Sisi*), Melk Abbey, and a short cruise on the Danube and the Austrian lake town of Hallstatt. Museum visits highlight ancient Greek, Roman, Etruscan, and Ephesian cultures along with natural history, Klimt, "Third Man," and a few churches.

### 903F Introduction to Chess

**Six sessions**

**Instructor: Jay Ryan**

**Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 25–May 6**

**No class Apr. 22**

Learn the ancient strategy game of chess. These classes are aimed at complete beginners or those with some experience looking for a refresher. The first class will be devoted to learning the rules. Subsequent classes will be divided between lectures on rules, strategy, tactics, and classic games, followed by in-person play among classmates. Chess sets and boards will be provided; just bring your brain.

**Jay Ryan** retired after a 35-year career as an economist and program manager at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Ryan played tournament chess in his youth and reached the rank of Expert, one level below Master. He continues his interest in chess, playing on-line and teaching chess.

### 904F History of Quilts of Virginia

**One session**

**Instructor: Bunnie Jordan**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Mar. 26**

The book, *Quilts of Virginia: The Birth of a Nation Through the Eye of a Needle* documents some of the remarkable quilts and quilt makers of Virginia. This talk highlights some of the interesting finds in this search through time in Virginia. In addition to the power point presentation, actual quilts will be shared for closer examination.

**Bunnie Jordan** has been actively appraising quilts for over 30 years. A long time quilter herself, she has been a contributing author to quilting magazines and the books: *Quilters Hall of Fame*, *Quilts of Virginia, 1607-1899*, and *Southern Quilts*.

### 905F Introduction to Mah Jongg

**Eight sessions**

**Instructor: Debby Mossburg**

**Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Mar. 27–May 15**

**Class limit: 20**

Come learn the ins and outs of this fascinating tile-based game that originated in China and spread across the world. The instructor will focus on the American version of the game, building expertise a step at a time until you'll be able to hold your own in a friendly game here at OLLI's Mah

Jongg club or elsewhere. This course will accommodate beginners who have never played Mah Jongg as well as once-upon-a-time or occasional players who want a thorough review and brush-up (Note: Taking the class is NOT a prerequisite for joining the OLLI Mah Jongg club).

**Debby Mossburg** is semi-retired from a career teaching struggling adolescent learners and their teachers. She has been an avid Mah Jongg player for over ten years and loves teaching others to play and take delight in the game.

### 906F / 906Z Hiking YOUR Way Through the UK and Ireland

**One session**

**Instructor: Christy Gavitt**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 2**

Have you wanted to hike along majestic but less-traveled paths in the UK, Ireland, or Europe with a small group of over 50-year-old hikers and a guide? Would you prefer hiking shorter distances with an even smaller senior group, and focus on the culture and history of a region with a knowledgeable guide? Alternatively, might your preference be multi-day hiking, staying in lovely B&B's as you progress along the route, while only carrying your day pack—knowing that your heavier suitcase will be waiting in your room in your next B&B? The presenter will provide insights on how to best explore magnificent and historical, but lesser-known hiking paths in Europe, notably in the UK and Ireland. Based on over 15 years of hiking in these countries, she will describe the above three options for exploring unique hiking trails, and how each of the options can best serve your hiking preferences. She will also share her recommendations of the best hiking trails.

**Christy Gavitt** worked in international relief and development programs for 32 years in Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean. Returning to the U.S., she worked with the international division of the American Red Cross. She is currently a global health consultant and devotes her free time to hiking and scuba diving. Christy received her Masters degree in International Administration from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont and her Masters in Public health from Tulane University.

### 907Z Writing a "Legacy Letter"

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Jay Sherwin**

**Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Apr. 8–Apr. 29**

**Class limit: 20**

**Please do not register for this class if you have already taken it. This is an interactive, conversational course that relies on active engagement by all participants. The instructor requests that students attend all four sessions, if possible, with cameras turned on.**

Your legal will bequeaths your valuables, but how do you transmit your values to your loved ones? A legacy letter (also called an "ethical will") is a written document that allows you to share your life lessons, express your values, and offer your blessings to future generations. A legacy letter is shorter than a memoir, typically just a few pages. Writing one is a rewarding experience that creates an enduring gift for children, grandchildren, and other loved

ones. This course includes discussion, in-class writing exercises, and brief weekly writing assignments to help you examine your life history, explore your values, and capture important insights. The course is designed to create a supportive learning community that will encourage you to draft and complete your own legacy letter.

**Jay Sherwin** has practiced law, worked for five charitable foundations, and served as a hospital chaplain. He created the Life Reflections Project to educate people about legacy letters and ethical wills. Jay has taught this online course to more than 40 OLLI programs nationwide.

### **908F / 908Z Cricket: Is It Better Than Baseball?— A Follow Up to Spring 2024**

**One session**

**Instructor: Roy Wagner**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:40, Apr. 16**

As a follow up to the class from spring 2024, F907/F907Z A Viewer's Guide to Enjoying the Game (of Cricket), this class will answer any questions you might have about cricket. The three major leagues that were discussed and played last season will be reviewed. The highlight of last season's USA league play was that our local Washington D.C. team, the Washington Freedom, went undefeated and will be the defending champions this year. How you can watch and even attend league games scheduled for this spring, and throughout the year ahead, will be discussed.

**Roy Wagner** is a retired database consultant and past president of several computer user groups. He has been a casual sports fan for years. He and his wife have been ardent cricket fans since 2015 after a trip to Australia and New Zealand.

### **909F Getting to Know You**

**Four sessions**

**Instructor: Debby Mossburg**

**Mondays, 11:50–1:15, Apr. 21–May 12**

**Class limit: 24**

Have you ever wished that you had more opportunities to interact with your fellow OLLI members in classes? That's what this course is all about. The instructor, a retired teacher of teens through adults, will guide participants through a number of cooperative learning activities with the goal of learning more about each other. Class members will have the opportunity to interact and problem solve with most if not all of their fellow classmates.

**Debby Mossburg** is a retired teacher who still loves to teach. She's taught middle and high school students who struggled with learning, as well as their teachers, to help them hone their skills in reaching every learner.

### **910F / 910Z Fairfax Village in the City: Age in Place with Free Services! Become a Member. It's Free! Become a Volunteer. It's Invaluable!**

**One session**

**Instructors: Jason Scadron, Anita Light**

**Wednesday, 2:15–3:15, Apr. 23**

**Note time**

Fairfax Village in the City is a city-supported, volunteer-

driven program developed to support Fairfax City residents aged 55 and older, as well as Fairfax City adults with disabilities, who wish to stay independent while remaining in their homes. The goal of the Village is to support healthy aging by sharing useful information, strengthening personal connections between neighbors, and providing opportunities for social interaction. When appropriate, the Village can also facilitate access to services and resources currently available to city residents through Fairfax County and local nonprofits. At the same time, if you're looking for volunteering opportunities, the Village vets volunteers to provide personal services such as check-in calls and visits, basic and seasonal yard assistance, technology assistance, simple home repairs, and transportation to appointments. Come learn more about the Village! Get free swag and other materials!

**Jason Scadron** is the village coordinator for Fairfax Village in the City. He has been a Fairfax City resident for over twenty years. He was a documentary producer for twenty years prior to working for the Fairfax City's Parks and Recreation and Human Services department. Mr. Scadron is a graduate of GMU.

**Anita Light** is the chair of the Fairfax Village in the City advisory board. Ms. Light is the former deputy executive director of the American Public Human Services Association. Prior to working at the national level for 20 years, Ms. Light worked in local government for over 25 years.

### **911Z Why is Traffic So Bad in the Washington D.C. Area?**

**Two sessions**

**Instructors: Ken Reid, Frances Fisher**

**Wednesdays, 2:15–3:40, May 7–May 14**

The D.C. area often ranks second or third in having the worst traffic in the U.S., costing an estimated \$1,761 per year to each motorist, based on a recent study. Why is it so bad when Metro has been extended numerous times, when express toll lanes have been added to I-66 and the Beltway, and counties and cities have made extraordinary efforts to concentrate housing and commercial development near transit centers, under the guise of reducing auto reliance? Students will learn the history of how we got here: why Metro and buses are so underutilized, the impact of remote working on congestion, how "congestion" is measured, why funding is limited, and the impact of regulations on getting facilities built. We will also look at solutions to getting out of this mess that local policy makers and politicians are not considering, and why.

**Ken Reid** served ten years in local elected office in Loudoun and served on a variety of regional transportation boards, notably, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission. He also spent some 20 years as an activist for more roads and transit options both in Virginia and Maryland.

**Frances Fisher** is a former member of the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board, business advocate for transportation solutions and longtime resident of Fairfax County.

# Special Events

Many Special Events offerings are **Add to Cart**. We urge you to register for Add to Cart offerings as early as possible. They can fill up quickly, even on the first day of registration. **Fairfax events are indicated by the suffix "F", Loudoun by "L", Reston by "R", and Zoom by "Z".**

## Special Events

Program Planning Group Chairs:  
Marilyn Harriman, Luci Martel

## 1000 Excursions

### 1001 Gettysburg: Off the Beaten Path

Coordinator: Sam Laudenslager

Friday, 8:00–5:30, Apr. 4

Bus Trip

Limit: 35

Fee: \$101



The movie *Gettysburg* opens with Union General Buford watching the approaching Confederate army, from the roof of the Lutheran Seminary. Our OLLI Gettysburg tour also opens at the same Seminary building where Buford witnessed the Confederate advance, in 1863. Buford's cupola is limited access today for safety reasons, but the battlefield view he had can still be seen from the Seminary Ridge Museum. After touring the museum, we will walk to the nearby Widow Thompson house, where General Lee had his headquarters during the battle. During the afternoon, we will visit the new (2023) Adams County Historical Society museum. Highlights here include the "Caught in the Crossfire" immersion gallery, where you may share the experiences of a Gettysburg family, hiding in their home as the fighting rages around them. The "Address Gallery" features full-size holographic projections of the day of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, accompanied by eyewitness accounts of that day's events. Meet our bus at 8:00am at the Fairfax Swimming Club parking area (4200 Roberts Road, adjacent to the OLLI Tallwood Center). The bus will leave promptly at 8:15am. Lunch will be at the Bullet Hole, a self-serve food court on the Gettysburg College campus.

### 1002 Visit the Supreme Court of the United States of America

Coordinator: Marguerite Johnson

Friday, 10:30–12:30, Apr. 11

Drive on Your Own

Limit: 21



OLLI member Marguerite Johnson will lead a guided tour of the Supreme Court of the United States of America. The highlights of the visit will include a private lecture in the Court Room followed by a behind the scenes visit to one or more conference rooms. Lunch will be available in the cafeteria. Following lunch participants will have the opportunity to explore, on their own, the displays in the public areas including permanent and special exhibits. We will meet inside

the building at 10:30am at the John Marshall statue. No food or liquids (including water) can be brought into the building. Parking near the Court is extremely limited; the Capitol South (Orange, Blue, Silver lines) is the closest Metro station, and is a 15 minute walk (partly uphill) to the Court.

### 1003 George C. Marshall's International Center at Dodona Manor

Friday, 10:30–11:30, May 9

Drive on Your Own

Location: 312 East Market Street, Leesburg, VA 20716

Coordinator: Luci Martel

Event Limit: 30

Fee: \$10



General George C. Marshall was *Time* magazine's Man of the Year twice. He led the U.S. Army to victory in World War II and served as Secretary of State and of Defense. His greatest legacy was his vision and leadership of what became the Marshall Plan, America's historic investment in rebuilding the economies of Western Europe. General Marshall and his wife called Dodona Manor home. Today, the 19th-century house and gardens are lovingly tended, all preserved as a living reminder of his inspiring leadership. Join us on a tour of the house and gardens and revisit a moment in time when American leadership saved democracy and preserved peace during troubled times. If enough interest, a lunch on your own may be arranged at a Leesburg restaurant for the group. Driving instructions and parking information will be forwarded to participants prior to the event.

## 1100 Diversions

### 1101F Picnic in the Park

Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman

Friday, 12:30–2:30, Mar. 28



Picture this: you're sitting on a blanket buoyed by a bed of freshly cut green grass. You're looking out at trees brimming with lush leaves and garden flowers planted by OLLI's Dirty Knee Club. You can take it all in at Tallwood's own park. Our campus includes a backyard that sports shade trees and a gently rolling hill. Bring your blanket, a picnic basket filled with your lunch, a non-alcoholic beverage, and enjoy the camaraderie of your OLLI friends and colleagues! Croquet, badminton, and cornhole games will be set up for your enjoyment—or you may want to laze under the shade of a tree. For those who prefer more structured seating, picnic tables and benches will be set up on the hill near the back parking lot.



## 1102F 60's Dance Party

**Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman**

**Friday, 1:00–3:00, Apr. 25**

**Event Limit: 65**



It's our second annual rock n' roll like you used to dance! Come party like it's 1965, 1955, or 1975. Whether you're a fan of the dance floor or prefer to sit back and listen, you're in for a treat. Our DJ, Captain Dave of Dave's Classic Rock & Roll Dance Co., will again be spinning a variety of platters, taking requests from the 1960s, '70s, and even the 1950s. Get ready to twist, swim, stroll, shimmy, hand-jive, or do the mashed potato. It's a musical journey you won't want to miss. Who was your favorite: Buddy Holly, The Supremes? The Beatles? The Beach Boys? Queen? Enjoy some of your favorites. Snacks and refreshments will be served. This event is free, but participants must register before April 16 to ensure we have plenty of food and beverages.

## 1103F / 1103Z Annual Business Meeting

**Coordinator: Jennifer Disano**

**Friday, 10:00, May 2**



The annual OLLI business meeting starts at 10:00. You will learn about the programming and operations of OLLI, as well as hear from the candidates for the Board of Directors.

## 1104F Tallwood Garden Party & Picnic

**Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman**

**Friday, 1:00–2:30, May 2**

**Limit: 75**



Beautiful butterflies, fragrant flowers, and spring savories await you at Tallwood when we gather for our annual picnic and celebration. OLLI will provide the main entrée (meat and vegetarian) and registered guests will provide salads, sides, and desserts. In addition to enjoying spring favorites, you'll have an opportunity to tour OLLI's gardens, planted by The Dirty Knee Club, and play lawn games in the campus's expansive backyard. This event will be held after the annual business meeting at Tallwood, and you must be registered to attend this picnic. When you sign up, don't forget to bring a salad (Last names S-Z), a side dish (last names I-R) or dessert (last names A-H). Please bring a serving utensil for your dish and a small identification sign

with ingredient details (i.e., chocolate cake with nuts). This is always a fun opportunity to mingle with your friends, have a delicious lunch, and enjoy Tallwood's gorgeous grounds that spring to life in May.

## 1200 Between-Term Events

### 1201F AARP Smart Driver Class

**Two sessions**

**Instructor: John Smaha**

**Saturdays, 9:30–1:30, Mar. 8–Mar. 15**

**Class limit: 55**

**Fee: \$20 for AARP members, \$25 for non-members**

This class has two objectives. The first is to address senior driver crash prevention—specifically, to identify what factors characterize the high crash/fatality rate for senior drivers, the indicators of increased danger, and solutions to reduce personal risk. The second objective is to review best driving practices, safe driving strategies, new technology, laws, and trends. The class will include video clips, infographics, lectures, personal experiences, and questions from participants. An AARP guidebook and the latest DMV Rules of the Road will be provided to each class member. This class is approved by the Virginia legislature, which mandates a three-year auto insurance discount after a completion certificate is presented to your insurance company. Although the class usually finishes early, feel free to bring a snack. **The attendance fee is payable at the class in cash, or preferably a check made out to AARP. Bring your AARP number if you have one.**

**John Smaha** retired from the Navy and is currently employed as a consultant. He is also a graduate of the University of Memphis and Air University. As a volunteer for AARP Driver Safety, John serves as the data manager for Virginia, and teaches Smart Driver and Smart DriverTek workshops.

### 1202F Eat Drink and Be Irish

**Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman**

**Thursday, 11:30–2:00, Mar. 13**

**Drive on Your Own**

**Location: The Auld Shebeen Restaurant, 3971 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax, VA 22030**

**Limit: 26**

As we march into winter's end, let's "Always remember to forget the troubles that passed away. But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day (Irish saying)." Join your OLLI friends for our third annual festive lunch and fellowship at the Auld Shebeen in Fairfax to honor the patron saint of Ireland. We will have a day of fun and good wishes with Irish favors and music. Celebrate the heritage and culture of its people as you enjoy a traditional Irish meal. Parking and cost are on your own. Free public parking is located one block north of the restaurant on Chain Bridge Road (RT. 123). Registration is limited to 26 people and is on a first-come, first-served basis. You must be registered to attend this event, as seating in the Library Room is restricted.



## Future Course Proposal Due Dates

\*\*Please note that course proposals are due approximately 6 months before the start of each term due to catalog production deadlines.

**Summer 2025: June 23 - August 1, 2025**

(Proposal due date: January 27, 2025)

**Fall 2025: September 22 - November 14, 2025**

(Proposal due date: April 9, 2025)

**Winter 2026: January 20 - February 13, 2026**

(Proposal due date: July 24th, 2025)

**Course Proposal Form:**

[olli.gmu.edu/olli-course-proposal-form/](http://olli.gmu.edu/olli-course-proposal-form/)

## 1203F Sponsored by the Commission on the Arts: *A Loving Community*

One session

Coordinator: Megan Dubois

Monday, 3:00–4:00, March 17

Location: Stacy C. Sherwood Center, 3740 Blenheim Blvd. Fairfax, VA 22030

*A Loving Community* is a play with music commissioned by Virginia Opera as its educational touring program for the 2024-2025 season. The production will feature music and history relevant to the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s and will include excerpts from the new opera *Loving v. Virginia* premiering April 2025. With piano accompaniment, the program will be performed by the Opera's four Emerging Artists. The production will also include a set of traveling display panels, created and curated by the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia. These will serve to enhance the understanding of the historical context that led to the significant decision in the case of *Loving v. Virginia* and its impact on the larger 20th and 21st century American civil rights landscape. A study guide and resource lists will also be available digitally.

## 1204F OLLI Kick-Off Coffee

Coordinator: Toni Acton

Thursday, 10:00–11:30, Mar. 20

Come one, come all as we welcome new members and kick off the spring term at OLLI! Celebrate old friendships and make new ones with coffee,



refreshments, and friendly conversation. New members will have the opportunity to meet and engage with the executive director and OLLI board members, as well as learn more about the many committees and clubs that are available to members. A question and answer period will follow the presentations. All new and past members are welcome. Registration for this event is on a first-come, first-served basis.

## 1205F / 1205Z The Back Story of the National Gallery of Art

One session

Instructor: Tom Manteuffel

Friday, 11:00–12:25, May 23

Location: The Providence, 9490 Sprague Avenue, Fairfax, 22031

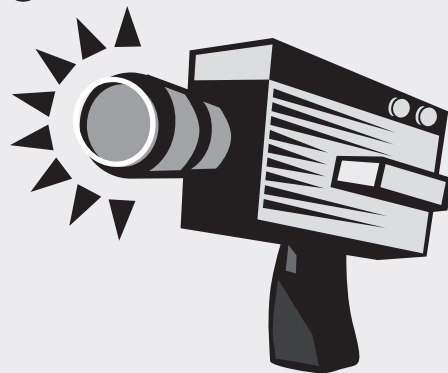
The creation of the National Gallery of Art is a riveting story that involves above all, Andrew Mellon but also FDR, Joseph Stalin, the art dealer Sir Joseph Duveen, connoisseur Bernard Berenson, and a host of others. Fascinating stories abound, and they are rarely told, but too good to go unknown to the casual visitor to one of America's largest and greatest museums. This well-illustrated talk will enrich your enjoyment of this local and national treasure.

**Tom Manteuffel** has taught a variety of classes at OLLI, including on Renaissance Art, French Impressionism, cryptocurrencies, cybersecurity, Stonehenge, Henry IV Part I, and the history of English. He is a retired cybersecurity consultant with a passion for museums.

## OLLI Mason Recorded Class Archive (Classes at Your Convenience!)

Is there a virtual class that you are interested in registering for, but the timing conflicts with other obligations? Will you be traveling during term and can't guarantee internet reliability, or you live in another state? Between terms, do you have free time to learn about a potential new hobby or a subject that you normally wouldn't sign up for? If the answer to these questions and others like it is yes, then problem solved!

Many of OLLI Mason's virtual classes are recorded so that members can view them afterwards. The online library of classes, both from the current term and past terms, is located on the OLLI Mason website ([olli.gmu.edu/class-video-recordings/](https://olli.gmu.edu/class-video-recordings/)). Only current members may access the video library, so you will need the passcode. For the current passcode, please check your Daily Schedule email.



*Happy viewing!*

# Clubs

- **Register for clubs and ongoing activities each membership term.** Registration allows OLLI to maintain current club rosters and ensures that you will receive emails about your club's activities and events.
- Zoom links for club meetings will begin on the 1st day of each membership term (Jan. 1, Mar. 1, Jun. 1, Sept. 1)
- All club registrations are **Add to Cart**. Please remember to check out your cart after you register for a club and before you exit the portal.
- For general club questions, please email [olliclub@gmu.edu](mailto:olliclub@gmu.edu). Club coordinator contact information can be found in the member portal.

## Clubs

### All the News That's Fit to Print Club

**Moderator: Zach Teich**

**Thursdays**

**Zoom:**

**11:50–1:15, Mar. 6–20, May 22–30**

**Club limit: 50**

All the News That's Fit to Print meets online to discuss current affairs issues in a friendly and collegial manner. The moderator provides a topic list drawn from the week's news and serves as 'traffic cop' for the freewheeling discussion. All opinions are welcome; the only rules are to be courteous and to allow the moderator to call on those who raise their hands to speak.



### Board Game Club

**Coordinator: Tim Harwarth**

**Biweekly on Wednesdays**

**Fairfax:**

**10:00–12:00, Mar. 5, Mar. 19**

**1:30–3:30, Apr. 2, Apr. 16, Apr. 30, May 14**

Playing board games can reduce stress, boost brain power, and protect against dementia. Do you like playing board games? Would you like to learn and play new games with your fellow OLLI members? If so, this is the club for you. The Board Game Club meets in the morning between terms and in the summer, and in the afternoon during the other terms. Sign up for the club via the member portal in order to receive information on our schedule.



### Bridge Club

**Coordinators: Carol Egan, Carol McManus**

**Wednesdays**

**Fairfax:**

**10:00–12:00, Mar. 5–Mar. 19**

**1:30–3:30, Mar. 26–May 14**

Players of all skill levels are welcome. Partnerships are rotated every four hands. The Bridge Club meets in the morning between terms and in the summer, and in the afternoon during the other terms. For details on the club's rules and bidding system, see its web page on the OLLI website. Sign up for the club via the member portal in order to receive any updates to our schedule.



### Caregivers Support Group

**Coordinator: Doris Bloch**

**Biweekly on Tuesdays**

**Zoom:**

**3:45–4:45, Mar. 4–May 27**

The group is intended to support those OLLI members who are caregivers for family members and friends who are exhibiting symptoms of dementia, although certainly open to any interested OLLI member or caregiver-type. In this effort, we have strong backing and cooperation with the George Mason University School of Social Work, which has provided us with a facilitator! We convene the group one afternoon every second week on Zoom. The group's focus will not be primarily on educational materials, as OLLI has offered substantial course work on those aspects, but rather on the emotional and the practical side of caregiving. You need not be a full-time caregiver or even a current caregiver to contribute your experiences and information to this group. You can share with us or lurk anonymously, as you wish; but if you register, you will receive periodic links to other helpful presentations and also be notified of the club schedule.



### Chair Yoga and More

**Instructor: Kamini Patel**

**Coordinator: Kathryn Russell**

**Zoom:**

**Mondays, 4:00–5:00, Mar. 3–May 19 (no meeting on Memorial Day)**

**Tuesdays, 2:00–3:00, Mar. 4–May 27**

**Wednesdays, 12:00–1:00, Mar. 5–May 28**

**Thursdays, 3:00–4:00, Mar. 6–May 29**

**Fridays, 12:00–1:00, Mar. 7–May 30**

Join Kamini Patel, a certified yoga instructor who has been teaching yoga since 2003. You will benefit from different kinds of yoga. Mondays will use a stability ball to go deeper into yoga stretches. The ball helps people with hip and knee issues so that balance, core strength, and posture are improved. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Chair Yoga is a gentle form that utilizes yoga, stretching, and breathing exercises. On Wednesdays, Vinyasa Yoga will be a flow class to reduce stress and improve heart health. Continue on Fridays with a more relaxed Gentle Yoga class. There will be more yoga stretches at a slower pace. All classes include breathing exercises and meditation. We will discuss the equipment needed in class as well.





## Classic Literature Club

**Coordinators:** Michael Mason, Debi Schilling

**Fridays**

**Zoom:**

**2:00–3:30, Mar. 28–May 16; no meeting May 2**

This club was formed to read and discuss classic works of world literature, frequently with the help of recorded lectures where available. Members choose the works to be discussed. In the past we have read works such as Melville's *Moby Dick*, Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, Faulkner's *Absalom Absalom*, Morrison's *Beloved*, Ellison's *Invisible Man*, Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, short stories of John Updike and Flannery O'Connor, and plays by Eugene O'Neill and Arthur Miller.



## Cooking Club

**Coordinator:** Colleen Tuddenham

**Second Friday of the Month**

**11:30–1:00, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9**

This club is for OLLI members who enjoy preparing food and sharing homemade dishes in a small group setting. If this appeals to you, please contact Colleen Tuddenham for more information. Sign up for the club via the member portal in order to receive information on our schedule.



## Craft and Conversation

**Coordinators:** Doris Bloch, Joanne Fitzgerald

**Fridays**

**Fairfax, hybrid:**

**9:30–11:00, Mar. 7–May 30; no meeting May 2**

We meet to work on our craft projects and to share product sources, expertise, and inspiration. Our ongoing conversations encourage camaraderie, and a group setting motivates us to progress with our current projects. Interested OLLI members are invited to join us any time to see what we are creating. All crafts are welcomed! For more information, check out the Craft and Conversation blog on OLLI's website or contact Doris Bloch or Joanne Fitzgerald.



## Dabbling Artists Club

**Coordinator:** Christine Narbut

**Biweekly on Wednesdays**

**Fairfax, hybrid:**

**1:30–3:30, Mar. 5, Mar. 19, Apr. 9, Apr. 23, May 7, May 21**

Come meet and work alongside fellow OLLI members who dabble in sketching, charcoal, pastels, pencils, ink, and watercolor painting. While not an instructive class, all artists are encouraged to share their talents and feedback. Provide your own materials and the picture or sketch you plan to work on each week. There will be plenty of advisory conversations available. If you have some experience with the visual arts, or if you last picked up a pastel or brush in high school, maybe you're ready to do it again! Artistic talent is not required, just a desire to create and have fun and share your creative joy.



## Dance Club

**Coordinators:** Lila Goldstein, Gloria Loew

**First Friday of the month**

**Fairfax:**

**10:30–11:30, Mar. 7, Apr. 4, time and location to vary in May**

Let's get together once a month and have fun dancing! Club members will experience different types of music and styles of dancing—60's rock, line dancing, Latin dancing, etc. No expertise in dancing is needed. Club coordinators will send advanced announcements for off site days to registered club members.



## Dirty Knee Club

**Coordinator:** Vince Modugno

**Fairfax:**

**As possible during term; watch your email for updates; watch E-news for announcements**

The OLLI Landscaping Committee, fondly known as the Dirty Knee Club, creates, plants, and maintains the gardens at Tallwood. Gardening expertise is not required, but a willingness to get dirty knees is! Meetings and group work sessions will be set up on an as needed basis. From late spring to early fall, DKC members take turns watering, weeding, and maintaining the gardens during the growing season, depending on members' availability.



## Ethnic Eats Club

**Coordinator:** Leti Labell

**In-person luncheons each month, dates TBD**

**Virtual dinner meeting on Zoom:**

**Thursdays, every four weeks**

**6:00–7:00, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, May 1, May 29**

Do you love to eat? Are you interested in learning about foods from other cultures? Then this is the club for you. Northern Virginia has an abundance of ethnic restaurants. Each month a club member identifies a potential restaurant for an in-person lunch, makes sure it meets our requirements, and makes all arrangements with the restaurant. We have two luncheons at the selected restaurant, usually one on a Saturday and one on a weekday. During the Covid pandemic, we started having virtual dinner parties, where we each ordered takeout ethnic food from a nearby restaurant and ate together on Zoom. We will continue these virtual dinners for as long as members are interested. If this sounds like your cup of tea (or chai or tè or té or thé), contact Leti Labell.



## Family History/Genealogy Club

**Coordinators:** Michael Mason, Lea Edwards

**Biweekly on Mondays**

**Zoom:**

**4:00–5:30, Mar. 10–May 19**

Have you always wanted to know more about your family's past but don't have a clue about how to get started? Do you enjoy researching your family's ancestors and discovering new facts about their lives but often become frustrated when you can't find important



information or documents? Do you have a fascinating story from your family's history that you would like to put into a readable format that you can share with others? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you are welcome to join the Family History/Genealogy Club. The club meets every two weeks in an interactive format to discuss a range of topics such as the most efficient way to access the huge amount of records on the Internet, how to read census and vital records accurately, and how to use DNA data to help fill out your family tree. All knowledge levels are welcome. Sign up for the club through the OLLI member portal. If you have questions, contact Michael Mason or Lea Edwards.

## History Club

**Coordinator:** Doug Snoeyenbos

**Wednesdays**

**Zoom:**

**4:00–5:30, Mar. 5, Apr. 2, May 7**

We welcome all OLLI members who are interested in history. The History Club meets 7 times per year. Our meetings feature accomplished speakers on a wide variety of historical topics. There is always time for questions, and spirited discussion is encouraged. For more information about the History Club, contact Doug Snoeyenbos.



## Homer, etc.

**Coordinator:** Donna Osthaus

**Fridays**

**Zoom:**

**11:00–12:30, Mar. 7–May 30; no meeting on May 2**

Reading the classics aloud with friends and sharing observations bring the texts to life in our imaginations. We have recently read Thomas Hardy's classic, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, and are following this with Somerset Maugham's *Cakes and Ale*. We welcome new readers.



## Literary Fiction Book Club

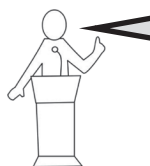
**Coordinators:** Karen Schneider, Joann Sokol

**Thursdays**

**Zoom:**

**4:00–5:30, Mar. 27, Apr. 17, May 8**

The Literary Book Club focuses on literary fiction, often major book prize winners or nominees and sometimes fiction in translation. The group chooses to remain on Zoom to allow OLLI members from all over to join the discussions. On March 27, the group will discuss *There Are Rivers In Sky The Sky* by Elif Shafak. On April 17, we will meet to discuss *James* by Percival Everett. On May 8, our last discussion for the term will be *Astrid and Veronika* by Linda Olsson.



For full instructor bios, click on the instructor name accompanying the course descriptions in the OLLI member portal:  
**[olligmu.augusoft.net](http://olligmu.augusoft.net)**

## Mah Jongg Club

**Coordinator:** Debby Mossburg

**Fridays**

**Fairfax:**

**10:00–12:00, Mar. 7, Mar. 21, Apr. 4, Apr. 18, May 16, May 30, no meeting May 2**

**Tuesdays**

**Zoom:**

**4:00–6:00, Mar. 11, Mar. 25, Apr. 8, Apr. 22, May 6, May 20**

Please come join us to socialize and play some friendly games of Mah Jongg, no matter what your level of experience. Not only does Mah Jongg sharpen memory, concentration, and decision-making skills, this engaging game of strategy and luck is an excellent source of camaraderie and fun. If you have never played before, we recommend joining us in person rather than online. For more information about the club, the game, and/or how to sign up for the on-line platform we use to play during our online sessions, contact the club coordinator, Debby Mossburg.



## Memoir–and More–Writing Group

**Coordinators:** Carolyn F. Wyatt, Margie Wildblood

**Biweekly on Wednesdays in and out of term**

**Zoom:**

**2:00–4:30, Mar. 5–May 30**

We meet every other week during most of the year. In addition to memoir, we write fiction, poetry, and personal essays. At our meetings we gently critique each other's work with the aim of improving our writing skills. Writing groups need to be small, so we regrettably have to limit numbers. Please contact Carolyn to learn if space is available.



## OLLI Walk & Talk Club

**Coordinators:** Marilyn Harriman, Bob Heyer, Jane Hassell

**Weekly/Biweekly**

**Fairfax County trails and neighborhoods**

**Start times are between 9:00–2:00, depending on weather conditions**

Do you enjoy getting out in the fresh air, exploring trails throughout Fairfax County, and talking with new and old friends? Then join us for weekly/biweekly walks throughout the year. Fairfax County has many exciting park trails and neighborhoods that we will discover. Club walks begin between 9am and 2pm, depending on temperature and weather conditions, generally starting earlier in warmer weather and later in colder weather. Each walk is 45-75 minutes, with an optional after-meet-up at a coffee/tea/eatery shop. Come walk or lead a walk around Fairfax trails and neighborhoods! Club coordinators send advance announcements about upcoming walks, including location directions, dates, and times. All walkers need to be registered in the club, through the member portal, to receive walk schedule information and participate. Check the OLLI Mason website for the W&T Club link where commonly asked questions are answered.



**Personal Computer User Group****Coordinators: Bob Heyer, Leti Labell****Third Saturday of each month****Fairfax, hybrid:****1:00–3:30, Mar. 15, Apr. 19, May 17**

The OLLI PC User Group (OPCUG), in partnership with the Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS), focuses on Windows and Mac computers and software for enhancing our lives. Members and presenters also discuss smartphone and tablet apps across the iDevices and Androids, the Internet, Zoom and other classroom software, digital photography, related technology, and open-source software. Our aim is to bring broad understanding about technologies and topics of interest to attendees. PC clinics for members are offered twice yearly. Our target audience encompasses all computer users, from beginners to intermediate amateurs to experts. Our motto is "users helping users." Club dues (currently \$5 per year) are payable at the first meeting attended in each calendar year. Dues paying members can attend monthly sessions in person or view on Zoom on a variety of devices from home, or anywhere with an internet connection. Members also have access to weekly webinars provided by APCUG, an association of computer user groups. More details are available on the group's website: <http://olligmu.org/opcug/index.html>.

**Photography Club****Coordinators: John Olsen, Ed Marion****Second Fridays****Fairfax, hybrid:****9:30–11:30, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9****Fourth Fridays****Fairfax, hybrid:****9:30–11:30, Mar. 28, Apr. 25, May 23**

Meet with enthusiasts and others interested in photography and develop skills by participating in theme-based monthly photo submissions. The Photography Club welcomes all members, regardless of skill level or your phone/camera choice. We discuss both the technology of photography and the artistic aspect of visual design. We usually have guest speakers on the second Friday of each month, and on the fourth Friday of each month we hold discussions covering specific topics in detail. We also regularly plan field trips in the local area, often on the third Friday of each month. Contact John Olsen or Ed Marion for further information.

**Poetry Reading Club****Coordinator: Susan Rexroad****Generally meets every other Monday–between terms****Zoom:****11:00–12:30, Mar. 3, Mar. 17, May 26****Limit: 20**

The Poetry Reading Club provides the opportunity for members to read the works of a favorite poet and to learn about poems of interest to fellow club members. Bring a poem to read that intrigues you. We'll discuss why and how these poems engage or even elude us.

**Poetry Writing Club****Coordinators: Susan Rexroad, Margie Wildblood****Meets sporadically on Mondays****Zoom:****11:00–12:30, Mar. 10, May 19****Limit: 12**

During our time together, a presentation including the reading of poetry by a specific poet or about a poetic subject will be given along with a writing prompt. Participants will have time to craft a poem in response and share their work in a supportive atmosphere.

**Spanish Club****Coordinator: Mark Ramage****Second and fourth Wednesdays–in term****Fairfax:****1:45–3:15, Mar. 26, Apr. 9, Apr. 23, May 14****First and third Wednesdays–in and out of term****Zoom:****4:00–5:30, Mar. 5, Mar. 19, Apr. 2, Apr. 16, May 7, May 21**

This club is for anyone with some knowledge of Spanish (advanced beginner up through intermediate level), but not fluent. Since members have a wide range of backgrounds in Spanish, this is not a "Spanish only" club. Activities or presentations in Spanish are also presented in English, or translated to English as a group activity. Some typical activities might include reading through a short article as a group, practicing/reviewing some grammar topics, working on Spanish pronunciation, watching a Spanish language video (with English subtitles), and sharing information on websites or other resources useful for learning or improving your Spanish.

**Tai Chi Club****Coordinators: Russell Stone, Cathey Parker,****Bonnie Nelson, Sid Koslow****Zoom:****Tuesdays, 4:30–5:30, Mar. 4–May 27****Thursdays, 4:30–5:30, Mar. 6–May 29****Saturdays, 10:30–11:30, Mar. 1–May 31**

The Tai Chi Club meets year-round and is open to all OLLI members. It is led by instructor Jerry Cheng, who started his martial arts training when he was six years old in China. He has studied under several famous Chinese martial arts masters and has taught Chen-style Tai Chi for many years. He won four gold medals at the 1997 Atlanta International Martial Arts Championship. Be sure to register for the Tai Chi Club each term in order to receive email messages when there are changes.

**Tallwood Book Club****Coordinator: Betty Ellerbee****Second Friday of the month****Zoom:****2:30–4:00, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9**

Please consult the OLLI E-news for updates on book selections.





## The Investment Forum Club

**Moderators: Al Smuzynski, Bob Baker**

**Wednesdays**

**Fairfax, hybrid:**

**10:30–12:00, Mar. 5, Mar. 12, Mar. 19, May 21, May 28**

The Investment Forum, which has been meeting continuously since 1995, addresses investment topics of particular interest to retirees. A weekly agenda is distributed, and sessions begin with an open discussion of recent events in the economy and the financial markets, and their impact on investment decisions. Member presentations and discussions typically include such topics as: recent market indicators, stocks, bonds, funds, real estate investment trusts, options, commodities, sector allocations, investment strategies, and choosing financial advisors. Investment trades are collected each week from Forum members, and those trades are discussed. The club meeting uses analyses and data from the financial press.



we can socialize with fellow theater lovers. Guests are always welcome at our outings. TLG meetings are held virtually during the months OLLI is in session. Programs feature guest speakers from and about theater. There are also planned theater outings and programs, or social outings such as a dinner. Member input is always welcome. TLG takes one-day and overnight theater trips, e.g., to see shows on Broadway in New York; to American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, Va.; and (in July 2025) to the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown, W.Va. We generally carpool and benefit from group rates. To become a TLG member, just go online to the member portal to sign up or email the OLLI registrar at ollireg@gmu.edu. For more information, contact Norma Reck and also look for TLG news and theatrical events in OLLI's E-News.

## Theater Lovers' Group

**Coordinator: Norma Jean Reck**

**Fourth Wednesdays during term and in-person theater events**

**Zoom:**

**4:00–5:30, Mar. 26, Apr. 23**

All OLLI members are invited to join The Theater Lovers' Group (TLG), which offers a wide variety of theater events to enjoy year-round. We organize group outings to attend performances (usually matinees) at various theaters in the Virginia-Maryland-D.C. metropolitan area. For each show, we go to a nearby restaurant for an optional lunch/dinner where



## What's in the Daily News Club

**Moderators: Dorsey Chescavage, Dick Crawford**

**John Quinn, Ann Smith, Al Smuzynski**

**Class Liaison: Dennis VanLangen**

**Mondays, between terms**

**Zoom:**

**9:30–11:00, Mar. 3–17, May 19 (no meeting May 26)**

**Limit: 80**

This is a weekly forum for thoughtful, forthright, and respectful exchange of information and opinions on current world, U.S., and regional news. Club participants bring to the table a wealth of knowledge and experience in international affairs, government, industry, education, economics, the military, and other areas. The discussion is always lively, and all participants have an equal opportunity to comment.



## Volunteer for OLLI Mason!

**OLLI Mason relies on member volunteers.** As a volunteer, you can help shape the future of OLLI Mason by developing or teaching the courses, clubs, socials, and trips that continue to make this organization a premier lifelong learning institute. Remember, it's not all work! Volunteering can help you develop new skills and form new friendships.

**To learn more about available volunteer opportunities, visit the website at :**

**[olli.gmu.edu/volunteer/](http://olli.gmu.edu/volunteer/)**



# Membership and Registration

## **\*\* Special \*\***

### **Spring 2025 Promotion!**

OLLI Mason is offering a low fee of \$300 for those new to OLLI Mason who purchase an annual membership. (Available as a one-time discount to those who have never been OLLI Mason members, are returning to OLLI Mason after a hiatus of more than one year, or have previously been introductory members and have not converted to an annual membership).

## **\*\* Special \*\***

### **George Mason and Northern Virginia Public School Retirees!**

OLLI Mason is offering a one-time annual membership discount of \$100, which may be applied to the special \$300 promotion. George Mason and Northern Virginia Public School retirees who have not previously joined OLLI Mason may receive an annual membership for just \$200.

## **Two Types of OLLI Mason Membership**

Memberships at OLLI Mason can be purchased at any time during the year and are renewed on a rolling basis.

- **Annual membership.** Register for unlimited courses and activities for four consecutive terms. You will be eligible for a Mason ID card to receive certain university privileges and discounts (see page ii). The cost is **\$450**.
- **Introductory membership.** Register for unlimited courses and activities for just one term, one time only. An introductory membership is not available to former OLLI Mason members; it is intended for new members who want to sample OLLI Mason before committing to a full year. Introductory members are not eligible for a Mason ID card or its privileges. The **onetime** introductory membership is **\$150**.

The term date on your catalog mailing label reflects the end of your current membership. If it is time to renew, you may not be able to view classes or register on the member portal until you purchase your membership renewal.

## **Payment Options**

- **Online.** You may join or renew online at **olli.gmu.edu**. Click **Join** at the upper right corner of the home page. Credit card or electronic check payment is required when joining/renewing online.
- **Paper Copy Registration Form.** Using the registration form to join or renew, payment can be made by check or credit card. If paying by check, submit a separate check for each unique expense (class fee, membership renewal, etc.) The form can be dropped off or mailed to: **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, 4210 Roberts Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032**.
- **Installments.** OLLI Mason encourages members to pay in full at time of registration. However, OLLI Mason offers a payment plan of monthly or quarterly installments by credit or debit card. Your application for the installment

plan must be filled out completely, mailed to the address on the form, and approved each year before you can register for courses or activities. For security reasons, we cannot accept the form by email. Installment applications are available on the OLLI Mason website at **olli.gmu.edu/installment-plans/**.

- **Financial Assistance.** OLLI Mason offers financial assistance for members or prospective members who find it a hardship to pay the full membership fee. Email the registrar (**ollireg@gmu.edu**) to request an application. All inquiries are kept confidential.

## **Refunds**

Members may only obtain a full refund of their membership fees by applying in writing to the executive director before the beginning of the third week of classes in the first term after enrollment or re-enrollment. We cannot honor proration or refund requests after this deadline.

## **Prospective Members**

Not ready to commit? Prospective members may experience OLLI Mason by sampling one or more classes during any consecutive two weeks of a term, provided the course is not oversubscribed. Check with the registrar at **ollireg@gmu.edu** before attending a class.

## **REGISTRATION PROCESS**

- **Online.** You may register for OLLI Mason courses online at **olli.gmu.edu**. Click **Sign In** at the upper right hand corner of the home page.
- **Mail-In Registration Form.** You may also register for courses using the registration form. The form can be dropped off or mailed to: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, 4210 Roberts Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032.



**\*\*Emailed registration forms will not be accepted. \*\***

# Membership and Registration, Continued

## When to Register

- Members are encouraged to register for courses and events as soon as registration opens (the registration start date is listed on the front and back cover of the catalog and on page ii). Requesting classes early after registration opens offers registrants the best chance to gain access to classes they most desire.
- When you register, you must click **Request Class** or **Add to Cart**. See the instructions below.

## Request Class vs. Add to Cart

- **Request Class** is the link you click when you are registering for a course. **These require a priority assignment by you.**
- To complete your registration, you must assign a priority to each course –the order of their importance to you. To prioritize classes or to see what you have requested, click **Prioritize/Finalize** on the left side toolbar of the member portal.
- Members are placed in courses based on the priority number they assign to their requests.
- If course enrollment reaches capacity, those who have designated that course as priority one will get in first, then the priority twos, and so on.
- In addition, a random number is assigned by the registration system to each course request. If all members of a priority group cannot be included in the course, those with the lower random numbers will be admitted into the course first. Therefore, requesting a course does not guarantee enrollment.
- **Add to Cart** is the link you click when you are registering for courses or events in which you are immediately enrolled or which are designated in the catalog as first-come, first-served. This includes all clubs. All **Add to Cart** courses and events are clearly indicated throughout the catalog with the following shopping cart icon: 
- If there is a fee associated with these offerings, they will also be clearly marked with a shopping cart followed by a dollar sign:  \$  
Payment for these courses and special events with fees must be made at the time of registration.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE: You are urged to register early for Add to Cart offerings. These popular offerings can fill up quickly, even as early as the first day of registration. Early registration will increase your chances for enrollment.**
- Please remember to go to **View Cart** and **Check Out** to complete enrollment before logging off the member portal.

## Ongoing Registration

Ongoing registration continues throughout the term. You may still register for courses, but you will be placed into them on a space-available basis after the class assignment process has occurred (about two weeks before term). After the class assignment process occurs, you will be prompted to “place in cart” rather than “request a course” when registering; the option to prioritize classes will no longer appear.

## Making Changes to Your Registration (Add/Drop)

- You may add courses at any time online through the member portal.
- If you are unable to attend a course or event in which you are enrolled, **please drop the course or event as soon as possible.** You may drop courses by filling out the online form at: [olli.gmu.edu/add\\_drop\\_form](http://olli.gmu.edu/add_drop_form) or by emailing [ollireg@gmu.edu](mailto:ollireg@gmu.edu).

## Emails Confirming Class Enrollment and Payments

You will receive email confirmations for your enrollment in OLLI Mason classes per below. If you want to see your enrollments thereafter, log in to the member portal ([olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu)) and click “current registrations.”

- Confirmation emails for **Add to Cart** classes will be sent **immediately** after checkout.
- Confirmation emails for **Requested Classes** will be sent once these classes are assigned (about 2 weeks before term). At that time, you will receive a series of emails, including notification of wait-listed courses.
- **Read your confirmation notes carefully.** They will include any updates to courses, including changes in times or dates.
- If you do not have an email address on file, the confirmation notes will be mailed to you.
- **Special Event fees:** OLLI Mason cannot guarantee a refund for courses or events once the member has paid and enrolled. As such, please consider carefully before signing up for offerings with fees. If the member needs to drop an event, they should contact the Registrar. In some cases, refunds will be granted when the member’s reserved spot is filled by someone else or the event is canceled.

## Wait Lists

- OLLI Mason does everything possible to maximize enrollment. If you do not make it into a course, you will be wait-listed based on the priority you assigned to the course.
- When someone drops a course, the OLLI Mason office will contact members on the wait list until the vacancy is filled. In most cases, the office will not leave a message.



# OLLI Mason Registration Form: Spring 2025

Drop off or mail completed form to:  
**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University,**  
**4210 Roberts Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032**

Date Received	_____
Date Processed	_____
Dues Chk _____	CC _____
Spec Chk _____	CC _____
Spec Chk _____	CC _____
FOLLIChk _____	CC _____
CC info destroyed	_____

Check box if there are changes in your membership information since your last submission.

## Membership Information:

Please print and fill in all spaces completely.

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms. (CIRCLE ONE) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST NAME FIRST NAME MI

Alternate First Name for Your Nametag (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET CITY STATE ZIPCODE

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Member Portal User Name \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_  
(for new members only) 6 OR MORE CHARACTERS

Mason Alumnus?  Yes  No

- Check box if you **DO NOT** want to appear in the directory.
- Check box if you **DO NOT** want to receive paper catalog mailings.

**Home Campus:**  Fairfax  Reston  Loudoun  Zoom (out of area)

How Did You Learn About OLLI Mason?	
<input type="checkbox"/> AARP	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend or family
<input type="checkbox"/> Ad or article	<input type="checkbox"/> Web search
<input type="checkbox"/> Bumper sticker	<input type="checkbox"/> 50+ Expo
<input type="checkbox"/> Catalog or flyer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other learning org.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

## Dues and Donations Information (Please check the appropriate boxes below)

- Annual Membership (\$450)** One year of unlimited courses at OLLI Mason.  
(Offered to new, renewing, and previous members) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Special Promotional Fee (\$300)** One year of unlimited courses at OLLI Mason.  
(Offered as a one-time discount to those new to OLLI Mason who have never been members, are returning after more than one year's hiatus, or were introductory members who haven't converted to annual members) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - George Mason University or Northern Virginia Public School Retirees Membership (\$200)**  
(Offered as a one-time discount to those who have never been an annual OLLI Mason member) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Introductory Membership (\$150)** One term of unlimited courses at OLLI Mason.  
(Offered ONLY to new members, not renewing or previous members) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Charitable Donation for Friends of OLLI**  
 Check if you want to be an anonymous donor. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Purchase OLLI Mason eGift Card (enter at right the value you want on card)**  
 Mail eGift Card code to recipient  Email eGift Card code to recipient \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Recipient's name and address or email:  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this form, I agree to all OLLI Mason policies and procedures and waive OLLI Mason liability for any trip, drive on your own event, or off-site club activity in which I participate:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

## Payment Information:

- CHECK payable to **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**  **Installment plan** (see page 30): must submit the form found at: [olli.gmu.edu/installment-plans/](http://olli.gmu.edu/installment-plans/)
- eGift Card \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and Redemption code \_\_\_\_\_
- I authorize OLLI Mason to charge my Credit Card account listed below:  
 VISA  MASTERCARD  DISCOVER  AMERICAN EXPRESS **Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CVV:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Billing Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSES REQUIRING PRIORITIZATION**

Please include the entire course number including the F, L, R, and/or Z.  
See page 31 "Request Class" for instructions.

	Course	Course Name
1st <sup>priority</sup>		
2nd <sup>priority</sup>		
3rd <sup>priority</sup>		
4th <sup>priority</sup>		
5th <sup>priority</sup>		
6th <sup>priority</sup>		
7th <sup>priority</sup>		
8th <sup>priority</sup>		
9th <sup>priority</sup>		

**ADD TO CART/FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED OFFERINGS**

See page 31 "Add to Cart" for instructions.

For offerings with fees, you must provide payment NOW. If paying by check,  
a separate check for each offering is required.

	Select	Activity Title	Fee		Select	Activity Title	Fee
1001		Gettysburg: Off the Beaten Path	\$101	1103F/ 1103Z		Annual Business Meeting	N/A
1002		Visit the Supreme Court	N/A	1104F		Tallwood Garden Party & Picnic	N/A
1003		George C. Marshall's International Center	\$10	1201F		AARP Smart Driver Class	N/A
1101F		Picnic in the Park	N/A	1202F		Eat Drink and Be Irish	N/A
1102F		60's Dance Party	N/A	1204F		OLLI Kick-off Coffee	N/A

**CLUB ENROLLMENT: List the clubs in which you wish to enroll.**


# Spring 2025 Schedule Fairfax

(Week 1-Week 4)

Note Dates and Times  
Before Term Programs

<b>Saturdays, Mar. 8–Mar. 15, 9:30–1:30</b>	<b>Thu. Mar. 13, 11:30-2:00</b>	<b>Mon. Mar. 17, 3:00-4:00</b>	<b>Thu. Mar. 20, 10:00-11:30</b>
1201F AARP Smart Driver Class	1202F Eat, Drink, and Be Irish	1203F A Loving Community	1204F Kickoff Coffee

Number of sessions are shown in parentheses.  
Bolded classes have unusual dates and/or times.

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	24-Mar	25-Mar	26-Mar	27-Mar	28-Mar
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	202F Beyond the Basics (3) 408F My Hand a Needle (4)	
11:50-1:15	301F/301Z Two Women (1) 802F Microbes (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8) 903F Intro to Chess (6)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	705F/705Z News that's Fit (6) 905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	<b>1101F Picnic 12:30-2:30</b>
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) <b>315F/315Z History of Bridges (3)</b>	904F History of Quilts (1)	106F Singing for Fun (8) 805F Weather Basics (3)	
Week 2	31-Mar	1-Apr	2-Apr	3-Apr	4-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	202F Beyond the Basics (3) 408F My Hand a Needle (4)	<b>108F/108Z Military Saved Performances (1) 11:00-12:25</b>
11:50-1:15	802F Microbes (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8) 903F Intro to Chess (6)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	705F/705Z News that's Fit (6) 905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	<b>1001 Gettysburg 8:00-5:30</b>
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) <b>315F/315Z History of Bridges (3)</b>	906F/906Z Hiking UK/Ireland (1)	106F Singing for Fun (8) 805F Weather Basics (3)	
Week 3	7-Apr	8-Apr	9-Apr	10-Apr	11-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	202F Beyond the Basics (3) 408F My Hand a Needle (4)	<b>1002 Supreme Court 10:30-12:30</b>
11:50-1:15	109F/109Z Artful Frames (1) 802F Microbes (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8) 903F Intro to Chess (6)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8) 655F Blacks in Fairfax Cty (3) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) <b>315F/315Z History of Bridges (3)</b>	706F/706Z Misinformation (1)	106F Singing for Fun (8) 805F Weather Basics (3)	
Week 4	14-Apr	15-Apr	16-Apr	17-Apr	18-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	408F My Hand a Needle (4) 658F Values & Goal Setting (2)	
11:50-1:15	656F Censorship (1) 802F Microbes (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8) 903F Intro to Chess (6)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8) 655F Blacks in Fairfax City (3) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) 657F Black Reconstruction (1)	908F/908Z Cricket (1)	106F Singing for Fun (8) 414F Read Play Together (5)	



# Spring 2025 Schedule Fairfax

(Week 5-Week 8)

Note Dates and Times  
After Term Programs

Fri. May 23, 11:00-12:25  
1205F/1205Z Gallery of Art

Number of sessions are shown in parentheses.  
Bolded classes have unusual dates and/or times.

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 5	21-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr	24-Apr	25-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4) 658F Values & Goal Setting (2)	<b>708F/708Z Money in Politics (1)</b> <b>11:00-12:25</b>
11:50-1:15	310F/310Z Women Suffrage (1) 909F Getting to Know You (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	705F/705Z News that's Fit (6) 905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	<b>1102F 60's Dance 1:00-3:00</b>
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8) 655F Blacks in Fairfax City (3)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) 605F Parables of Jesus (4)	910/910Z Fairfax Village (1)	106F Singing for Fun (8) 414F Read Play Together (5)	
Week 6	28-Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr	1-May	2-May
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	204F/204Z Copyright, Etc. (3) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4)	<b>1103F/1103Z Annual Meeting</b> <b>10:00</b>
11:50-1:15	909F Getting to Know You (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8) 903F Intro to Chess (6)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8)	705F/705Z News that's Fit (6) 905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	<b>1104F Garden Party &amp; Picnic</b> <b>1:00-2:30</b>
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) 605F Parables of Jesus (4)	312F The Holocaust (1)	106F Singing for Fun (8) 414F Read Play Together (5)	
Week 7	5-May	6-May	7-May	8-May	9-May
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	704F/704Z US/China (8) 809F Dirt (2)	204F/204Z Copyright, Etc. (3) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4)	
11:50-1:15	313F/313Z Swamp Fox (2) 909F Getting to Know You (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8) 903F Intro to Chess (6)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8)	705F/705Z News that's Fit (6) 905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	<b>1003 Dodona Manor</b> <b>10:30-11:30</b>
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) 605F Parables of Jesus (4)		106F Singing for Fun (8) 414F Read Play Together (5)	
Week 8	12-May	13-May	14-May	15-May	16-May
9:40-11:05	801F Tech Literacy (8)	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> <b>9:30-10:55</b> 603F Introduction to Islam (8)	704F/704Z US/China (8) 809F Dirt (2)	204F/204Z Copyright, Etc. (3) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4)	
11:50-1:15	313F/313Z Swamp Fox (2) 909F Getting to Know You (4)	703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 314F Washington & Slavery (1)	705F/705Z News that's Fit (6) 905F Intro to Mah Jongg (8)	
2:15-3:40	302F Who Freed Slaves (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	103F Watercolor Painting (8) 605F Parables of Jesus (4)		106F Singing for Fun (8) 414F Read Play Together (5)	

# Spring 2025 Schedule Zoom

(Week 1-Week 4)

Fri. May 23, 11:00-12:25  
1205/1205Z Gallery of Art

Number of sessions are shown in parentheses.  
**Bolded classes have unusual dates, locations, and/or times.**

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	24-Mar	25-Mar	26-Mar	27-Mar	28-Mar
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55 602Z Heretics, Zealots (6) 702Z Women Wore White (4)	303R/303Z World War II & Intel (1) <b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	105Z Museum Asian Art (1) 409Z Self Publishing (4) 604Z Tibetan Buddhism (5)	
11:50-1:15	301F/301Z Two Women (1) 401Z Julius Caesar (6) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	102Z Self Portraits (6) 402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	305Z Climate Politics (1) 410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8) 705F/705Z News that's Fit (6)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	315F/315Z History of Bridges (3) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8) 404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	104Z Black Composers (1) 304R/304Z Shenandoah Valley (2)	501Z Latin IV (8) 654Z Classical Greece (4)	
Week 2	31-Mar	1-Apr	2-Apr	3-Apr	4-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55 602Z Heretics, Zealots (6) 702Z Women Wore White (4)	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8) 806R/806Z Out of This World (3)	409Z Self Publishing (4) 604Z Tibetan Buddhism (5)	<b>108F/108Z Military Saved Performances (1) 11:00-12:25</b>
11:50-1:15	206Z Estonia's Rise (1) 401Z Julius Caesar (6) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	102Z Self Portraits (6) 203Z Budgeting in Crisis (1) 402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	411Z Their Divine Fires (1) 410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8) 705F/705Z News that's Fit (6)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	315F/315Z History of Bridges (3) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8) 404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	304R/304Z Shenandoah Valley (2) 906F/906Z Hiking UK/Ireland (1)	501Z Latin IV (8) 654Z Classical Greece (4)	
Week 3	7-Apr	8-Apr	9-Apr	10-Apr	11-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55 602Z Heretics, Zealots (6) 702Z Women Wore White (4) 907Z Legacy Letter (4)	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8) 806R/806Z Out of This World (3)	409Z Self Publishing (4) 604Z Tibetan Buddhism (5)	
11:50-1:15	109F/109Z Artful Frames (1) 401Z Julius Caesar (6) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	102Z Self Portraits (6) 402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	307Z Great Depression (2) 410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	315F/315Z History of Bridges (3) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8) 404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	306Z Watergate Hero (1) 706F/706Z Misinformation (1)	413Z Mommie Dearest (1) 501Z Latin IV (8) 654Z Classical Greece (4)	
Week 4	14-Apr	15-Apr	16-Apr	17-Apr	18-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55 602Z Heretics, Zealots (6) 702Z Women Wore White (4) 907Z Legacy Letter (4)	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8) 806R/806Z Out of This World (3)	309Z When I Rise (5) 409Z Self Publishing (4) 604Z Tibetan Buddhism (5)	
11:50-1:15	401Z Julius Caesar (6) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	102Z Self Portraits (6) 402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5)	307Z Great Depression (2) 410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	403Z Poetry Workshop (8) 404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	308Z Heading to Poor Farm (1) 908F/908Z Cricket (1)	501Z Latin IV (8) 654Z Classical Greece (4)	

# Spring 2025 Schedule Zoom

(Week 5-Week 8)

Number of sessions are shown in parentheses.  
**Bolded classes have unusual dates, locations, and/or times.**

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 5	21-Apr	22-Apr	23-Apr	24-Apr	25-Apr
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55 602Z Heretics, Zealots (6) 907Z Legacy Letter (4)	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	309Z When I Rise (5) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4) 604Z Tibetan Buddhism (5)	<b>708F/708Z Money in Politics (1)</b> 11:00-12:25
11:50-1:15	310F/310Z Women Suffrage (1) 401Z Julius Caesar (6) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	102Z Self Portraits (6) 402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8) 406F/406Z Gone with Wind (5) 707R/707Z Guns In America (2)	410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8) 660Z TED Talks (4) 705F/705Z News that's Fit (6)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8)	415Z Catch 22 (1) 910/910Z Fairfax Village (1)	501Z Latin IV (8)	
Week 6	28-Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr	1-May	2-May
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55 602Z Heretics, Zealots (6) 907Z Legacy Letter (4)	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 652F/652Z Culture Wars (6) 704F/704Z US/China (8)	204F/204Z Copyright, Etc. (3) 309Z When I Rise (5) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4)	<b>1103F/1103Z Annual Meeting</b> 10:00
11:50-1:15	401Z Julius Caesar (6) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	102Z Self Portraits (6) 402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8) 707R/707Z Guns In America (2)	410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8) 660Z TED Talks (4) 705F/705Z News that's Fit (6)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 110Z Bible Musically (3) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8)		501Z Latin IV (8)	
Week 7	5-May	6-May	7-May	8-May	9-May
9:40-11:05	601F/601Z Christians (7) 651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 704F/704Z US/China (8)	204F/204Z Copyright, Etc. (3) 309Z When I Rise (5) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4)	
11:50-1:15	313F/313Z Swamp Fox (2) 807Z Biology of Aging (2) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	402Z E.M. Forster (8) 808Z Biodefence (1) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8)	410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8) 660Z TED Talks (4) 705F/705Z News that's Fit (6)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 110Z Bible Musically (3) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8)	911Z Why is Traffic Bad in DC (2)	501Z Latin IV (8)	
Week 8	12-May	13-May	14-May	15-May	16-May
9:40-11:05	651Z Big Issues (8) <b>701Z Daily News (8)</b> 9:30-11:00	<b>101F/101Z Music Sampler (8)</b> 9:30-10:55	<b>405Z Writer's Workshop (8)</b> 9:15-11:05 704F/704Z US/China (8)	204F/204Z Copyright, Etc. (3) 309Z When I Rise (5) 606F/606Z Speak Biblically (4)	
11:50-1:15	313F/313Z Swamp Fox (2) 807Z Biology of Aging (2) 901Z Monday Lectures (8)	402Z E.M. Forster (8) 703F/703Z Great Decisions (8)	201F/201Z Invest. Forum (8) 407Z Literary Roundtable (8)	410Z Wanna Write Poetry (8) 660Z TED Talks (4) 705F/705Z News that's Fit (6)	
2:15-3:40	803Z Climate Change (8) 110Z Bible Musically (3) 902F/902Z Trip Tales (8)	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (8)	911Z Why is Traffic Bad in DC (2)	501Z Latin IV (8)	



# Spring 2025 Schedule Loudoun and Reston

Number of sessions are shown in parentheses.  
**Bolded classes have unusual dates and/or times.**

	Rose Gallery	Rose Gallery	Loudoun/CenterStage
TIME	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>25-Mar</b>	<b>26-Mar</b>	<b>27-Mar</b>
9:40–11:05		303R/303Z World War II & Intel (1)	
11:50–1:15		804R Microbes (3)	653L TED Talks (3)
2:15–3:40	404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	304R/304Z Shenandoah Valley (2)	107R Meet the Artists (6)
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>1-Apr</b>	<b>2-Apr</b>	<b>3-Apr</b>
9:40–11:05		806R/806Z Out of This World (3)	
11:50–1:15		804R Microbes (3)	653L TED Talks (3)
2:15–3:40	404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	304R/304Z Shenandoah Valley (2)	107R Meet the Artists (6)
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>8-Apr</b>	<b>9-Apr</b>	<b>10-Apr</b>
9:40–11:05		806R/806Z Out of This World (3)	
11:50–1:15		804R Microbes (3)	653L TED Talks (3)
2:15–3:40	404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	<b>412R Classic Films (6) 2:15-4:30</b>	107R Meet the Artists (6)
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>15-Apr</b>	<b>16-Apr</b>	<b>17-Apr</b>
9:40–11:05		806R/806Z Out of This World (3)	
11:50–1:15			
2:15--3:40	404R/404Z Reading Aloud (4)	<b>412R Classic Films (6) 2:15-4:30</b>	107R Meet the Artists (6)
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>22-Apr</b>	<b>23-Apr</b>	<b>24-Apr</b>
9:40–11:05		659R Behind the Nobel Prize (2)	
11:50–1:15		707R/707Z Guns In America (2)	
2:15--3:40	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4)	<b>412R Classic Films (6) 2:15-4:30</b>	107R Meet the Artists (6)
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>29-Apr</b>	<b>30-Apr</b>	<b>1-May</b>
9:40–11:05		659R Behind the Nobel Prize (2)	
11:50–1:15		707R/707Z Guns In America (2)	
2:15–3:40	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4)	<b>412R Classic Films (6) 2:15-4:30</b>	107R Meet the Artists (6)
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>6-May</b>	<b>7-May</b>	<b>8-May</b>
9:40–11:05		607R Introduction to Islam (2)	
11:50–1:15		205R Building Financial Confidence (2)	
2:15--3:40	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4)	<b>412R Classic Films (6) 2:15-4:30</b>	
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>13-May</b>	<b>14-May</b>	<b>15-May</b>
9:40–11:05		607R Introduction to Islam (2)	
11:50–1:15		205R Building Financial Confidence (2)	
2:15--3:40	311R/311Z Park Rangers (4)	<b>412R Classic Films (6) 2:15-4:30</b>	



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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University

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# OLLI Mason Policies

## Closing Policy

**In-person classes:** OLLI Mason is closed when county schools are closed. When schools announce a delayed opening, OLLI Mason generally opens on time. Exception: at George Mason facilities OLLI Mason adheres to George Mason closing decisions. If George Mason announces a delay, OLLI Mason may need to cancel the first class of the day. Also, poor conditions at OLLI Mason sites may necessitate class or event cancellations. The most up-to-date information on OLLI Mason delays and closings can be found in the Daily Schedule email, on the OLLI Mason website: [olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu), or on the Tallwood office voicemail at **(703) 503-3384**.

**Hybrid classes:** Refer to the Daily Schedule email for up-to-date information.

**Zoom classes:** will proceed as scheduled.

## Health and Safety

By coming to any OLLI Mason campus, all members, staff, teachers, and visitors attest that they are in compliance with current CDC vaccine recommendations and agree to follow OLLI Mason Health and Safety Protocols. As a courtesy to the OLLI Mason community, members should not participate in any in-person activities if they are not feeling well. Even though masks are optional, OLLI Mason supports all those who wish to wear one. For questions about health and safety at OLLI Mason, feel free to email the office at [olli@gmu.edu](mailto:olli@gmu.edu).

## Parking Policy

Fairfax: front and rear of the Tallwood building; also in the adjoining Fairfax swimming pool lot in the area designated by traffic cones, if present. **Driving to and from OLLI sites and events is at your own risk.**

## Picture Policy

OLLI Mason classes and events may be photographed or video recorded. Members agree to have their likeness recorded for possible non-commercial use by OLLI Mason for promotional purposes, advertising and/or inclusion on the organization's website, social media, or for any other digital or print purpose. If a member objects, they may do so by contacting [olli@gmu.edu](mailto:olli@gmu.edu) in writing.

## Recorded Classes Policy

Recorded classes and events may be displayed on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University (OLLI Mason) website. All material appearing on the website is the property of OLLI Mason. Recordings are accessible to members only. Members may not reproduce, distribute, publish, transmit, or in any way exploit any such content, nor may they distribute any part of this content over any network, sell or offer it for sale, or use such content to construct any kind of database. Copying or storing any content is expressly prohibited without the prior written permission of OLLI Mason. For permission to use any content on the website, or to request removal of a recording, please contact [olli@gmu.edu](mailto:olli@gmu.edu).

## Refund Policies

- i. **Membership Fees:** Members may only obtain a full refund of their membership fees by applying in writing to the executive director before the beginning of the third week of classes in the first term after enrollment or re-enrollment. OLLI Mason cannot honor proration or refund requests after this deadline.
- ii. **Special Event Fees:** OLLI Mason cannot guarantee a refund for courses or events once the member has paid and enrolled. As such, please consider carefully before signing up for offerings with fees. If the member needs to drop an event, they should contact the registrar. In some cases, refunds will be granted when the member's reserved spot is filled by someone else or the event is canceled.

## Trip Policies

- i. **OLLI Mason Sponsored Trips:** OLLI Mason members and guests participating in activities that entail transportation to locations other than Osher Lifelong Learning Institute sites must sign a waiver. They do so by signing their paper course registration form or by completing the waiver form during registration on the member portal. The waiver releases OLLI Mason from any and all claims for injury or damage sustained by, through, or as a result of such activities, and holds OLLI Mason harmless for any claims resulting therefrom.
- ii. **Outside Entity Sponsored Trips:** Travel agencies must be vetted and approved by the OLLI Mason executive director before planning and advertising trips. OLLI Mason members and their guests must work directly with the travel agencies, and these trips are managed and processed entirely by the travel agencies. OLLI Mason is not involved in the purchase or refund of transactions, logistics, or in liability whatsoever.

**Please Note:** All participants must follow any existing health and safety protocols of OLLI Mason and transportation.



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# ***In-Person Program Locations***

## **Primary Locations (designated by F, L, R in course title)**

**Fairfax - Tallwood** is located at 4210 Roberts Road, Fairfax, VA 22032 (adjacent to George Mason University's main campus). Roberts Road can be accessed from Route 236 (Main Street) or Braddock Road. Additional parking is available in the swimming pool lot next door.

### **Loudoun (TBD)**

**Rose Gallery at Reston Community Center (RCC)** is located at 1609 Washington Plaza North, Reston, VA 20190 (the northern end of Lake Anne off North Shore Drive). If using an electronic map, use the Lake Anne Mobil address at 11410 N. Shore Drive, Reston, VA 20190 (across the street from the entrance to the Lake Anne parking lot).

## **Secondary Locations**

(noted in course title information)

**Church of the Good Shepherd** is located at 9350 Braddock Road, Burke, VA 22015. From Braddock Road, turn onto Olley Lane and enter the parking lot on the right.

**Fenwick Library Main Reading Room, George Mason University** is located on the university's main campus at 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Parking is available at the Mason Pond Parking Deck at 4371 Mason Pond Drive, George Mason, VA 22030.

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church** is located at 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax, VA 22032. From Braddock Road, turn south on Twinbrook Road, and the parking lot will be on your right.

**Reston Community Center (RCC) Hunters Woods** is in the Hunters Woods Village Center. If using an electronic map, use the Ledo Pizza address at 2254 Hunters Woods Plaza, Reston, VA 20191. A walkway beside Ledo Pizza leads to a plaza and the community center.

**The Landing (Silverstone)** is located at 2620 Main Line Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22301. Parking is available at no cost in The Landing garage. Enter the lobby via the elevator (or via the front entrance if you are dropped off). Sign in at the front desk and pick up a guest badge to wear for the duration of your stay.

**The Providence (Silverstone)** is located at 9490 Sprague Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22031. Parking is available at no cost in The Providence garage. Enter the lobby via the elevator (or via the front entrance if you are dropped off). Sign in at the front desk and pick up a guest badge to wear for the duration of your stay.

**Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center** is located at 3740 Blenheim Boulevard, Fairfax, VA 22030. Parking is available in front of the building.

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Travel has a magical way of bringing people together. It can enrich your life and make you healthier, in both mind and body.

*The world. It's waiting for you!*



**August 3-13, 2025**

From the nautical beauty of Peggy's Cove to the rugged splendor of the Cabot Trail, the Maritimes will enchant you. Savor a traditional Maritimes lobster feast. Don't miss the rugged beaches, picturesque fishing villages, and rich seafaring history of Canada's amazing Maritime Provinces.

**Canadian Maritimes  
& Coastal Wonders**

11 Days  
16 Meals



**September 7-16, 2025**

From the Portuguese Capital, Lisbon, to the sunny cliffs of the Algarve and Portuguese Riviera, venture along Portugal's stunning shoreline. Enjoy a leisurely 3-night stay in the Algarve region. Encounter picturesque resort towns, winding cobblestone streets, oceanfront promenades, and quaint villages of perfection.

**Sunny  
Portugal**

10 Days  
13 Meals

**For more information, please call Collette at 800-581-8942**

Reference booking number 1252475 (Canada) or 1252538 (Portugal)

Virtual trip presentations are available for viewing on the OLLI Mason travel page at [olli.gmu.edu/travel](http://olli.gmu.edu/travel)





# OLLI



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
4210 Roberts Road  
Fairfax, VA 22032  
[olli.gmu.edu](http://olli.gmu.edu)

**Spring 2025 Registration:**  
Begins February 18 at 9 am and continues throughout the term

## **Term Dates**

*Spring 2025: March 24 - May 16*

*Summer 2025: June 23 - August 1*

*Fall 2025: September 22 - November 14*

*Winter 2026: January 20 - February 13*

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