

Winter 2026

Catalog

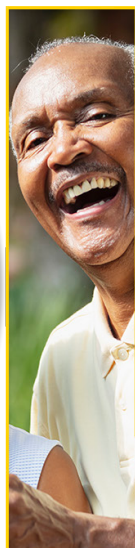
Class
Registration
begins
December
3rd



olli.gmu.edu

January 20 - February 13, 2026

Classes Clubs Activities



Mason Fund

Did you know that membership fees only cover 60% of OLLI Mason's annual operating costs? Your generosity helps bridge the gap, ensuring we can continue to offer the programs you love.

Your gift will directly support all that makes our community so special - classes, clubs, events, and technology. Please help us:

- Continue offering the highest quality member experience.
- Be ready for unexpected short-term expenses.
- Make facility improvements.

At OLLI Mason, every member is encouraged to give their time, talents, and dollars. Our goal is 100% participation. Please consider a tax-deductible gift to the OLLI Mason Fund campaign today.

Ways to Give:



Give online: Visit tinyurl.com/donate-olli

Give via phone: Please call Registrar
Meg Przybylski at 703-544-0085

Mail your check: Payable to Osher Lifelong Learning
Institute to 4210 Roberts Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

Stock or IRA: Please contact Aquanetta Betts,
director of planned giving, GMU at abetts2@gmu.edu
or 703-993-6971

Give in honor or memory: Visit tinyurl.com/donate-olli

Legacy gift/Remember OLLI in your will: Please contact
Aquanetta Betts, director of planned giving, GMU at
abetts2@gmu.edu or 703-993-6971

**Please contact Karen Nash, OLLI Mason Finance Associate, at
knash2@gmu.edu or 703-503-3416 with any questions about donations.**



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Cover photo submitted by Bob Heyer

In the 1930s, landscape architects transformed Mason's Island from neglected, overgrown farmland into Theodore Roosevelt Island, a memorial to America's 26th president. They conceived a "real forest" designed to mimic the natural forest that once covered the island. Today miles of trails through wooded uplands and swampy bottomlands honor the legacy of a great outdoorsman and conservationist. Here, OLLI members are enjoying a visit to this iconic national memorial.



For 2026, OLLI Mason is planning a special program of classes and activities to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the Independence of the United States.

All About OLLI Mason

Who We Are

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University (OLLI Mason) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization affiliated with George Mason University and the national Osher Lifelong Learning network that provides classes, lectures, trips, clubs, social and other activities for over 1000 active learners age 50+. Over 500 college-level courses covering a broad range of subjects are offered each year. Programs are presented in-person at the Fairfax campus, at satellite sites throughout Fairfax County, and online.

OLLI Mason programs and activities are developed, managed, and produced through the combined effort of member volunteers and OLLI Mason staff. Classes are taught by GMU professors, experts from the community, as well as the members themselves, many of whom are highly credentialed and experienced instructors during eight-week terms in the spring and fall, a four-week winter term, and a six-week summer term. There are no exams or credits. Members pay dues and may attend as many classes and activities as they wish, subject to space availability. There may be charges for materials or for some special events.

Mission

OLLI Mason's mission is to provide intellectual and cultural experiences in a welcoming atmosphere that promotes lifelong learning.

How to Join

To join OLLI as a first-time member, visit our website at olli.gmu.edu and click on the yellow 'Join OLLI' tab at the top right corner. To renew your membership, sign in to your Member Portal account and purchase an annual membership. To purchase a membership offline, complete the registration form on **page 26** and provide it to OLLI Mason with payment. For more assistance contact the registrar: olliereg@gmu.edu

How to Register for OLLI Classes

Registration can be completed online through your Member Portal account or by filling out the registration form and mailing it to or dropping it by the OLLI office. For more information, see the member and registration pages in the catalog.

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. Purchase the eGift card on the OLLI Mason Member Portal (olli.gmu.edu; **Member Portal button**) or by emailing the OLLI Mason registrar.

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/
- patriotperks.gmu.edu/

Membership Promotions

Winter 2026 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 ****

Winter term registration begins on December 3rd at 9:00 am and continues throughout the term.

Register online at olli.gmu.edu

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

For the best choice of classes, members are encouraged to register before December 13th.

OLLI Mason Organization

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Debbie Engleson
Vice President: Emily Roudebush
Secretary: Bob Heyer
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Audiovisual Support: Paul Howard
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Facilities: Mel Russell
Finance: Dave Osterman
Governance: Peter Ansoff
Landscaping: Bill Ackerman

Member Services, Office Volunteers: Toni Acton
Member Services, Chair: Toni Acton
Outreach: Dean Salpini
Strategic Planning: Zachary Teich
Website: Dennis VanLangen
Health and Safety Advisory: Michele Romano

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GENERAL CONTACTS

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Website: olli.gmu.edu

Mason mail stop number: MSN 5C1

Courses: January 20 - February 13

Fairfax/Reston/Zoom

Fairfax courses are indicated by the suffix "F," 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. We urge you to register for Courses as early as possible. Popular offerings can fill up quickly, even on the first day of registration.

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 Photography 101

Three sessions

Instructor: John Nash

Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 20–Feb. 3

Calling all beginning photographers. We all take photographs, but some people know how to take pictures a little better than others. If you'd like to become more than a "point and shoot" photographer with hoped-for results, this class is for you. The OLLI Photo Club (OPC) is presenting a three-session class on introductory photography, designed for those who would like to know more about this interesting hobby and profession. You'll learn from experienced OPC members what digital cameras do and some of the ways you can control them. These new cameras aren't really that difficult to master but they do require some understanding and practice. You'll also see some members' photographs and hear from OPC photographers about how they took their pictures and what things they considered before clicking the shutter. You'll also learn some of the "rules of photography" which is a good way to begin improving your pictures. We'll have time to discuss cell phone photography and a few simple steps you can use that will improve your results in this fast-growing medium. Plan to join members of OLLI in improving your photography skills. Then, you can continue your learning by participating in the OPC. Of course, if you'd like to "refresh" your photography skills and knowledge, you're welcome to join in this class. OLLI photographers of all skill levels are always welcome to join the OPC. It's a benefit of membership!

John Nash is a long-time member of the OLLI Photo Club (OPC) and an even longer-time member of OLLI. A retired Air Force officer, he and his family have lived and traveled in Europe, Thailand, and other world areas. John has taken photographs since boyhood with his Brownie Hawkeye camera, graduating to 35 mm film cameras, and finally embracing digital cameras, the latter being easier to take—and discard—pictures.

102Z The Songs That Made America



Two sessions

Instructor: Dan Moskowitz

Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 20–Jan. 27

Made possible in part by a grant from VA250

Commission in partnership with Virginia Humanities

Every year the Library of Congress adds 25 titles to its registry of recordings that show "the richness of the nation's audio legacy." We will hear selections and some thoughts about why they play a role in the story of our country and perhaps share a memory or two. The registry covers a wide range of genres, but we will concentrate on the pop, jazz, and folk songs of the 20th Century, beginning with a military band playing "Star and Stripes Forever" in 1897 and going up to Ricky Martin's 1999 "Livin' LaVida Loca".

Dan Moskowitz is a magazine writer with an avocational interest in American popular music who for the past decade has led courses on various aspects of the subject at the OLLIs at George Mason and American Universities.

103Z Artists and the Bible

Two sessions

Instructor: Roz Hoagland

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 21–Jan. 28

From the advent of Christianity until the 19th century, the stories illustrated in western art were primarily religious. Early Christian art during the period of persecution often stressed Old Testament stories. Once Christianity was allowed to exist and then became the state religion of the Roman Empire, art in churches usually focused on the life of Christ, often balanced with Old Testament stories. Artists slowly developed formulas for portraying themes and individuals. This course will examine the varying approaches taken by different artists to familiar Bible stories using examples in manuscripts, mosaics, frescoes, egg tempera, oil paint, and sculpture.

Roz Hoagland is a retired art historian. She taught at NOVA for 40 years and has also taught numerous OLLI classes. She organizes and leads group tours to Europe to study art and architecture. Since 1999, there have been 64 successful trips to locations in 30 different countries.

104R / 104Z The Best Voice on the Planet?

Four sessions

Instructor: Beverly Cosham

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

During COVID, the instructor discovered a singer who just might be the Best Voice on the Planet. This 31-year-old multilingual singer/performer, actor, model, instrumentalist, composer, and peacemaker is the best the instructor has ever heard. His range seems limitless, and he defies categorization. He sings and composes music that touches the soul. The instructor will introduce you to this amazingly talented young man from Kazakhstan who wants to share his culture with the world through his performances. After hearing him, you can decide if it is hype or if he is truly the GOAT.

Beverly Cosham is a retired singer/actress who lives in Reston; is a founding member of the Reston Chorale; the Reston Players and OLLI MTA. She served as president of the Reston Community Orchestra for 10 years and is current chair of the RCC Board of Governors. She has taught several OLLI classes.

105R Seeing Deeply: Slow Looking and Contemporary Art at Tephra ICA

Four sessions

Instructors: Hannah Barco, Abdulrahman Naanseh, Phoebe Avery

Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

Class limit: 15

Locations: 1) Tephra ICA, 12001 Market St, Reston 20190; 2) Tephra ICA at Signature, Reston Town Center, 11850 Freedom Dr.

What happens when we slow down and really look at a work of art? This facilitated course at Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art (Tephra ICA) in Reston invites OLLI members into a guided practice of “slow looking” to engage more deeply with contemporary art. Each session, held in Tephra ICA’s main gallery or satellite space at Tephra ICA at Signature, will focus on just one or two works from the current exhibitions. Through conversation and facilitation, participants will explore how color, form, and material can spark memory, curiosity, and connection—without needing prior art knowledge. Together, we’ll reflect on how contemporary artists raise questions, challenge assumptions, and invite new ways of seeing. Sessions will connect looking to broader ideas around art, culture, and philosophy, offering a springboard for continued personal exploration beyond the gallery walls.

1) Tephra ICA: The entrance is located on St. Francis St. between Market St. & Town Square St. The nearest parking is in the Red Garage. There is also a handicap space in front of the gallery on St. Francis and ramp access. 2) Tephra ICA at Signature: In the Signature apartment building. The nearest parking is in the Silver Garage. Parking is free for the first hour. Please download the ParkRTC app for paid parking.

Hannah Barco is festival director and associate curator at Tephra ICA. She holds a BFA from SMFA/Tufts and an MFA from SAIC, where

she also served as Director of Exhibitions. Her work spans sculpture, performance, and curating socially engaged contemporary art.

Abdulrahman Naanseh is a Syrian-born artist and educator known for his Arabic calligraphy. Based in Virginia, he teaches drawing and calligraphy at GMU and has exhibited internationally. His work bridges cultural tradition, personal storytelling, and community healing.

Phoebe Avery is the advancement officer at Tephra ICA, where she leads the organization’s fundraising initiatives and brings a deep background in the visual arts. She has taught art history throughout the DMV, most recently at Northern Virginia Community College, and holds a BA in Art History from Smith College and an MA in Northern Baroque Art from the Courtauld Institute of Art. She is also ABD in Northern Baroque Art at the University of Maryland.

200 Economics & Finance

Program Planning Group Chair: Leo Brennan

201F / 201Z Economic Current Events and Their Effect on You

Four sessions

Instructor: Elliott Dubin

Tuesdays 2:15–3:40, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

This course will analyze the possible economic impacts of the recent legislation enacted by Congress. The topics covered in this course will include: taxes, Social Security and Medicare, tariffs and international trade, and the differing estimates of the effect of the legislation of future federal debt. Students will have the opportunity to suggest other topics that may be of interest to them.

Elliott Dubin was the director of Policy Research at the Multistate Tax Commission from 1999 until 2019. Dr. Dubin has held positions with the NAHB, U.S. ACIR, and others. Currently, he is treasurer of the board of directors of the Hartwood Foundation. Dr. Dubin holds Ph.D. and M.Phil degrees from CUNY.

202F / 202Z The Investment Forum

Four sessions

Moderators: Al Smuzynski, Bob Baker, Lou Coglianese, David Toms

Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

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 financial markets, and their impact on investment decisions. Member presentations and discussions typically include such topics as: recent market indicators, stocks, bonds, mutual and exchange traded funds, real estate investment trusts, sector allocations, investment strategies, portfolio management, and choosing advisory services. Each week members may participate in our “Buy/Sell/Thinking-About” segment by sharing their investment trades or activities of the previous week, which are then looked at and discussed in a peer group setting. The Forum typically uses various Wall

Street analyses and data, as well as relevant news from the financial press. In addition, we regularly incorporate a number of online financial tools and websites in looking at members' recent trading activities or other investment products.

203F / 203Z Tax Preparation and Strategies With Emphasis on the One Big Beautiful Bill Act

Three sessions

Instructor: Mary Szpanka

Mondays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 26–Feb. 9

Come enjoy delving into the details of taxes with a focus on senior-related topics and the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. We will cover 2025 tax compliance reporting as well as strategies and planning for the future. Most of the sessions will discuss federal tax law with Q&A and Virginia tax will be covered during the last session.

Mary Szpanka is a CPA with many years of deep tax experience in individual, corporate, trust, and estate tax compliance and strategies. Her practice is also heavily involved in financial guidance and strategies for individuals and couples going through marital dissolution.

204F Absolute Basic Financial Analysis

One session

Instructor: Hugh Conway

Monday, 2:15–3:40, Feb. 2

Class limit: 15

This class will focus on understanding the following terms used in the analysis of companies for investment purposes: price earnings ratio, the price to earnings ratio compared to growth estimates, (PEG ratio), and what cash flow is. The class will also examine how to read a Value Line company report, and list other sources of information on possible investments. This class is good preparation for attending the Investment Forum class.

Hugh Conway received a BBA from Pace University and an MBA from Columbia University's Graduate School of Business. He worked for 30 years in New York, London, Frankfurt, and Washington D.C. in bank examinations, establishing supervisory policies, creating lesson plans, and instructing at the bank examination training center in Arlington, Virginia. Hugh has been a member of OLLI Mason's Investment Forum for 10 years.

205R / 205Z Retiring Single: Four Key Considerations for a Successful Transition

Two sessions

Instructor: Linda Black

Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Feb. 4–Feb. 11

Retirement planning often has a focus on two-person households, making certain assumptions about everything from financial and estate planning needs to health and wellness as though every retiree is part of a couple. This class is designed for single retirement savers. Suddenly single and navigating the decision-making process of finance, housing, health and wellness, and estate planning can feel overwhelming. Let's break it down and connect with experts in the fields of finance, legal, real estate, and

health and wellness.

Linda Black is a registered principal and member of FINRA/SIPC through LifeMark Securities Corp. with over 25 years of experience. She is a proud recipient of: Financial Counselor (ChFC®), Retirement Income Professional (RICP®), Fiduciary (GFS®), and Federal Employee Benefits Consultant (ChFEBC).

300 History

Program Planning Group Chairs:

Irene Harwarth, Beth Lambert, Bernie Oppel

301R The Real "Hunt for Red October": Life on a Fast Attack Submarine during the Cold War

Four sessions

Instructor: Henry Rausch

Wednesdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

"There is no other force in our entire Defense establishment that contributed as much as the Submarine Force to the collapse of the Soviet Union"—Vice Admiral Bernard Kauderer. This course delves into the frightening and mysterious underwater world of nuclear fast-attack submarines as they hunted their prey in a black abyss during the darkest days of the Cold War. It is based on the author's book, *Submerged: Life on a Fast Attack Submarine in the Last Days of the Cold War*, which was approved for public release by the DoD. No classified topics are covered, but the subject will be interesting to anyone with an interest in technology, history, and political affairs. Topics will include: How nuclear power created the first true submarine; Aren't you claustrophobic?; Bergy Bits and Growlers: Surfacing at 90 North; Lifestyles of the sleep-deprived; Can you hear me now? How subs communicate; Blind Man's Bluff: How sonar works; and Sub Cinema, a discussion of popular sub movies.

Commander Henry Rausch, USNR (ret) served on two fast attack submarines in the 80s and 90s, conducting classified missions to the Barents Sea, North Atlantic, Mediterranean, and North Pole. Afterward, he left active service for the Reserves, where he served primarily in NATO command and control.

302F / 302Z Four Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement

Four sessions

Instructor: Elva Card

Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

After the Civil War ended slavery, a series of "Jim Crow" laws in the South created a rigid system of segregation. It made Whites rich and powerful, Blacks poor and powerless. In the 20th century, the Civil Rights Movement organized to end segregation. This class will look at four heroes of that movement. The first week will trace the career of Martin Luther King, Jr. Embracing the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, he led his demonstrations with non-violent tactics. The next week will be about John Lewis. Born to dirt poor farmers, as a child he preached sermons to chickens. As an adult,

he spoke to Congress as a representative from Georgia. The third week will be about Rosa Parks, perhaps the most famous woman of the Civil Rights Movement. Her refusal to move to the back of the bus precipitated the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The final week will be devoted to Mary McLeod Bethune, the amazing woman who began a school for five little black girls and built it into Bethune Cookman College.

Elva Card graduated from George Washington University with a BA in History, and from George Mason University with MAs in English and in History. She taught social studies in Fairfax County Public Schools for 31 years.

303Z The Fall of France 1940: A New Perspective

Two sessions

Instructor: Timothy Mulligan

Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 22–Jan. 29

Class limit: 100

This class will examine the oft-neglected Allied defeat in France and the Low Countries during May-June 1940, in its military and political aspects. Part I will discuss the differences in armaments, ideas, and strategies between Nazi Germany's Wehrmacht (armed forces), and the French and British armies, and the progress of the campaign from the opening of the German offensive on May 10 through the Dunkirk evacuation. Part II will examine the political and military aftermath of British withdrawal through the renewed German offensive and final French defeat in June. We shall attempt to work

through the many misunderstandings and myths of this critically important event that shaped the rest of World War II.

Timothy Mulligan earned his MA and Ph.D in Diplomatic History at the University of Maryland. For 34 years he served as an archivist with the National Archives and Records Administration, specializing in American military and captured German records. He is the author of three books and 20+ articles.

304F / 304Z Park Ranger Potpourri

Four sessions

Coordinator: Jen Epstein

Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

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.

305Z Samuel Adams, the Father of the Revolution



Two sessions

Instructor: Heather Dudley

Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 26–Feb. 2

Made possible in part by a grant from VA250

Commission in partnership with Virginia Humanities

If not for that eponymous frothy beverage, Sam Adams might be largely forgotten. Yet among the cast of characters we call the "Founding Fathers," Adams was the leader of the pack. Boston was the epicenter of the earliest struggle for independence—and Adams was the spark that lit the fire. Long before Washington led an army or Jefferson penned the Declaration, he was rallying resistance to British rule and working to unify the colonies. We'll explore how his "riches to rags" family story may help explain his deep resentment of British interference in colonial life. A master of public sentiment, Adams stoked the flames of rebellion by channeling the crowd's growing sense of oppression and injustice.

Heather Dudley taught at the high school and college level. She has an MA in History, an MA in Psychology, and a Doctorate from Georgetown University. She writes a blog—charactermattered.org—and is the author of a book on the founders, *The Free and the Virtuous: Why the Founders Knew that Character Mattered*.

306F / 306Z Boone, Crockett, and Carson: Creating the Legend of the Frontier Hero

One session

Instructor: Jim Anderson

Monday, 9:40–11:05, Feb. 2

Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, and Kit Carson remain iconic figures in the history of the American frontier. They each became legends in their own lifetimes. Even before his heroic and well-publicized death at the Alamo, Crockett was frequently the subject of heroic tall tales and works of fiction. But Boone and Carson weren't far behind him through 19th Century dime novels. Their adventures—real and legendary—were influential in creating the archetypal

Future Course Proposal Due Dates

****Please note that course proposals are due approximately 5 months before the start of each term due to catalog production deadlines.**

Spring 2026:

March 23 - May 15, 2026

(Proposal due date: October 6, 2025)

Summer 2026:

June 22 - July 31, 2026

(Proposal due date: January 26, 2026)

Fall 2026:

September 21 - November 13, 2026

(Proposal due date: April 6, 2026)

Course Proposal Form:

olli.gmu.edu/olli-course-proposal-form/

Trips/Performances Proposal Form:

olli.gmu.edu/trip-performances-proposal-form/

frontier hero of American folklore. During the 20th century, films and television turned all three of them into icons of American popular culture. Evidence suggests that in the 21st Century they are being replaced by new icons—real and imaginary.

Jim Anderson served three years in the Air Force and 27 years in the CIA. In retirement, he conducted leadership seminars at Civil War battlefields. He holds an MA in History from the University of Memphis. Since 2009, he has taught classes and conducted tours at OLLI on the Civil War and the American Frontier.

307F / 307Z The Marshall Plan and European Recovery after World War II

One session

Instructor: Elva Card

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Feb. 2

The year 1947 was horrific for Europe. World War II had ended two years earlier and the destruction of the war had left cities in ruins and economies destroyed. Crop failure in the 1947 “hunger winter” added to the misery. People were cold and hungry. Conditions were ripe for Communist parties in European countries to take over. Stalin had plans. But those plans were blocked when American Secretary of State George Marshall led the U.S. to launch the European Recovery program. Commonly known as the Marshall Plan, American aid in the years 1948-1951 enabled European countries not only to rebuild, but to achieve levels of economic development higher even than pre-war levels. The United States invested over seventeen billion dollars in the four years of the plan. Most of that money actually was spent in the U.S., paying farmers for food and paying industries for technical equipment sent to Europe. Europe was saved from Communist takeover. It was a great American achievement.

See 302F/302Z for instructor information.

308Z The First Declaration of Independence



One session

Instructor: Bonnie Becker

Monday, 2:15–3:40, Feb. 9

The book by David Fleming *Who's Your Founding Father?* chronicles the author's “quest to uncover the first, true Declaration of Independence” to quote the subtitle. The instructor's late husband's family (related to President James K. Polk) had long told the tale that their forefathers and other good citizens of Mecklenburg, NC declared independence a year before the official Declaration. While not to diminish Thomas Jefferson as creator of the 1776 Declaration, there were other colonists who also put into words their desire to be free of the British crown. Timely research by award-winning author Fleming lets us decide—fact or just a good family story?

Bonnie Becker was with the Office of Human Relations for Fairfax County Public Schools and also taught high school social studies and at the Washington English Center. She seriously pursues her interests in geography, history, and archaeology.

400 Literature, Theater, and Writing

Program Planning Group Chairs:

Pat Bangs, Jane Fitzgibbons, Michael Mason,
Norma Jean Reck

401F (Re)discovering Hamlet

Four sessions

Instructor: Susan McCloskey

Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

Since *Hamlet's* first performance, readers, playgoers, actors, and directors have grappled with its mysteries. What are we to make of its unsettling world, where the path to truth lies through spying, deception, and putting on a play? How often must we revise our first impressions of the characters we meet, as they respond to their circumstances by going mad, betraying friends, or resorting to cruelty or violence? What does it mean to act in this world, whether to fulfill a ghost's vengeful demand, maintain a kingdom or a crumbling marriage, or survive a family's destruction? And what do we make of Hamlet himself, for whom Shakespeare wrote his greatest soliloquies and his longest play? In each of our meetings, we'll consider these questions, exploring the play's language and stagecraft, watching videos of important scenes, and discovering (or rediscovering) Shakespeare's tragic masterpiece.

Susan McCloskey received her Ph.D. from Princeton University, was a tenured professor of English literature at Vassar College, and spent a memorable year as the dramaturg for the Classic Stage Company in New York City.

402Z Movie of the Week

Four sessions

Instructors: Russell Stone, Stephanie Simcox

Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

This course engages in discussions of the latest in Arthouse movies. Each week a movie offered via pay-per-view from Amazon Prime Video, YouTube, Netflix or other pay-per-view sites will be chosen. You won't have to subscribe to anything, but most movies charge a “rent” fee. If you do subscribe to a movie site, it may be available to you there. Participants will have one week to see the movie—before each class meeting. Class meetings will discuss the movie of the week. Impress your friends with your knowledge of the latest in Arthouse cinema! Viewing may involve subtitles, and it's always a good idea to turn on Closed Caption (CC) if it's available. The beauty of watching movies online is that you have captions, and can pause, rewind to catch parts you missed, and even watch it more than once.

Russell Stone was a university professor for 40 years, an OLLI member for more than a decade, and a two-term board member. His secret passions include contemporary cinema. As a co-chair of program planning, he knows we need another movie course.

Stephanie Simcox worked in nonprofits for 30 years on the West Coast and has since moved back to Northern Virginia. An

avid movie fan who never misses a new Jane Austen film, she is also up for the latest from Marvel, Pixar or Studio Ghibli. After attending the San Francisco International Film Festival for many years, she's not afraid of subtitles either!

403Z Poetry Workshop

Four sessions

Moderators: Sophia Elberti, Carolyn Wyatt

Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

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 moderators will email students after class confirmation with further instructions.

Sophia Elberti retired from federal service after 32 years with the intelligence community. She enjoys creative writing, book club discussions, nature walks, and OLLI Singing for Fun classes. She also loves to travel, and one of her retirement goals is to visit as many U.S. national parks as she can manage.

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

404Z Writers' Workshop

Four sessions

Instructors: Ed Sadtler, Margie Wildblood

Wednesdays, 9:15–11:05, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

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 Mason, and has taught poetry writing classes for OLLI and for the Lifetime Learning Institute at NOVA.

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. Her memoir, *Because He Loved Me* was published in summer 2025.

405Z Literary Roundtable

Four sessions

Instructor: Ben Gold

Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

This is an on-going short story discussion class in which we will complete the 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 mystery or short stories. Since there are not enough unread stories left in the book to complete this term, the instructor will provide the additional stories needed to complete the four sessions.

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.

406Z Imagining Eliza Hamilton: Writing Historical Fiction Based on Real People

One session

Instructor: Mollie Cox

Thursday, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 22

How do you turn historical facts into compelling fiction? In this engaging class, the author shares her process for writing *The Lace Widow*, a novel about Eliza Hamilton. Learn how to balance research with imagination, bring real people to life on the page, and create emotionally resonant stories rooted in history. Perfect for writers at any level interested in historical fiction or biography-inspired storytelling.

Mollie Ann Cox is the author of several popular mystery series, also writing under the pen name Maggie Blackburn and Mollie Cox Bryan. She is the author of *The Lace Widow* and the upcoming *The Widow Hamilton*. Her *Eliza Hamilton Mystery* series is the first time she's combined her love of mystery and history.

407Z Jane Austen's Sister and Bath Novels

Four sessions

Instructor: Ellen Moody

Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

We'll visit Bath with Jane Austen and her heroines in her earliest attempted and last nearly finished novellas, *Northanger Abbey* (drafted in 1793) and *Persuasion* (composed in 1816). First published posthumously in 1818 as a pair in *Northanger Abbey*, we see Bath through the mind of a young naïve gothic-novel enthusiast; in *Persuasion* through the mind of an apparent spinster, disillusioned, melancholy, and a lover of the Romantic poets. We'll study Bath as well through a third historical novella set in later 19th century Bath, Isobel Colegate's *The Summer of the Royal Visit* (published in 1991). It was in Austen's era a central elite holiday spa, located picturesquely, with parks and Roman remains prominent, a place for gamblers and medical quacks alike, there to make money off "visitors" (tourists, elderly and ailing

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people, people come to drink the waters, bathe, find a marital partner, to dance, go to concerts and plays, walk in the hills, to in short enjoy themselves).

Ellen Moody has been teaching since 1972, in senior colleges until 2012, and for 11 years now at two OLLIs. Her Ph.D is in British Literature; she's a published scholar with specialties in 18th through 20th century literature, women's literature, and film adaptation.

408Z Bitter Bierce: The Life and Writings of Ambrose Bierce

One session

Instructor: Michael Mason

Thursday, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 22

Few writers in American history published works in more literary styles than 19th-century author Ambrose Bierce. He wrote satire, journalism, short stories, horror fiction, war fiction, fantasy, science fiction, memoir, humor, literary criticism, and poetry. He is best known for his short stories, "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" and "Chickamauga," based on his brutal experience as a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War. As a pioneer of realist fiction, he significantly influenced the writers Stephen Crane and Ernest Hemingway. Bierce was also known as a feared satirist and critic, and his publication, *The Devil's Dictionary*, is considered a masterpiece of sardonic wit. His life was as diverse as his writing, and he traveled extensively and knew many famous figures of his day. His disappearance in Mexico during a rebel uprising in the early 1900s still remains an unsolved mystery. The lecture will review Bierce's writings and provide an overview of his life and times.

Michael Mason retired from the federal government in 2019 and joined OLLI soon after. He is a member of several OLLI literature and writing clubs and is the coordinator for the Classic Literature and Family History/Genealogy Clubs. Michael has given lectures on a range of topics for OLLI members.

409F Faded Pictures

One session

Instructor: Angelique Palmer

Coordinator: ArtsFairfax

Saturday, 2:00–3:30, Jan. 24

Note date and time

Class limit: 20

Join Fairfax County Poet Laureate Angelique Palmer for a creative reflection on poetry. In this workshop, participants will explore and create ekphrastic poetry—a poem that describes or responds to visual art. Participants are asked to bring an image (preferably a printed copy) that they are comfortable sharing with the group. Both novice and experienced poets are welcome and will have the opportunity to share their written creation.

Angelique Palmer is the current Fairfax County Poet Laureate, a performance poet, and a kindergarten teacher. A Spoken Word instructor at Wilkes University Maslow Family Creative Writing graduate program, Ms. Palmer was the 5th-ranked woman poet in the world in 2015.

410F Self-Publishing Essentials: Hobby or Business?

One session

Instructor: Jerry Markowitz

Monday, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 26

If you're interested in learning more about the rewarding opportunities for self-publishing, as a hobby or business with some surprising twists, this class can explain and clarify the process. We'll discuss reasons and advantages to self-publish, and specific steps to produce a book from your manuscript (proofreading/editing, cover design, copyrighting, ISBN, LCCN, bar code, printing/binding). We'll also discuss the interconnected areas of marketing strategies and defining success. Most of these steps can be completed on your personal computer!

Jerry Markowitz has self-published several books, such as *Pug's Poetic Life* and *Exploring Kindness and Respect: Poems*. They are available from the Fairfax County Public Library's circulation collection. Proceeds from his book sales are donated to support Alzheimer's research and education.

411Z The Essentials of Poetry

Three sessions

Instructor: Eric Forsbergh

Coordinator: Carolyn Wyatt

Mondays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 26–Feb. 9

Class limit: 30

This class will contain two main sections, inspiration and craft. Inspiration will cover themes from nature to love to war, including many other themes, with examples to be read aloud from the instructor's own and others' poetry. His personal biography, often the source of his themes, will be discussed. The craft of poetry will be taught, covering rhythm, rhyme, lineation, formal vs. free verse, narrative vs. lyrical verse, with other related topics. The crucial art of metaphor and the famous practitioners of it will be covered. Additionally, explorations of famous poets, quotes about poetry and what light they shed, the skill of reading aloud, and other poetic subjects, will be included. The instructor will encourage class discussion to allow all participants a sense of ownership in this literary journey. Writing exercises with mutual feedback will be a part of this course.

Eric Forsbergh is a poet with over 100 poems published in the U.S. and UK. He has published two full-length poetry books, the latest titled *This Mortal Coil* on the subject of DNA. Eric is a Vietnam veteran, retired dentist, medical mission participant, COVID vaccinator, and seminary graduate.

412F / 412Z Ernest Hemingway and J. Edgar Hoover: Friends, Enemies, or Frenemies?

One session

Instructor: Nicholas Reynolds

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 26

The left-leaning Hemingway and the Red hunter Hoover are usually portrayed as enemies. Hoover is said to have ordered the FBI to surveil Hemingway for decades, even during his final illness. Hemingway's belief that special

agents were watching his every move contributed to the psychological burdens that drove him to suicide. This lecture will explore how the truth was far more nuanced and why it matters.

Nicholas Reynolds, a retired CIA officer, is the author of *The New York Times* bestseller *Writer, Sailor, Soldier, Spy: The Secret Adventures of Ernest Hemingway, 1935-1961* (William Morrow, 2017).

413Z *The Tempest*: Shakespeare's Final Masterpiece

Three sessions

Instructor: Tom Manteuffel

Mondays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 26–Feb. 9

The final solo creation of Shakespeare's long and astonishing career is *The Tempest*, one of the few plays Shakespeare created whole and did not base upon earlier texts. Its inclusion of elements of magical realism and its touch of oblique wonder at the emergent New World discoveries are breathtakingly original, and it makes a fitting closure to the sustained 20-year creative explosion that was Shakespeare's stage career. Still one of his most performed works today, and still quite relevant to our very different world, it presents us comic characters tinged with the mark of human tragedy.

Tom Manteuffel has taught a wide variety of topics at OLLI, most recently *The Brain and the Body*, *The Bomb*, and *The History of Money*. He is a retired cybersecurity engineer with graduate degrees in philosophy and computer science.

414R It's Never Too Late to Write Your Novel!

One session

Instructor: John Adam Wasowicz

Wednesday, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 28

The instructor wrote his first novel at the age of 65. Since then, he has published six additional books and created the popular *Old Town Loves Mystery* series. He'll share his literary adventure with students, including writing, publishing, and marketing books. If you're thinking about writing a book—whether it's a personal memoir or a best seller—you will benefit from hearing about the instructor's experiences.

John Adam Wasowicz has resided in Fairfax County for over 30 years. He is a federal attorney. In his spare time, John writes the *Old Town Loves Mystery* series. Since beginning the series in 2017, he has published seven books, including the newly released *Spite House*.

415Z "Such Friends": The Literary 1920s in Paris and New York City

Two sessions

Instructor: Kathleen Dixon Donnelly

Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Feb. 5–Feb. 12

The 1920s were a swinging era, with exciting developments happening in the arts, particularly in literature. Paris and New York City were both centers of creative activity, with groups of American writers socializing together. Who were "such friends"? They talked,

they drank, they partied, and sometimes they worked. We will focus on the relationships among the American ex-patriates in Paris who visited Gertrude Stein's salon and Sylvia Beach's bookstore, Shakespeare and Company, as well as New York's Algonquin Round Table who started *The New Yorker* magazine and lunched regularly at the Algonquin Hotel. Nearby, Scribner's editor Maxwell Perkins was guiding the budding careers of novelists such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway. A suggested reading list will be provided, but no reading or textbooks are required.

Dr. Kathleen Donnelly recently retired from Birmingham [UK] City University and relocated to her hometown, Pittsburgh. She has given presentations in the UK and the U.S. on her research on writers' salons. Her blog, "*Such Friends*": 100 Years Ago, is collected in "*Such Friends*": *The Literary 1920s* on Amazon.

416F / 416Z Willa Cather's *Shadows on the Rock*

One session

Instructor: Jane Fitzgibbons

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Feb. 9

The year after the success of *Death Comes for the Archbishop*, Willa Cather visited Quebec for the first time and found inspiration for her next novel, *Shadows on the Rock*, which was written between 1928-1930 and published in 1931. Set in 17th century Quebec, the novel is part historical fiction and part impressionist painting. Covering one year in the lives of Euclid Auclair, an apothecary, his 12-year-old daughter, Cecile, and the colorful citizens of Quebec with whom they interact, the novel examines the importance of culture, tradition, religion, loyalty, faith, love, and friendship. If Quebec is the rock of the title, then the shadows are the souls of the ordinary people who live in the New World but want to preserve the best of the Old World and whose ordinary lives have meaning. There are nearly 30 "insert" stories that capture the connectedness among the Quebecois individuals, families, and the political and religious elite. This is a beautifully written tribute to a timeless rock.

Jane Fitzgibbons retired from the federal government in 2020. During her government career, she headed training and communications departments. She has an MS in National Security Strategy from the National War College and an MA in Politics and Literature from the University of Dallas where her admiration for the works of Willa Cather began, which led her to a forum at the University of Nebraska on the centenary of Ms. Cather's birth. She attended two Willa Cather conferences in 2023: one honoring Willa Cather's sesquicentennial birthday and one focusing on Ms. Cather's literary life in New York City.

417Z *Mysteries: Light to Dark*

One session

Instructor: Art Taylor

Tuesday, 9:40–11:05, Feb. 10

The mystery genre is actually a wide range of subgenres and approaches, a spectrum stretching from the traditional clue-driven detective story—witty sleuths pursuing truth and restoring justice—to the noir tale,

whose morally compromised protagonists often spiral into increasingly dangerous waters, and with many other varieties in between. Local authors whose work ranges from comic to tough to tragic survey the breadth of the mystery genre and reflect on how they engage questions of crime, justice, ethics, morality, and more. Participants include **Cheryl Head**, author of the *Charlie Mack Motown Mysteries* and the standalone historical novel *Time's Undoing*; **Mindy Quigley**, author of the *Deep Dish Mysteries*; and **Marcia Talley**, author of the *Hannah Ives Mysteries*. Short story writer and Mason Professor Art Taylor moderates the discussion.

Art Taylor is an Edgar Award-winning short story writer whose most recent book is *The Adventure of the Castle Thief and Other Expeditions and Indiscretions*. He recently won the Short Mystery Fiction Society's Golden Derringer for Lifetime Achievement. He is a professor at George Mason University.

500 Languages

Program Planning Group Chairs:
Pat Bangs, Jane Fitzgibbons, Michael Mason,
Norma Jean Reck

501F / 501Z Italian Culture and Conversation

Four sessions

Instructor: Leti Labell

Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

Do you love Italy? Who doesn't? This course is a discussion group for lovers of all things Italian. The instructor will prepare materials to direct discussion. The sessions might include aspects of Italian culture, such as food, music, art, literature, or history, as well as any other topics of interest to attendees. There will be a general discussion of the topics in English or in Italian. Anyone with some familiarity with the Italian language would be welcome, from beginners (or those who learned some Italian from their grandparents!) to those who have been studying for a while. If you don't have experience with the Italian language, don't worry. We'll learn new words based on the topic. If you've traveled to Italy in the past or are planning a future trip, this is the class for you.

Leti Labell has been studying Italian for over eight years. Her first Italian class was an OLLI class called "Italian for Travelers!" She loves the language and enjoys sharing all things Italian.

502F / 502Z Beginning Italian Language

Four sessions

Instructor: Leti Labell

Tuesdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

This is a beginning course to learn the Italian language. No prior experience with Italian is needed, but if you already know some Italian it would be helpful. While it is possible to join the class by Zoom, it will be much more effective for you to be there in person. Otherwise, I cannot help you with your pronunciation, and it's also more fun in person!

See 501F/501Z for instructor information.

600 Philosophy and Religious Studies

Program Planning Group Chair:
Jim Cantwell

601Z Wonders and Warnings: The Political Life of Monsters

Four sessions

Instructor: Edward Ingebreetsen

Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

Monstrosity is never just about deformity—it is a language of warning, a grammar of power, and a mirror of cultural fear. From ancient prodigies to viral media spectacles, monstrous bodies have functioned not only as physical anomalies but as symbols that channel social anxiety, religious judgment, and political control. This series traces the historical trajectory of the monstrous from theological birth omen to modern commodity. We begin with the terata—grotesque births cataloged as divine portents. We then explore how these bodies became signals of moral breakdown (monere), how they were staged for public viewing (monstrare), and finally, how they were displayed as political spectacle. What emerges is a history of how cultures use the abnormal body to warn, display, discipline, and profit. In an age where physical difference is still marginalized—media panic, moral outrage, or aesthetic policing—this series asks not "what is a monster?" but "what do they do for us?"

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

602F The Battle for Christ: Christianity's First 500 Years

Four sessions

Instructor: Jack Dalby

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

Christianity's astounding success in the ancient Roman world was not preordained. Far from it. In this lecture series, we will examine the many reasons that Christianity grew from a tiny group of apocalyptic Jews in the year 30 CE, to being proclaimed the official religion of the Roman Empire in 380 CE. Yet despite its apparent success, the first 500 years of Christianity were notable for the faith's ongoing internal battles over orthodox and heretical beliefs, the divinity of Jesus, the idea of the Trinity, the cult of martyrdom, and the importance of relics. Topics for discussion will include the historical Jesus, the ministry of St. Paul, why Christianity separated from Judaism, the Roman view of Christianity, early Christian worship, the conversion of Constantine, Christian martyrdom, the Church Fathers, and much more. A familiarity with the New Testament would be helpful but not mandatory.

Jack Dalby is a retired NOVA business owner. For the past 14 years, he has lectured on the topics of Christian Origins and the Historical Jesus with the Osher Lifelong Learning programs at George Mason University, the College of William and Mary, and American University.

603F Faith, Doubt, and Tradition: A Personal Journey to Understand Your Own Beliefs

Four sessions

Instructor: Steve Goldman

Wednesdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

This seminar is designed to help you explore and better understand your own spiritual and religious beliefs and examine the reasons for them. What do you believe, doubt, disbelieve, and why? What do you observe because of tradition, regardless of any specific religious or spiritual beliefs? The seminar will present questions for discussion, beginning with the general and proceeding to the specific. The instructor will begin each class with a 20-minute introduction that will frame the issues to be examined. We welcome members of all faith traditions, and those who doubt or who do not believe. If you have taken this course previously, you are welcome to participate again, since it is different each time.

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

604F / 604Z The Development of the Concept of God

Four sessions

Instructor: John Rybicki

Thursdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

What is God truly like? The Scriptures, both Hebrew and Christian, show a development of the concept and understanding of God and God's revelations to humankind through many cultures, environments, and generations. It's a long and interesting journey from texts that reveal God in nature through personal encounters between God and his people, from the Sinai event in the Hebrew Scriptures to Jesus as the living revelation of the Father, through the development of later believing communities in both Judaism and Christianity. Contrast the God of Hebrew and Christian scriptures with the god(s) of the philosophers and in modern times to a reimagining of the very concept of God. Is God understood based on humankind's desires and expectations or on God's own revelations? We will examine this journey in order to understand this development in a search for what God must (may) be like.

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.

605F / 605Z Four Christian Movies: Fun, Impactful, and Sometimes Both

Four sessions

Instructor: Jim Cantwell

Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

In these films we see that "Once in a while, in the middle of an ordinary life, God gives us a miracle." The films, in the order to be shown are: *The Muppet Christmas Carol*, *The Forge*, *Sergeant York* (with Gary Cooper), and *Miracles from Heaven*.

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

606Z Why Religion?

Three sessions

Instructor: Vera Breton

Mondays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 26–Feb. 9

Why religion? Do we still need religion? Can civilization thrive and survive in its absence? Has religion become largely irrelevant in today's world? This presentation will explore the meaning of religion, how the different religions around the world have spawned an array of great civilizations whose profound impacts have propelled humanity towards a more perfect world, and how today, in light of the global new civilization emerging before us, the world urgently needs to reconsider outdated postulates and allegiances if it is to survive the challenges it is currently facing.

Vera Breton is a Baha'i and a trained facilitator in the Baha'i Ruhi Institute. She is a former teacher in the Fairfax County Department of Family Services. She has a Master in Health Sciences (MHS) in International Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and a JD from the Pontificia Bolivariana University in Medellin, Colombia

607F The Science of Self-Compassion in Contexts of Psychology and Religion

Two sessions

Instructor: Nuran E. Korkmaz

Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 26–Feb. 2

Compassion is regarded as a central human virtue in nearly all philosophical and religious traditions. By contrast, self-compassion is a relatively recent concept that has received limited attention, particularly within religious contexts. Self-compassion offers a transformative framework for self-awareness and psychological well-being. In this course, we will explore the concept of self-compassion within religious contexts and examine its implications for our lives, supported by research evidence. Lectures will highlight key studies and findings from various fields. This class aims to investigate the concept from multiple perspectives, with a special focus on three major religious traditions. By the end of the course participants will be able to identify key religious teachings on compassion, explain current psychological research on self-compassion, and apply practical exercises to enhance personal well-being.

Nuran E. Korkmaz is a visiting scholar at Virginia Commonwealth University, specializing in the psychology of religion. Originally from Turkey, she lives with her family in Centreville, VA. She holds a Ph.D in the Psychology of Religion from Ankara University and served there as an assistant professor until 2019 before joining VCU, where she continues her work. She is currently finalizing new publications on self-compassion and related topics. Her research interests include attachment, self-compassion, spirituality, positive psychology, cross-cultural approaches to well-being, and applied philosophy.

650 Humanities and Social Sciences

Program Planning Group Chair:
Camille Hodges

651Z Learning About the Holocaust in Today's World, Part One

Four sessions

Instructor: Rena Berlin

Tuesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

The Holocaust was, “the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million European Jews (and others) by the Nazi German regime and its allies and collaborators.” Learn about how the Holocaust began and evolved into the Final Solution to the Jewish Question (USHM.org) and is reflected in today’s world. This course will continue with part two in spring 2026 term.

Rena Berlin is a retired middle years teacher, International Baccalaureate Middle Years (IBMYP) program coordinator who taught for IBMYP around the U.S. and Canada. She became the first director of education at the Virginia Holocaust Museum, retiring after 6 years. She now teaches for Osher programs.

652F / 652Z Anthropology of a Multicultural Nation

Four sessions

Instructor: Tom Carroll

Tuesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 20–Feb. 10

The 250th anniversary of the United States provides an opportunity to celebrate our heritage as a multicultural nation shaped by continuous immigration that enriches our culture, revitalizes our communities, and stimulates our economy. Although immigration brings benefits, it also creates social and cultural challenges. While examining our multicultural legacy, we will investigate strategies to build inclusive communities that are the foundation of a robust nation. Our individual identities are often as multifaceted as our national identities. We will explore how ethnicity, race, ancestry, religion, citizenship, regionality, cuisine, and similar affiliations contribute to our sense of self.

Tom Carroll, Ph.D is a cultural anthropologist who served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Lesotho in 1967-69. He did research at Clark University and Columbia University. He was a U.S. Department of Education Senior Program Officer and CEO of the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future.

653F / 653Z Modern Coupling: Marriage and Divorce

Four sessions

Instructor: Lillian Brooks

Wednesdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

This course is a modified version of the Family Law class that the instructor teaches at George Mason University. There will be detailed discussions of marriage, annulments, and divorce laws in the United States. Various legal principles in family law will be presented as well as landmark decisions and cases some would consider weird or out of the norm. Our discussion will include some Virginia laws regarding intrafamilial marriages. There will also be a discussion about modern day trends regarding societal behavior regarding marriage and divorce and how this trend is affecting the intimate relationships of Millennials (1981-1996) and Gen Z’s (1997-2012).

Lillian Brooks, JD, practiced criminal and family law in Atlanta, Georgia, before coming to Virginia in 1984. She then became director of juvenile and domestic relations court services, retiring in 2012. She is a former president of OLLI. She is also an adjunct professor at George Mason University.

654F / 654Z Genealogy is More Than Names and Dates

Four sessions

Instructor: Roy De Lauder

Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

This introductory class in genealogy will begin with exploring your roots. Where your family name came from, why your family lives where it does, and what your parents and grandparents did for work or fun can be fascinating. Discovering your ancestors—your parents, grandparents, and so on back through history is what genealogy is all about. Genealogy is sometimes described as “family history”. It is also described as “your family in history”. Doing genealogical research is like being a private investigator. Start with what you know and then follow the clues. Then what? How do you find information beyond your immediate family? What is available online and what is not? How do you record and organize the information that you have gathered? What do you do when you hit a “brick wall”? What about DNA testing? How do you publish what you have found? This course will address these and other questions relating to genealogy.

Roy De Lauder has a BA in History from Clemson and an MS in Systems Management from the University of Southern California. He is a retired U.S. Naval officer and was a contractor as a government equipment manager. Roy has been involved in genealogy as a hobby for more than 40 years.



For full instructor bios, click on the instructor name accompanying the course descriptions in the OLLI Member Portal:
olli.gmu.edu; Member Portal button

655F / 655Z The Demise of USAID and the Importance of Soft Power to Achieve U.S. Economic and Foreign Policy Objectives

One session

Instructors: Brad Wallach, Jim Bever

Monday, 9:40–11:05, Feb. 9

Class limit: 50

Development assistance, writ large, is an integral component of U.S. instruments of power, along with defense and diplomacy. This seminar will present and discuss the role of “soft power” and that of USAID in particular, to include among other things: advancing international cooperation to address global issues relating to basic human needs, basic human rights, and disaster assistance; promoting access to markets and FDI (foreign direct investment) for U.S. companies and investors; facilitating competition against state actors (e.g. Russia and China) who seek expanded market share and violate international standards of conduct; moderating the spread of transnational diseases and extremist ideologies; facilitating U.S. agricultural exports; building good will and political cohesion in support of U.S. positions in international fora; and advancing U.S. trade and security negotiations with international actors (the “carrot” to supplement more coercive negotiating measures). The seminar will also discuss misperceptions surrounding USAID effectiveness and the cost of abolishing it relative to perceived budgetary savings.

Jim Bever has worked in U.S. foreign aid for over 50 years, with expertise in national energy development, retiring in mid-2017 as a U.S. Senior Foreign Service Officer after 35 years with USAID. Assignments included USAID Mission Director to: Afghanistan, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Egypt, and Ghana; Deputy Mission Director to India; USAID Assistant Administrator at HQ; USAID representative on Deputies Committee of the NSC. He earned an MS in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, a BA in Economics from Cornell University, and a Masters Certificate in National Security Strategy at the National War College.

Brad Wallach retired from the USAID Senior Foreign Service after 30 years with the Agency. In addition to assignments overseas, he also served as the USAID Chair and senior member of the Economics Faculty at the National Defense University (2010-2012) where he was honored as Faculty of the Year in 2010 for his work designing and teaching graduate-level economics and a highly-rated survey course on Sub-Saharan Africa. He holds an MBA from INSEAD (France), a MS from NDU, and a MA from UCLA.

700 Current Events

Program Planning Group Chair:
Camille Hodges

701F / 701Z All the News That's Fit to Print

Four sessions

Instructor: Zachary Teich

Thursdays, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

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.

702Z What's in the Daily News?

Three sessions

Moderators: Richard Crawford, Deborah Dupree, Kathryn McGeehan, John Quinn, Ann Smith, Al Smuzynski, Dennis VanLangen

Class liaison: Dennis VanLangen

Mondays, 9:30–11:00, Jan. 26–Feb. 9

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.

703F Protect Yourself From Fraud

One session

Instructor: Suba Saty

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 26

Scammers steal billions from Americans like you every year. We're fighting back with the AARP Fraud Watch Network. In this session, we will share an inside look at how scammers think, how to safeguard against identity theft and fraud, and what to do if you or someone you know has been a victim.

Suba Saty is a retired Air Force Lt Col and a retired DoD civilian. He has been an AARP Community Ambassador for 11 years and is part of the AARP NoVA Speakers Bureau. Suba enjoys volunteering at the Lorton library as an English Conversation Leader and at the Lorton Food Bank.

704F Experiencing Iran During the 12-Day War

One session

Instructor: Carol Esteki

Friday, 1:00–2:30, Jan. 30

The instructor travels to Iran yearly to visit her 91-year-old mother-in-law and numerous other relatives. In spring 2025, she was caught there when Israel attacked. She will give some background information on Iran and share her experience of what life was like during those days.

Carol Esteki is an OLLI member who has previously taught social science classes. She is retired from Fairfax County Department of Social Services and is a Shia Muslim who has made multiple trips to Iran.

705F / 705Z Vladimir Putin: Why Does He Want More?

One session

Instructor: Elva Card

Monday, 2:15–3:40, Feb. 9

A poor Ukrainian farmer once asked a reporter, “Why do the Russians want our land? They already have so much.” The same question applies to Putin. He is the firmly entrenched ruler of the largest country by area. Russia is some six million square miles, way ahead of second place Canada with three million square miles. So why does he keep trying to add more land? Fareed Zakaria commented once on the traditional Russian expansionist tendency, “Maybe during the Cold War, our problem wasn’t that they were Communist, but that they were Russian.” Indeed, when Stalin was in Germany for a conference at the end of the European War, someone asked him if it wasn’t a triumph to be in Germany. His icy reply was, “Czar Alexander got to Paris.” This class will discuss historical motivations as we probe the question of why the master of such a large country goes to war to add more territory.

See 301F/301Z for instructor information.

800 Science, Technology, and Health

Program Planning Group Chairs:
Suresh Mohla, Michele Romano

801Z Gentle Stretch

Four sessions

Instructor: Paulette Rainie

Coordinator: Bonnie Nelson

Wednesdays, 8:30–9:20, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

Note time

This class will be offered each week to get you ready for the day. Come and learn simple moves you can do every day to help keep you mobile and flexible, and learn how small changes can make a big difference to your musculoskeletal well-being.

Paulette Rainie has been a group fitness instructor for 30 years.

802F The Chatbot Revolution: Embracing the Era of Intelligent Assistants

Four sessions

Instructor: Victor Rezmovic

Wednesdays, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

Most of us cannot imagine how we would survive in the current world of technology without applications like Google search. The growth of generative AI in the last several years and the omnipresence of chatbots like ChatGPT, Gemini, and Copilot will make it likely that generative AI, the technology underlying these chatbots, will quickly become as important in the near future as Google search is today. During the class we will test some of these chatbots and review some of the most popular AI applications being used today. This class is intended for

users beginning to explore the advantages of AI.

Victor Rezmovic, Ph.D, was trained in quantitative methods and social science research. He was fortunate to have discovered the world of personal computers in 1983, which led him to a career as a technology consultant and educator. He teaches in the IT program at Montgomery College.

803R Hearing Aids: Beware and Be Wise!

One session

Instructor: Bonnie O’Leary

Wednesday, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 21

In this class, you will learn about hearing loss; the hearing evaluation; how to interpret an audiogram; types and styles of prescription hearing aids; the differences between prescription and OTC hearing aids, and who is a candidate for each; and apps that can be useful.

Bonnie O’Leary is a Gallaudet-Certified peer mentor. A late-deafened adult, Bonnie is the outreach manager for the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC) where she has been providing educational programs since 2001. No sales are ever involved.

804Z Qigong for Health and Healing

Four sessions

Instructor: Carol Ritter

Thursdays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 22–Feb. 12

Qigong is a collection of ancient Chinese practices that help us balance our energies and harmonize with the natural world. This class is being offered during the period of time when nature is transforming from winter into spring. We will learn Qigong forms, breathing practices, and self-massage techniques that support a smooth transition into the new season, and enhance our health and renew our well-being along the way. When practiced over time, Qigong awakens our natural inner happiness and joy that is the essence of Qi itself. This class is appropriate for all levels, both beginners and those with more experience in Qigong or other internal arts.

Carol Ritter, Ph.D began her Qigong journey in 1997, and has been teaching since 2015 after she retired from her career as a clinical psychologist. She offers Qigong classes throughout the Northern Virginia area and online, with an emphasis on helping students connect to their own Qi.

805Z Digital Literacy: Skills to Survive in the Digital Age

One session

Instructor: Douglas Povich

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Jan. 26

Are you drowning in technology and information overload? Do you have trouble distinguishing truth from fiction and need some basic skills and tools to help you survive in the digital age? This presentation will explore the information sources that bombard us, show how to effectively use, manage, and cope with new technology, and teach you how to critically analyze and make sense of the ever-growing deluge of information out there.

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.

806F / 806Z Moving Forward: Understanding Arthritis and When It's Time to Consider Joint Replacement

One session

Instructor: Kurtis Carlock

Monday, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 26

Join the instructor, a fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon, for an engaging and informative session on arthritis and joint health, with a special focus on the hip and knee. This talk will cover the causes and symptoms of arthritis, non-surgical treatment options, and when hip or knee replacement might be the right choice. Designed for adults over 50 seeking to stay active and pain-free, the session includes real patient stories, practical tips, and a Q&A with the doctor. Whether you're managing arthritis now or planning for the future, this talk offers expert insights in a welcoming, easy-to-understand format.

Kurtis Carlock, MD, is an orthopedic surgeon with the Nirschl Orthopaedic Center who specializes in operative and non-operative management of hip and knee arthritis. An active contributor to the field, he has authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications, presentations, and educational lectures.

807Z Fairfax County's Communications Policy and Regulation Division Presents Smart Devices, Smart Privacy

One session

Instructor: Mayasa Telfair

Thursday, 9:40–11:05, Jan. 29

Smart TVs and other smart devices have entered our homes, offering unprecedented access to video programming and information at the touch of our fingers or the sound of our voices. Unless you're diligent about following the news or reading the fine print in service documents, you may not be aware that the companies behind these devices are collecting, using, and sometimes selling your personal information. Join presenters from Fairfax County's Communications Policy and Regulation Division as they explain what personal information these devices collect, why and how they collect it, and what you can do to limit or prevent unwanted intrusions into your privacy.

With over 36 years of experience in telecommunications and communications law, **Mayasa Telfair** brings deep industry knowledge and a passion for public service to her role as communications policy analyst. A proud graduate of Howard University and Columbia University, Mayasa combines technical expertise with a clear commitment to helping Fairfax County residents navigate the rapidly evolving digital landscape. Her presentations are known for turning complex topics into practical, easy-to-understand guidance for everyday consumers.

808F Six Pillars of Brain Health

One session

Instructor: Suba Saty

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Feb. 2

It's never too late to take charge of your brain health! In this interactive session, you will learn about the six pillars of a brain-healthy lifestyle, share your brain-boosting activities, and be inspired by others. This session is a good overview for anyone interested in improving their brain health and will provide you with actionable steps you can take along with resources to learn more.

See 703F for instructor information.

809F Bamboo

One session

Instructor: Barry Haack

Monday, 2:15–3:40, Feb. 9

We are all familiar with bamboo in multiple contexts. It is what giant pandas eat and is often a source of chopsticks and baskets. Bamboo is a remarkable plant and used by humans in a surprising number of ways and products. It is native to five of seven continents in tropical and subtropical climates including the South Eastern United States. Bamboo is somewhat surprisingly a grass and there are over 1400 species. It can be amazingly tall (30 m or 100 ft) and has been known to grow about 1 meter or 36 inches in one day! Bamboo is employed in building construction, kitchen utensils, weapons, and musical instruments. It can also be a difficult invasive species. This class will briefly review both aspects of bamboo botanically and explore some of the multiple ways we use it in our lives.

Barry Haack is a geographer and a career GMU faculty member. 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 explore many regional climates, often with bamboo.

810Z Introduction to Artificial Intelligence: A Beginner's Guide for Seniors

One session

Instructor: Brian Harte

Coordinator: Dennis VanLangen

Monday, 2:15–3:40, Feb. 9

Join us for a friendly and easy-to-understand class designed specifically for seniors who want to explore the world of Artificial Intelligence (AI). In this course, we'll break down the basics of AI, explain how it's used in everyday life, and show you how to use simple AI tools to make tasks easier, save time, and even have fun. You'll learn: 1) What AI is and how it works (in plain English); 2) Real-world examples like voice assistants (Siri, Alexa), smart devices, and chatbots; 3) How to safely and responsibly use AI tools like ChatGPT; 4) Hands-on activities to practice using AI for writing, asking questions, organizing, and more. Whether you're curious, cautious, or just want to stay up to date with new technology, this class will give you the confidence to understand and try AI in

your own life—no technical experience required!

Brian Harte is a seasoned wealth manager and AI expert with over 19 years of experience advising high net-worth individuals, families, and institutions across the U.S. and Europe. He is the founder of Harte Global Financial and host of the *Investors Coffee Shop* podcast, where he shares insights on investing, financial planning, and the evolving role of AI in wealth management. Brian is also the author of *Oliver and Felix's Frugal Adventure*, a children's book designed to teach financial literacy at an early age. His work blends deep financial expertise with a passion for innovation, education, and empowering others.

900 Other Topics

901Z Happy Endings in the Bible, Literature, Music, and Entertainment: A Journey Through Hope, Harmony, and Redemption Across Time and Genre

Two sessions

Instructor: Stephen Ruth

Mondays, 2:15–3:40, Jan. 26–Feb. 2

We all love a happy ending—the moment when love triumphs, justice is served, music resolves sweetly, or a long journey ends in peace. This course explores the many ways “happy endings” appear across the Bible, great literature, music, film, and stage. From Joseph’s rise in Egypt to Jane Austen’s marriage plots, Beethoven’s triumphant finales to classic Hollywood closing scenes, we’ll uncover the wisdom and joy these stories still offer today. Expect videos, stories, discussion—and smiles.

Stephen Ruth is professor emeritus of Public Policy from the Schar School at George Mason University and has taught two dozen courses for OLLI on a variety of topics such as the Bible, technology, public policy, sports, and music. Last spring, he taught a course called Meeting the Bible Musically.

902F Downsizing and Decluttering: You Can't Take It With You

One session

Instructor: Suba Saty

Monday, 11:50–1:15, Feb. 9

Having too much stuff can impede people from relocating or getting health care into their homes. This fun, interactive presentation explores why stuff is so important for some people. The instructor will present practical, easy-to-follow tips on downsizing and decluttering. Cleaning out your house while you can is a gift and inheritance you can leave your relatives!

See 703F for instructor information.

903F The Star Trek Klingon Battlecruiser: Equal and Opposite to the Enterprise?

One session

Instructor: Tim Hosek

Tuesday, 9:40–11:05, Feb. 10

In the *Star Trek* original series, and subsequent shows and movies, the U.S.S. Enterprise is the ‘hero ship’. The instructor was in awe of the Enterprise until the episode that introduced the ‘Klingon warship’. Here was an adversary ship worthy to stand opposite the Enterprise. This course will review the history of the ‘Klingon warship’ through TV, movies, and literature both canon and not so canon. We’ll look at the eight known versions of the ship in Klingon service and the Romulan version, including layout and identifying features. The ‘real world’ discussion will cover development of a shooting model for the TV series as well as subsequent model kits and toys (of which the instructor will bring examples).

Tim Hosek is a retired technical analyst who worked in the federal government and as a contractor for 37 years. Tim’s first experience with television science fiction was *Fireball XL-5* and he’s nerded out on such sci-fi ever since.

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/). 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!

Special Events

**We urge you to register for Special Event offerings as early as possible.
Popular offerings can fill up quickly, even on the first day of registration.
Please check the location information in each description.**

Special Events

Program Planning Group Chairs:
Gay Alper, Marilyn Harriman

1100 Diversions

1101F Life's a Beach: July in January Ice Cream Social

Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman
Friday, 1:00–3:00, Jan. 23
Limit: 60

Beat the winter blues and come out to Tallwood for a fun July in January ice cream social. The Diversions Committee will scoop the ice cream and your choice of toppings. We'll have a beach-themed trivia game with prizes for the top three winners. Wear your favorite summer shirt and beach hat and join your friends for a festive afternoon of

socializing and trivia. And it's never too early in the year for ice cream! In case of inclement weather, the event will be held on January 30.

1102F Celebrate Valentine's with Harry and Sally: Can They Just Be Friends?

Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman
Friday, 1:00–3:00, Feb. 13
Limit: 65

Celebrate Valentine's with one of the best romantic comedy movies ever made: *When Harry Met Sally*. The multiple Academy Award nominee and BAFTA 1990 winner for best original screenplay, Nora Ephron's film is widely considered a classic for its sharp, witty dialogue and realistic development of the two main characters played by Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan. During a long drive from Chicago to New York, brief acquaintances Harry Burns (Crystal) and Sally Albright (Ryan) discuss their differing ideas about male/female relationships, including the eternal question: can men and women be just friends? As time passes, Harry and Sally journey through several relationship stages with others and each other, eventually arriving at an answer to their question. The film is interspersed with endearing segments of true stories featuring older couples discussing how they met. Come on over to Tallwood, settle in, and enjoy a fun afternoon with your OLLI Mason friends. Popcorn will be served.

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/**



1200 Between-Term Events

1201F 2nd Annual Board Blizzard Game

Coordinator: Marilyn Harriman
Tuesday, 10:00–1:00, Feb. 24
Limit: 40

Come out to Tallwood for a morning of brain stimulation and entertainment. We'll play popular table games, some of which you may have played before and others new to you. All are easy to learn and play. We'll begin the morning with a quick heads-up and a handout with the rules for each game. At the end of the morning, awards and prizes will be announced and presented to the winners. The event also includes snacks and hot beverages: coffee, tea, and cocoa. Don't miss out on this opportunity to engage your intellect and connect with fellow game enthusiasts. Participants can sign up to enjoy lunch afterward at a Fairfax City restaurant through game coordinator Marilyn Harriman. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held on March 3.

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)
- For general club questions, please email 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, Jan. 8–15, Feb. 19–26

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

Wednesdays

Fairfax:

10:00–12:00, Jan. 7–14, Feb. 18–25

1:30–3:30, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

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, Jan. 7–14, Feb. 18–25

1:30–3:30, Jan. 21–Feb. 11

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, Jan. 6, Jan. 20, Feb. 3, Feb. 17

The group is intended to support those OLLI members who are caregivers for family members and friends and is open to any interested OLLI member or caregiver-type. The group meetsevery second week on Zoom. The group's focus is not primarily on educational or medical information, as OLLI has offered recent course work on those, but rather on the emotional andpractical aspects 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 sites via email and also be notified of the club schedule.

Chair Yoga and More

Instructor: Kamini Patel

Coordinator: Kathryn Russell

Zoom:

Mondays, 4:00–5:00, Jan. 5–Feb. 23

Tuesdays, 2:00–3:00, Jan. 6–Feb. 24

Wednesdays, 12:00–1:00, Jan. 7–Feb. 25

Thursdays, 3:00–4:00, Jan. 8–Feb. 26

Fridays, 12:00–1:00, Jan. 9–Feb. 27

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.

Check the Daily Schedule

Please check your daily schedule email for class links or information, the current video library passcode, and Zoom Help Desk information.

Classic Literature Club

Coordinator: Michael Mason

Fridays

Zoom:

2:00–3:30, Jan. 23–Feb. 13

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 Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, 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, the poems of Robert Frost, and plays by Eugene O'Neill and Arthur Miller.

Cooking Club

Coordinator: Gail Sendecke

Second Friday of the Month

11:30–1:00, Jan. 9, Feb. 13

This club is for OLLI members who enjoy preparing food and sharing homemade dishes in a small group setting. Club members take turns hosting in their homes. If this appeals to you, please contact Gail Sendecke at olliclub@gmu.edu for more information. Sign up for the club via the member portal in order to receive updated information on our schedule.

Craft and Conversations

Coordinators: Doris Bloch, Joanne Fitzgerald

Fridays

Fairfax, hybrid:

9:30–11:00, Jan. 9–Feb. 27

Zoom:

9:30–11:00, Jan. 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

Zoom:

1:30–3:30, Jan. 7–Feb. 18

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.

Dirty Knee Club

Coordinator: Bill Ackerman

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, Jan. 8, Feb. 5

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. We also have virtual dinner parties, where we each order takeout ethnic food from nearby restaurants and eat together on Zoom. 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, Jan. 12, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, Feb. 23

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, Feb. 4

We welcome all OLLI members who are interested in history. The History Club meets seven 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, Jan. 2–Feb. 27

Reading the classics aloud with friends and sharing observations bring the texts to life in our imaginations. We have recently read Edith Wharton's *The House of Mirth* and are following this with Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*. We welcome new readers.

Literary Fiction Book Club

Coordinators: Karen Schneider, Joann Sokol

Thursdays

Zoom:

4:00–5:30, Jan. 29

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 January 29, we will meet to discuss *The Emperor of Gladness* by Ocean Vuong.

Mah Jongg Club

Coordinator: Debby Mossburg

Fridays

Fairfax:

10:00–12:00, Jan. 9, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, Feb. 20

Tuesdays

Zoom:

4:00–6:00, Jan. 13, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, Feb. 24

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 online 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, Jan. 7–Feb. 18

Limit: 13

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, space is limited. Please contact Carolyn at olliclub@gmu.edu 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. Walks vary around Fairfax trails and neighborhoods in order to be a short drive for everyone sometime! 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. Visit: olli.gmu.edu/category/olli-walk-and-talk-club to learn the answers to commonly asked questions about our outings.

Personal Computer User Group

Coordinators: Bob Heyer, Leti Labell

Third Saturday of each month

Fairfax, hybrid:

1:00–3:30, Jan. 17, Feb. 21

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". We start our meetings with an open forum for members with problems asking for possible solutions other members have found. 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 on Zoom from 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: olligmu.org/opcug/index.html

Photography Club

Coordinators: John Olsen, Ed Marion

Second Fridays

Fairfax, hybrid:

9:30–11:30, Jan. 9, Feb. 13

Fourth Fridays

Fairfax, hybrid:

9:30–11:30, Jan. 23, Feb. 27

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, Jan. 5, Feb. 23

Limit: 20

From modern to classical, haikus to sonnets, funny to historic, we read and discuss our favorite published poems in a convivial atmosphere. Share a poem to read that intrigues you. Together we'll ponder why and how these poems engage or even elude us.

Poetry Writing Club

Coordinators: Susan Rexroad, Margie Wildblood

Meets sporadically on Mondays, between terms

Zoom:

11:00–12:30, Jan. 12, Feb. 16

Limit: 12

After a presentation and discussion on a poetic theme, you'll have time to craft your own poem on the topic and share your work in a supportive atmosphere. Interest in exploring your creativity is all that is needed!

Spanish Club

Coordinator: Mark Ramage

First and third Wednesdays—in and out of term

Zoom:

4:00–5:30, Jan. 7, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, Feb. 18

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.

Spanish Page Turners

Coordinator: Mark Ramage

Bimonthly on Wednesdays

Zoom:

4:00–5:30, Jan. 14, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Feb. 25

Do you love Spanish and want to practice it in a fun way? Join The Spanish Page Turners—a book club for intermediate-level Spanish learners! We'll dive into novels in Spanish that will not only build your vocabulary but also transport you into different cultures and perspectives. These *easier-to-read* intermediate-level books will give us the chance to follow longer storylines, connect deeply with characters, and see how the Spanish language flows in extended narratives. Reading novels together allows us to build vocabulary in context, notice cultural nuances, and enjoy the satisfaction of progressing through an entire work together. There will be plenty of space to chat, ask questions, share your thoughts, and even debate the choices of the characters.

Moved? Change in Status? Update Your Profile Information!

Log onto the Member Portal, click "my profile" (on the green tool bar), and edit your information. Save your changes by clicking "Submit."

Need Help?

Contact the OLLI registrar:

ollireg@gmu.edu

The goal isn't to read perfectly—it's to enjoy the language together and discover all it has to offer.

Tai Chi Club

Coordinators: Russell Stone, Cathey Parker, Bonnie Nelson, Sid Koslow

Zoom:

Tuesdays, 4:30–5:30, Jan. 6–Feb. 24

Thursdays, 4:30–5:30, Jan. 1–Feb. 26

Saturdays, 10:30–11:30, Jan. 3–Feb. 28

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, Jan. 9, Feb. 13

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

The Investment Forum Club

Moderators: Al Smuzynski, Bob Baker, Lou Coglianese, David Toms

Wednesdays

Fairfax, hybrid:

10:30–12:00, Jan. 7–14, Feb. 18–25

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 financial markets, and their impact on investment decisions. Member

presentations and discussions typically include such topics as: recent market indicators, stocks, bonds, mutual and exchange traded funds, real estate investment trusts, sector allocations, investment strategies, portfolio management, and choosing advisory services. Each week members may participate in our "Buy/Sell/Thinking-About" segment by sharing their investment trades or activities of the previous week, which are then looked at and discussed in a peer group setting. The Forum typically uses various Wall Street analyses and data, as well as relevant news from the financial press. In addition, we regularly incorporate a number of online financial tools and websites in looking at members' recent trading activities or other investment products.

Theater Lovers' Group

Coordinator: Norma Jean Reck

Fourth Wednesdays in term and in-person theater events

Zoom:

4:00–5:30, Jan. 28, Feb. 25

All OLLI members are invited to join the Theater Lovers' Group (TLG). The TLG attends a wide variety of theater events year-round in the DMV area. We also take day trips to a nearby venue or an overnight trip to Broadway in New York City, Staunton for Shakespeare, and West Virginia for a theater festival. We usually attend matinees with an optional lunch or dinner at a nearby restaurant where we get to know our fellow theater lovers. TLG meets virtually during the months that OLLI is in session. Our meetings often feature speakers from the local theater companies who take us behind the scenes or who enlighten us about what is happening in the theater world. We also have lunches where we talk theater and socialize. We carpool, encourage bringing guests, and benefit from senior and group rates. To become a member and receive all TLG emails, go online to the member portal and sign up for Theater Lovers' Group or email ollireg@gmu.edu. For more information, email Norma Jean Reck and watch for announcements in OLLI's Friday E-News.

What's in the Daily News Club

Moderators: Dick Crawford, Deborah Dupree, Kathryn McGeehan, John Quinn, Ann Smith, Al Smuzynski, Dennis VanLangen

Club liaison: Dennis VanLangen

Mondays, between terms

Zoom:

Jan. 5–19 and Feb. 16–23

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.

OLLI Mason Travel Opportunities

Looking for an adventure? Check out the travel page on the OLLI Mason website for future opportunities. Note: trips are managed and processed entirely by the travel agencies. OLLI Mason is not involved in any purchase or refund transactions, logistics, or liability whatsoever.

OLLI Mason members and their guests must work directly with the travel agencies. **olli.gmu.edu/travel/**



Get Involved With OLLI Mason!

OLLI Mason is a member run organization with many members contributing to our program planning.

Maybe you are a former teacher missing the classroom experience, a subject matter expert through work experience or volunteerism, or have a passion you would like to share (*no need for formal expertise*). You may also know individuals in your community who would be good instructors. Please consider teaching or joining a program planning committee.

Find out more by emailing program@gmu.edu or visiting olli.gmu.edu/teach-at-olli/



What Can You Do At OLLI?

- ❶ One fee for unlimited classes & clubs
- ❷ Enjoy over 500 classes & events every year
- ❸ Attend in person or online
- ❹ Try a class for free before joining
- ❺ Explore new interests
- ❻ Share your knowledge with others
- ❼ Make new friends
- ❽ Enjoy social events, local tours & travel
- ❾ Receive free technical support
- ❿ Enjoy George Mason University affiliate benefits





OLLI MASON FUND, FORMERLY FRIENDS OF OLLI

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University

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We thank the donors who have so generously given to the Friends of OLLI campaign. From January through December of 2024, 150 Friends of OLLI donated \$ 46,506.17. As a donor, you are well aware that OLLI programs require funding over and above our usual income streams in order to accommodate equipment updates, literary journals, outreach, landscape beautification, scholarships for Mason students and so much more. OLLI relies on your dedication and support and we are grateful. As we look back at all we have accomplished together, we proudly acknowledge the donors listed below:

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"country club"
Gloria and Murray Loew's
birthdays
Kay Menchel
John West

Membership and Registration

**** Special ****

Winter 2026 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. Members are 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 offerings or register on the Member Portal until you purchase your membership renewal.

Payment Options

- **Online.** You may join online at olli.gmu.edu. Click the yellow 'Join Olli' tab at the top right corner. When renewing online, log in to your Member Portal account. Click the 'Join OLLI!' tab on the left green banner and purchase your membership. Credit card or electronic check payment is required when joining 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/](http://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 courses during any consecutive two weeks of a term, provided the course is not overenrolled. Contact the registrar for more information at ollireg@gmu.edu or 703-544-0085.

Membership and Registration, Continued

REGISTRATION PROCESS

- **Online.** You may register for OLLI Mason courses and activities (diversions, excursions, and clubs) 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 and activities 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. ****

When to Register

Members are encouraged to register for courses and activities as soon as registration opens (the date is listed on the front and back cover of the catalog and on page ii). **IMPORTANT NOTE: Register early for courses and activities. Popular offerings can fill up quickly, even on the first day of registration.** Although registration continues throughout the term, low enrollment courses and activities are subject to cancellation, so please register early. You must click **Add to Cart** as detailed below:

- **Each time you select a course or activity, you must click Add to Cart.**
- After adding all courses and activities to the cart, be sure to check out. The ☒ "CHECKOUT" button is in the upper right-hand corner of the Member Portal.
- Courses and activities with fees will have a dollar sign \$ next to their descriptions.
- Payment for courses and activities with fees must be made at the time of registration.

Making Changes to Your Registration (Add/Drop)

- You may add offerings (courses, special events, and clubs) at any time online through the Member Portal.
- You may drop offerings by filling out the online form at: olli.gmu.edu/add_drop_form or by emailing ollireg@gmu.edu.

Emails Confirming Class Enrollment and Payments

You will receive email confirmations for your enrollment in OLLI Mason courses and activities per below. If you want to see your enrollments thereafter, log in to the Member Portal (olli.gmu.edu; Member Portal button) and click **"CURRENT REGISTRATIONS"**.

- Confirmation emails for all of your selections will be sent immediately after checkout.
- Read your confirmation notes carefully. They will include any updates to selections, 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 activities once you have paid and enrolled. As such, please consider carefully before signing up for offerings with fees. If you need to drop an activity, you should contact the registrar. In some cases, refunds will be granted if your reserved spot is filled by someone else or the event is canceled.

Wait Lists

- OLLI Mason does everything possible to maximize enrollment. Members will be wait-listed if a course or activity is full.
- If space opens in a course or activity, 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: Winter 2026

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
FOLLIChek	_____ 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 _____

License Plate Number _____

How Did You Learn About OLLI Mason?

Mason Alumnus? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ AARP | ☐ Catalog or flyer | ☐ Web search |
| ☐ Ad or Article | ☐ Friend or family | ☐ 50+ Expo |
| ☐ Bumper sticker | ☐ Other learning org. | ☐ Other _____ |

☐ Check box if you **DO NOT** want to appear in the directory.

☐ Check box if you **DO NOT** want to receive paper catalog mailings.

****Please review our privacy policy on the OLLI Mason Policies page in the catalog.**

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 24): must submit the form found at: 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/SPECIAL EVENTS/CLUBS

**Please include the entire number including the F, R, Z, or E.
Register early. Popular offerings can fill up quickly, even as early as the
first day of registration. Please note: all offerings are now Add to Cart.**

See page 25 for further registration instructions.

	Course Number	Course/Special Event/Club Name
1		
2		
3		
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20		

Winter 2026 Schedule Fairfax

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

Sat. Jan. 24, 2:00-3:30
409F Faded Pictures

Note dates and times.
Before and after term programs.

Sat. Feb. 24, 10:00-1:00
1201F 2nd Annual Board Blizzard
Game Bash

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	19-Jan	20-Jan	21-Jan	22-Jan	23-Jan
9:40-11:05	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday OLLI Offices Closed	101F/101Z Photography 101 (3) 401F (Re)discovering Hamlet (4)	602F Battle for Christ (4) 802F Chatbot Revolution (4)	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)	
11:50-1:15		501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)	1101F Life's a Beach 1:00-3:00
2:15-3:40		201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)	603F Faith, Doubt, Tradition (4)	304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4)	
Week 2	26-Jan	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan
9:40-11:05	203F/203Z Tax Prep. Strategies (3) 410F Self Publishing Essentials (1)	101F/101Z Photography 101 (3) 401F (Re)discovering Hamlet (4)	602F Battle for Christ (4) 802F Chatbot Revolution (4)	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)	
11:50-1:15	412F/412Z Hemingway Hoover (1) 703F Protect from Fraud (1)	501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)	704F Iran During 12 Day War (1) 1:00-2:30
2:15-3:40	607F Self Compassion in Rel'n (2) 806F/806Z Arthritis & Joints (1)	201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)	603F Faith, Doubt, Tradition (4)	304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4)	
Week 3	2-Feb	3-Feb	4-Feb	5-Feb	6-Feb
9:40-11:05	203F/203Z Tax Prep. Strategies (3) 306F/306Z Boone, Crocket,... (1)	101F/101Z Photography 101 (3) 401F (Re)discovering Hamlet (4)	602F Battle for Christ (4) 802F Chatbot Revolution (4)	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)	
11:50-1:15	307F/307Z Marshall Plan (1) 808F Brain Health (1)	501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)	
2:15-3:40	204F Basic Financial Analysis (1) 607F Self Compassion in Rel'n (2)	201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)	603F Faith, Doubt, Tradition (4)	304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4)	
Week 4	9-Feb	10-Feb	11-Feb	12-Feb	13-Feb
9:40-11:05	203F/203Z Tax Prep. Strategies (3) 655F/655Z Demise of USAID (1)	401F (Re)discovering Hamilton (4) 903F Klingon D7 Battlecruiser (1)	602F Battle for Christ (4) 802F Chatbot Revolution (4)	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)	
11:50-1:15	416F/416Z Shadows on Rock (1) 902F Downsizing, Decluttering (1)	501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)	1102F Celebrate Valentine's 1:00-3:00
2:15-3:40	705F/705Z Vladimir Putin (1) 809F Bamboo (1)	201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)	603F Faith, Doubt, Tradition (4)	304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4)	

Winter 2026 Schedule

Zoom

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

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	19-Jan	20-Jan	21-Jan	22-Jan
9:40-11:05	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday OLLI Offices Closed	101F/101Z Photography 101 (3) 601Z Political Life of Monsters (4) 651Z Holocaust Today's World (4)	103Z Artists & the Bible (2) 104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4) 404Z Writer's Workshop (4) 9:15-11:05 801Z Gentle Stretch (4) 8:30-9:20	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 406Z Imagining Eliza Hamilton (1) 407Z Austen's Sister & Bath (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)
11:50-1:15		402Z Movie of the Week (4) 501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 405Z Literary Roundtable (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	303Z Fall of France (2) 408Z Bitter Bierce (1) 654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)
2:15-3:40		102Z Songs Made America (2) 201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)		304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4) 804Z Qigong for Health Healing (4)
Week 2	26-Jan	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan
9:40-11:05	203F/203Z Tax Prep. Strategies (3) 411Z Essentials of Poetry (3) 702Z Daily News (3) 9:30-11:00	101F/101Z Photography 101 (3) 601Z Political Life of Monsters (4) 651Z Holocaust Today's World (4)	103Z Artists & the Bible (2) 104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4) 404Z Writer's Workshop (4) 9:15-11:05 801Z Gentle Stretch (4) 8:30-9:20	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 407Z Austen's Sister & Bath (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4) 807Z Smart TV & Privacy (1)
11:50-1:15	412F/412Z Hemingway Hoover (1) 413Z The Tempest (3) 606Z Why Religion? (3) 805Z Digital Literacy (1)	402Z Movie of the Week (4) 501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 405Z Literary Roundtable (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	303Z Fall of France (2) 654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)
2:15-3:40	305Z Samuel Adams (2) 806F/806Z Arthritis & Joints (1) 901Z Happy Endings (2)	102Z Songs Made America (2) 201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)		304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4) 804Z Qigong for Health Healing (4)
Week 3	2-Feb	3-Feb	4-Feb	5-Feb
9:40-11:05	203F/203Z Tax Prep. Strategies (3) 306F/306Z Boone, Crocket, ... (1) 411Z Essentials of Poetry (3) 702Z Daily News (3) 9:30-11:00	101F/101Z Photography 101 (3) 601Z Political Life of Monsters (4) 651Z Holocaust Today's World (4)	104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4) 404Z Writer's Workshop (4) 9:15-11:05 801Z Gentle Stretch (4) 8:30-9:20	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 407Z Austen's Sister & Bath (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)
11:50-1:15	307F/307Z Marshall Plan (1) 413Z The Tempest (3) 606Z Why Religion? (3)	402Z Movie of the Week (4) 501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	205R/205Z Retiring Single (2) 202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 405Z Literary Roundtable (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	415Z Such Friends (2) 654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)
2:15-3:40	305Z Samuel Adams (2) 901Z Happy Endings (2)	201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)		304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4) 804Z Qigong for Health Healing (4)
Week 4	9-Feb	10-Feb	11-Feb	12-Feb
9:40-11:05	203F/203Z Tax Prep. Strategies (3) 411Z Essentials of Poetry (3) 655F/655Z Demise of USAID (1) 702Z Daily News (3) 9:30-11:00	417Z Mysteries: Light to Dark (1) 601Z Political Life of Monsters (4) 651Z Holocaust Today's World (4)	104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4) 404Z Writer's Workshop (4) 9:15-11:05 801Z Gentle Stretch (4) 8:30-9:20	302F/302Z Heroes Civil Rights (4) 407Z Austen's Sister & Bath (4) 604F/604Z Concept of God (4)
11:50-1:15	413Z The Tempest (3) 416F/416Z Shadows on Rock (1) 606Z Why Religion? (3)	402Z Movie of the Week (4) 501F/501Z Italian Culture (4) 652F/652Z Multicultural Nation (4)	205R/205Z Retiring Single (2) 202F/202Z Invest. Forum (4) 405Z Literary Roundtable (4) 653F/653Z Modern Coupling (4)	415Z Such Friends (2) 654F/654Z Genealogy (4) 701F/701Z News that's Fit (4)
2:15-3:40	308Z First Declaration Indep. (1) 705F/705Z Vladimir Putin (1) 810Z Intro to AI for Seniors (1)	201F/201Z Economic Effects (4) 403Z Poetry Workshop (4) 502F/502Z Begin Italian Lang. (4)		304F/304Z Park Rangers (4) 605F/605Z Christian Movies (4) 804Z Qigong for Health Healing (4)

Winter 2026 Schedule Reston

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

	Reston Rose Gallery	Rose Gallery
TIME	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	21-Jan	22-Jan
9:40-11:05	104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4)	
11:50-1:15	803R Hearing Aids (1)	105R Art at Tephra ICA (4)
2:15-3:40	301R Hunt for Red October (4)	
Week 2	28-Jan	29-Jan
9:40-11:05	104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4)	
11:50-1:15	414R Never Late to Write Novel (1)	105R Art at Tephra ICA (4)
2:15-3:40	301R Hunt for Red October (4)	
Week 3	4-Feb	5-Feb
9:40-11:05	104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4)	
11:50-1:15	205R/205Z Retiring Single (2)	105R Art at Tephra ICA (4)
2:15-3:40	301R Hunt for Red October (4)	
Week 4	11-Feb	12-Feb
9:40-11:05	104R/104Z Best Voice Planet (4)	
11:50-1:15	205R/205Z Retiring Single (2)	105R Art at Tephra ICA (4)
2:15-3:40	301R Hunt for Red October (4)	

OLLI Mason Resources

YouTube YouTube Channel

Share the OLLI Mason YouTube channel with everyone you know! Viewers can sample some of our recorded classes to get a taste of OLLI Mason offerings.

youtube.com/@OLLIMason



Website

Visit the OLLI Mason website (olli.gmu.edu) for a wealth of information.

For example:

CATALOG

- **Online version:** olli.gmu.edu/current-catalog/
- **Changes:** olli.gmu.edu/cancelled-changed-courses/
- **Add/drop:** olli.gmu.edu/add_drop_form/

PLANNING RESOURCES

- **For instructors:** olli.gmu.edu/teach-at-olli/
- **Future term dates:** olli.gmu.edu/future-term-dates/

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Clubs:** olli.gmu.edu/olli-clubs-and-interest-groups/
- **OLLI E-News:** olli.gmu.edu/category/olli-e-news/
- **Donate to OLLI Mason:** olli.gmu.edu/olli-mason-fund/

facebook Facebook Page

Connect with each other outside of classes and events, and stay up to date on notifications for local events, some of which you can attend remotely since they are offered in a hybrid format.

facebook.com/groups/olli.at.mason

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, 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.

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 in writing.

Privacy Policy

We value your privacy and are committed to protecting your personal information. When you register for membership, we collect your name, email address, and other information you provide. This information is used to manage your account, send you updates, personalize your experience, and assess our impact and reach. We may also share some information with trusted third-party service providers for essential purposes like payment processing. You have the right to access, correct, or delete your data, and you can opt-out of marketing communications and

the member directory at any time. This policy may be updated, and you will be notified of any changes.

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.

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 paper waiver prior to departure. 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.

In-Person Program Locations



Primary Locations (*designated by F or 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.

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.

The Leila Gordon Theatre is in the Reston Community Center (RCC) 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.

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

Explore the world with



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University



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Discover America's Cowboy Country

July 7 – 14, 2026 8 Days • 10 Meals

You'll spend three nights in the gateway to the Black Hills, Rapid City, South Dakota, where you'll visit Badlands National Park, Custer State Park, home of the Crazy Horse Memorial, and Deadwood, Wyoming, a rambling Western town and National Historic Landmark. From there, you'll venture to Cody, Wyoming, home of the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, and Yellowstone National Park, finally concluding your tour winding through Grand Teton National Park on the way to Jackson.

Reference booking number 1373647



©Wyoming Office of Tourism

Discover Canadian Rockies

September 5 – 12, 2026 8 Days • 13 Meals

Explore the beautiful Canadian Rockies by train. Setting off from Calgary, Alberta, you will enjoy the beauty and tranquility of Lake Louise and a stay in picturesque Banff. You'll also marvel at impressive waterfalls, rushing rivers, glacial peaks, and snowcapped mountain ranges on your way to the Athabasca Glacier. Follow this up with the majestic scenery of Kamloops on your way to Vancouver, British Columbia where you can enjoy a sightseeing tour at Stanley Park, Canada's renowned urban rainforest before returning home.

Reference booking number 1373660

For more information, please call Collette at 800-581-8942 and reference your selected trip booking number
Visit the OLLI Mason travel page at oll.gmu.edu/travel for additional information



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
4210 Roberts Road
Fairfax, VA 22032
olli.gmu.edu

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PLEASE DELIVER BY NOVEMBER 14, 2025

Winter 2026 Registration:
Begins December 3 at 9 am and continues throughout the term

Term Dates

Winter 2026: January 20 - February 13

Spring 2026: March 23 - May 15

Summer 2026: June 22 - July 31

Fall 2026: September 21 - November 13

Stay Curious – Learn Every Day