



# WashU Continuing & Professional Studies

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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute



Winter  
2025

# Friday Afternoon Programs



# Free For Members

(Registration is required)

## History of St. Louis Literary Award

Join Ted Ibur, Executive Director of the St. Louis Literary Award

programs at SLU,

for an engaging talk on one of the nation's most prestigious literary honors. Ted will explore the award's legacy, highlighting its impact on the literary and arts community and the renowned authors it has celebrated since 1967. The talk will also focus on the 2025 recipient, Colson Whitehead author of *The Underground Railroad*.

**Friday, January 17**  
**1:00 – 2:30 pm**  
**ZOOM**  
**Ted Ibur**

## Poetry and Pop Music

As with pop music, poetry often provides a few jigsaw pieces, which readers are invited to use to fabricate the rest of the puzzle. The poet, Mary Jo Bang, will demonstrate how that process works, for the poet and for the reader, by using the 1967 Procol Harum song "A Whiter Shade of Pale," her own poems, and recent knowledge gained from neuroscience.

**Friday, February 28**  
**1:00 – 2:30 pm**  
**ZOOM**  
**Mary Jo Bang**

## Code of Conduct

**Curiosity + Respect + Inclusivity + Kindness = The OLLI way to foster a learning community**

At OLLI, we create a positive and affirming environment that strives to foster learning and social connection for all. We welcome learners of any race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, economic status, and ability.

Members, facilitators, and staff are expected to demonstrate mutual respect, personal and academic integrity, kindness, and a commitment to civil discourse.

This means:

- Demeaning or insulting behavior is unacceptable.
- Respectful exchange of ideas and perspectives is a core principle of OLLI. Differing perspectives and a variety of viewpoints are healthy and expected.
- Raised voices, physical aggression, or other disruptive behaviors are unacceptable.
- Facilitators are responsible for leading and moderating classroom discussion. They have the prerogative of asking members to hold their participation to the end of class or to another designated time.

Our principle of respectful inclusion applies to all OLLI courses, in-person and virtual, as well as to informal interactions in our shared space and sponsored events.

If you see any behavior that you believe may violate these expectations, please speak with a staff member or contact the office (osher@wustl.edu) to report your concerns in a timely manner.

The staff will follow up on the reported concerns in a manner consistent with the policies of WashU and OLLI.

Violations can result in a disciplinary warning, probation, temporary removal from the premises, termination of membership or other privileges, and any other sanctions or remedial measures that may be taken by the university.

**Membership is open to all; programs are designed for those age 50 and above.**

# CONTENTS

## OLLI Membership

A non-refundable \$10 annual membership fee is charged when you register for your first course or event of the academic year. The membership year is July 1 – June 30.

Courses and special interest groups have registration fees listed with each session.

Learners who enroll in many courses each academic year can save money by purchasing a 6-course or a 12-course bundle. Bundles expire at the end of the Spring term (late May 2025).

More information can be found by visiting [osher.wustl.edu/membership](https://osher.wustl.edu/membership).

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## Registration for the Winter Term opens Dec. 3, 2024 at 8:00 am

- Registration is completed online at [osher.wustl.edu](https://osher.wustl.edu)
- If you are unable to complete your registration online, please call 314-935-7000 or come to the office for assistance. The office is open for registration day 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Regular office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Each person registering must do so individually and pay with a separate credit card charge or check.
- If you want to register someone else for a course, please call 314-935-7000 for assistance.

Scan this code with your phone to register online



# You.

You are the why,  
the how – and  
especially – the  
who that make  
Osher Lifelong  
Learning Institute  
the remarkable  
living and learning  
adventure that it is.

Thank You.

# What to do now.

1. Browse Winter Term courses and determine which ones you would like to attend.
2. Visit the OLLI registration page and make sure you know your password and can access your account. If you cannot remember your password or username, please call the OLLI office BEFORE December 3rd to reset your password and username.
3. Be prepared to register at 8:00 am on Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024, as many courses fill early.

## Contact OLLI

314-935-7000 • [osher@wustl.edu](mailto:osher@wustl.edu)

## Volunteer Leaders: 2024-2025

### Executive Advisory Committee

Joe Schlafly, Chair  
Rita Hulbert, Vice-Chair  
Kelly Jordan, Past Chair  
Julien Worland, Secretary  
Andrea Clark, Curriculum Chair  
Gary Handelman, Member at large  
Nanette Rochberg, Member at large  
Dennis Smith, Member at large

### Membership Outreach & Retention Committee

Rita Hulbert, Chair  
David Newman, Secretary  
Joanne Fritz, New Member Welcome Co-Vice-Chair  
Jim Gadell, New Member Welcome Co-Vice-Chair  
Rita Wylie, Corporate Outreach Vice-Chair  
Joe Schlafly, Past Chair  
Susan Figenshau, Member at large  
Kelly Jordan, Member at large  
Pat Magee, Member at large  
Emerald Tournier, Member at large

### Curriculum Committee

Andrea Clark, Chair  
Michael Pfeifer, Secretary  
Alice Fugate, Art & Architecture Chair  
Greg DiBlasi, Contemporary Issues Chair  
Sarah Wilson, Creative Writing & Storytelling Chair  
Linda Shedlofsky, Entertainment Arts Chair  
Jan Jacobi, Fiction & Literature Chair  
John Dwyer, History & Biography Chair  
Anne Korb, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Medicine (STEMM) Co-Chair  
Harold Korb, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Medicine (STEMM) Co-Chair  
Michael E. Nolan, Social Studies Chair  
Jeannette Altman, Member at large



# Facilitator Benefits

OLLI facilitators are volunteers who design courses based on a desire to share their love of a particular subject. They need not have a related degree or professional experience. To thank our facilitators, these benefits are provided:

- Priority registration into the other OLLI courses of your choice.
- A price discount on your OLLI courses – 35% off.
- A reduced price on an annual parking pass – 35% off.
- Invitations to facilitator events and trainings.

Facilitators of 8- and 12- week courses receive these benefits not only in the term in which they lead a course but through the balance of the academic year. Facilitators of 4-week courses receive these benefits for term in which they are leading a course. Please note that no more than two(2) people may be considered facilitators of a 4-week course and no more than four(4) people may be listed as facilitators of 8-week courses. Facilitators do not register for courses they are involved in leading.

## Course Facilitation

OLLI courses are created and led by OLLI members and can take various formats, including writing groups, collaborative curricula, discussion-based courses on shared readings, or lectures. Facilitators, who lead the courses, don't need to be experts but should have a strong interest in the topic to inspire others. Courses can be co-facilitated to share responsibilities, especially useful for Zoom or hybrid (in-person and Zoom) formats.

The role of a Facilitator at OLLI involves four key components:

- 1. Course Design:** Facilitators design and propose courses, including a format, course size, bibliography (if needed), description, and a week-by-week outline. Proposals are submitted via OLLI's online form or email, with three preferred time slots for scheduling.
- 2. Logistics:** Facilitators ensure course logistics are clear, coordinating with staff to secure appropriate classrooms or Zoom resources. This may include scheduling equipment, arranging guest speakers, and communicating updates to course members.
- 3. Course Leadership:** Facilitators lead the course, introducing subjects, outlining goals, preparing or delegating presentations, and guiding discussions or activities.
- 4. Emergency Leadership:** In case of an emergency during in-person courses, Facilitators lead evacuations, with procedures provided before the first course.

## Interested in Facilitating?

### Course Proposal Submission Deadline

Spring Session 2025  
by January 3, 2025

### Fill out a Course Proposal Form

If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please email [osher@wustl.edu](mailto:osher@wustl.edu) for a course proposal form or scan the QR code below.

Scan this code with your phone to access the course proposal form



# Schedule-at-a-Glance

Day	Course & Instructor	Cost	Format	Page
MON	Art as a Muse	\$170	Zoom	7, 13
MON	Essential Themes in the Comparative Study of Religion	\$170	In -Person	11
MON	Memoirs: Writing Life Stories	\$170	In -Person	13
MON	Reading <i>The Wall Street Journal</i>	\$170	Zoom	8
MON	Climate Change – Accelerating or Not?	\$85	Hybrid	8, 12
MON	Memoirs: Writing Life Stories	\$170	In -Person	13
MON	Probabilities – Practical and Puzzling	\$85	Hybrid	12
TUE	American Politics	\$170	In -Person	8
TUE	France During WWII Part 2: 1943 – 1945 Resistance	\$170	In -Person	10
TUE	The Life and Music of Antonin Dvorak	\$170	In -Person	9, 10
TUE	Memoirs: Writing Life Stories	\$170	Zoom	13
TUE	Storytelling for Everyone	\$170	In -Person	13
TUE	Hidden Art Gems in the Region	\$85	In -Person	7, 9
TUE	Memoirs: Writing Life Stories	\$170	Zoom	13
TUE	Making Sense of WWI	\$170	In -Person	11
TUE	Reading <i>The New Yorker</i>	\$200	Zoom	8
TUE	Secession, Emancipation and More	\$170	In -Person	11
TUE	Writing Poetry	\$170	In -Person	14
WED	Beethoven Chamber Music	\$170	In -Person	9
WED	France During WWII Part 2: 1943 – 1945 Resistance	\$170	In -Person	11
WED	Reading <i>The Economist</i>	\$200	Hybrid	8
WED	Beyond the Soviet Union: Socialist Realist Art Around the World	\$85	Zoom	7
WED	Art as a Muse	\$170	Zoom	7, 14
WED	Medical Potpourri	\$170	In -Person	12
WED	Stuff Matters	\$170	In -Person	12
WED	Reading <i>The New Yorker</i>	\$200	In -Person	9
THUR	Dickens: <i>Little Dorrit</i>	\$170	In -Person	10
THUR	Memoirs: Writing Life Stories	\$170	Zoom	14
THUR	The Story of Money: Free Markets & Government Regulations	\$170	Zoom	12
THUR	Rewriting Workshop	\$170	Zoom	14
THUR	The Short Novels of John Steinbeck	\$170	In -Person	10
THUR	Writing for Ourselves	\$170	Zoom	14
FRI	Art Nouveau II: Great Capitals	\$170	In -Person	7
FRI	Current Events	\$200	In -Person	9

## Available Formats



In-Person



Hybrid



Zoom

# Art & Architecture

## Art as a Muse

**Karen Sterbenz, Bill Brizzard**

In this writing course, great works of art are your muse. Each week you'll be e-mailed three examples of art and will choose one as inspiration for your writing. Writing formats can include fiction, poetry, drama, essay or memoir. Members will share their writing in class and receive constructive feedback from their peers. **Note: No class 1/20.**

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-3/3

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 8

**Cost:** \$170



artists responded to the movement. Members will learn about the origins of socialist realism, how it developed in the Soviet Union, and how it was introduced to China, where traditional Chinese art met Western influences to create a new artistic voice. Members will also delve into the artistic evolution of North Korea, where socialist realism was infused with the country's own rich cultural traditions.

### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 2/5-2/26

**Time:** 10 am – Noon

**Course limit:** 70

**Cost:** \$85



## Hidden Art Gems in the Region

**Linda Shedlofsky**

In this course, members will learn about the history, mission and programs offered by four mid-sized arts organizations in St. Louis! Each arts organization will offer members a discount on one of their performances. The Saint Louis Chamber Chorus will present information on women composers and its Composer-in-Residence program. The Missouri Chamber Music Festival will present, "It's the Spirit That Moves Us." Saint Louis Dance Theatre will discuss, "The Cognitive Effect of Dance on the Brain and Body." The Saint Louis Wind Symphony will present the history of the American Concert Band and how composers create music.

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 2/11-3/4

**Time:** 1-3 pm

**Course limit:** 40

**Cost:** \$85



**Room 195**

## Art as a Muse

**Sarah Wilson, Judy Ronzio**

In this writing course, great works of art are your muse. Each week you'll be e-mailed three examples of art and will choose one as inspiration for your writing. Writing formats can include fiction, poetry, drama, essay or memoir. Members will share their writing in class and receive constructive feedback from their peers.

### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-2/26

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 8

**Cost:** \$170



## Art Nouveau II: Great Capitals

**Anna Amelung**

In this course, members will explore Art Nouveau, an international style that flourished during the Belle Époque, influencing fine arts, architecture and decorative arts. As a reaction against academicism, historicism and eclecticism, Art Nouveau embraced forms inspired by nature, characterized by dynamism, movement and the innovative use of modern materials like iron, glass and concrete. Members will examine the rise and development of this captivating movement in cities and countries across the globe.

### Fridays

**Dates:** 1/10-2/28

**Time:** 10am—Noon

**Course limit:** 68

**Cost:** \$170



**Room 25**

## Beyond the Soviet Union: Socialist Realist Art Around the World

**Carol Rudie, Cindy Turner-Johnson**

In this course, members will explore the global influence of socialist realism, a style commonly associated with the Soviet Union but adopted and adapted by several other countries. Through a four-part series, members will examine how the art worlds of China, North Korea and Cuba integrated socialist realism into their unique cultural contexts, revealing both similarities to the Soviet model and the distinct ways these nations'

# Contemporary Issues

## Reading *The Wall Street Journal* Marilyn Lipman, Greg DiBlasi, Kelly Jordan

In this course, members will kick off their week with a lively discussion of selected articles from the previous week's *Wall Street Journal*. The articles will focus on current issues facing the country, while also touching on related topics in science, culture and sports. Each Friday, members will receive the selected articles via email to prepare for the following Monday's session. Email and access to the *Wall Street Journal* are required for participation. This is a great opportunity for members to engage in thoughtful dialogue and stay informed on the latest national and global developments. **Note: No class 1/20.**

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-3/3  
**Time:** 10 am—Noon  
**Course limit:** 40  
**Cost:** \$170



## Climate Change – Accelerating or Not? Tom Mitchell

In this course, members will explore the increasing effects of climate change and the complex factors driving these changes. Topics will include CO2 emissions and atmospheric retention, the impact on atmospheric and oceanic temperatures, ice melt rates, and rising sea levels. Members will revisit and update a model presented in a similar course in 2021 to assess whether these factors are accelerating, decelerating or remaining stable. The course will delve into broader aspects of climate change, including shifting weather patterns, and will address the ecological, economic and social consequences. Members will also engage in discussions about potential actions to address these pressing issues.

### Mondays

**Dates:** 2/10-3/3  
**Time:** 1 – 3 pm  
**Course limit:** 35  
**Cost:** \$85



Room 195/Zoom

## American Politics Dave Matter, Larry May

In this course, members will engage in lively discussions on the actions, personalities and policies shaping the nation's government. With a focus on the politics of the day, members will participate in thought-provoking class discussions and hear from guest speakers on timely political topics. Join the group and dive into the pressing issues of our time with a spirited and engaging approach.

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25  
**Time:** 10 am—Noon  
**Course limit:** 50  
**Cost:** \$170



Room 25

## Reading *The New Yorker* Elizabeth Wild, Joe Schlafly, Marjorie Feldman, Marge Williams

In this course, members will meet weekly to engage in lively discussions of *The New Yorker* magazine and its diverse articles. Each week, members will dive into the previous issue, breaking into small groups to discuss the articles that spark their interest. **Special Interest Group – extended session.**

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-3/25  
**Time:** 1:30—3:30 pm  
**Course limit:** 50  
**Cost:** \$200



## Reading *The Economist* Marilyn Alton, Jim Miller, Kelly Jordan

In this course, members will delve into articles from *The Economist*, a leading weekly magazine that covers international politics, business news and opinion. Each session will feature voluntary reports from members on the latest global news and events. This course is both educational and stimulating, perfect for those

### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-3/26  
**Time:** 10 am—Noon  
**Course limit:** 50  
**Cost:** \$200



Room 24/Zoom



who want to stay informed and engaged with what's happening around the world. **Special Interest Group – extended session.**

### Reading *The New Yorker*

**Karen Sterbenz, Jerry Kottler, David Crowley**

In this course, members will meet weekly to engage in lively discussions of *The New Yorker* magazine and its diverse articles. Each week, members will dive into the previous issue, breaking into small groups to discuss the articles that spark their interest. **Special Interest Group – extended session.**

#### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-3/26

**Time:** 1–3 pm

**Course limit:** 17

**Cost:** \$200



**Room C**

### Current Events

**Tom Hahs, Sydney Long, Jim Gadell**

In this course, members will explore a wide range of current events, including politics, science, technology and human behavior at international, national and local levels. Each session will begin with a brief presentation by a class member on a topic of current interest, followed by group comments and discussion. During the second hour, members will contribute topics for timely and engaging discussions. **Special Interest Group – extended session.**

#### Fridays

**Dates:** 1/10-3/28

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 30

**Cost:** \$200



**Room A**

## Entertainment

### The Life and Music of Antonin Dvorak

**Lee Kaufman**

In this course, members will explore the life and music of Antonín Dvořák, one of the greatest Romantic composers. Known for being a "regular guy," Dvořák balanced his passion for music with family life, raising nine children and remaining grounded despite his fame. Members will learn about his early life, his creative process and his impressive body of work, including nine symphonies, three concertos, operas and sacred choral music. Through this exploration, members will gain insight into what made Dvořák unique among composers, blending artistic genius with a love for simple pleasures.

#### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 40

**Cost:** \$170



**Room A**

Chamber Music Festival will present, "It's the Spirit That Moves Us." Saint Louis Dance Theatre will discuss, "The Cognitive Effect of Dance on the Brain and Body." The Saint Louis Wind Symphony will present the history of the American Concert Band and how composers create music.

#### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 2/11-3/4

**Time:** 1-3 pm

**Course limit:** 40

**Cost:** \$85



**Room 195**

### Hidden Art Gems in the Region

**Linda Shedlofsky**

In this course, members will learn about the history, mission and programs offered by four mid-sized arts organizations in St. Louis! Each arts organization will offer members a discount on one of their performances. The Saint Louis Chamber Chorus will present information on women composers and its Composer-in-Residence program. The Missouri

### Beethoven Chamber Music

**Sol Guber**

In this course, members will explore the chamber music of Ludwig van Beethoven, from his early piano trios to his later string quartets. Beethoven's chamber works demonstrate his technical mastery, depth of thought and musical experimentation, showcasing his love for this medium. Members will listen to and watch performances of piano trios, cello sonatas, violin sonatas and string quartets, with a special emphasis on his renowned string quartets.

#### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-2/26

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 25

**Cost:** \$170



**Room A**

# Fiction

## Dickens: *Little Dorrit*

**Mike Nolan, Kimberly Perry, Michael Wiedl**

In this course, members will examine the great works of Charles Dickens with a focus on *Little Dorrit*, his powerful novel set in Marshalsea, the debtors' prison where

Dickens's own father was once confined. *Little Dorrit* offers a vivid portrayal of the struggles of London's poor and the social injustices of Victorian England. Written during Dickens's maturity, the novel presents a rich tapestry of fascinating characters and highlights his fierce advocacy for social reform.

**Required course text:** *Little Dorrit (Penguin Classics)*, Edition 2004, ISBN: 9780141439969

**Thursdays**

**Dates:** 1/9-2/27

**Time:** 10 am – Noon

**Course limit:** 30

**Cost:** \$170



**Room A**

## The Short Novels of John Steinbeck

**Tom Tobben**

In this course, members will engage in active discussions on the best-known short novels of American Nobel Prize-winning author John Steinbeck. Featured works include

*Tortilla Flat*, *The Moon Is Down*, *The Red Pony*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Cannery Row*, and *The Pearl*.

In addition to exploring these iconic stories, members will also discuss Steinbeck's life and his impact as both a person and an author.

**Required Text:** *The Short Novels of John Steinbeck, Penguin Classics (six novels in one volume)*, ISBN 978-0-14-310577-0, List price \$33, but only \$18.29 on Amazon.

**Thursdays**

**Dates:** 1/9-2/27

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 25

**Cost:** \$170



**Room B**

# History & Biography

## France During WWII Part 2: 1943 – 1945 Resistance

**Anna Amelung**  
In this course, members will build on what they learned during the Fall term with a focus on the French Résistance during World War II and its various forms, including the significant contributions of women

like Lucie Aubrac. The course will include a discussion of Joseph Kessel's 1943 novel *Army of Shadows* and examine the Jewish experience in France, the role of American and French films in inspiring resistance, and the infamous trial of Klaus Barbie, the "Butcher of Lyon." Members will also learn how the Louvre was saved from looting, how artists contributed to France's liberation through art, songs and music, and the pivotal role General de Gaulle played in the liberation. Audio and video files, along with literary excerpts, will enrich the course discussions.

**Recommended reading:** Joseph Kessel, *Army of*

**Tuesdays**

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 10 am – Noon

**Course limit:** 68

**Cost:** \$170



**Room 195**

*Shadows*, tr. Rainer J. Hanshe, introduction by Stuart Kendall, 2017, Contra Mundum Press. ISBN-IO : 194062522X. ISBN-13 : 978-1940625225

## The Life and Music of Antonin Dvorak

**Lee Kaufman**

In this course, members will explore the life and music of Antonín Dvořák, one of the greatest Romantic composers. Known for being a "regular guy," Dvořák balanced his passion for music

with family life, raising nine children and remaining grounded despite his fame. Members will learn about his early life, his creative process and his impressive body of work, including nine symphonies, three concertos, operas and sacred choral music. Through this exploration, members will gain insight into what made Dvořák unique among composers, blending artistic genius with a love for simple pleasures.

**Tuesdays**

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 40

**Cost:** \$170



**Room A**

## Making Sense of WWI Thomas Gordon

In this course, members will explore the experiences of the “Poor Bloody Infantry” (PBI) during World War I, drawing on personal letters, official archives, other primary resources and lesser-known literature. These sessions will examine the war through a balance of accepted historical narratives, official documents and personal family histories, offering a unique perspective on the soldiers’ lives in the trenches. Members will reflect on the lasting impact of WWI, especially for those with relatives who endured the war. This exploration will highlight the enduring shadow of the conflict, which can still be felt in modern issues.

**Required text:** *Some Desperate Glory*, Edwin Vaughan, \$19, ISBN 0-8050-0671-0

## Secession, Emancipation and More Jan Jacobi, Tom Wack

In this course, members will examine key events surrounding Confederate secession and the Emancipation Proclamation, including Abraham Lincoln’s evolving thoughts on these critical issues.

Readings will include *Demon of Unrest* by Erik Larson,

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 12

**Cost:** \$170



Room C

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 30

**Cost:** \$170



Room B

The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane and Frederick Douglass’s July 4, 1862, speech. Through these works, members will gain deeper insight into the political and social upheavals of the time and explore the complexities of the Civil War era.

## France During WWII Part 2: 1943 – 1945 Resistance Anna Amelung

In this course, members will build on what they learned during the Fall term with a focus on the French Résistance during World War II and its various forms, including the significant contributions of women like Lucie Aubrac. The course will include a discussion of Joseph Kessel’s 1943 novel *Army of Shadows* and examine the Jewish experience in France, the role of American and French films in inspiring resistance, and the infamous trial of Klaus Barbie, the “Butcher of Lyon.” Members will also learn how the Louvre was saved from looting, how artists contributed to France’s liberation through art, songs and music, and the pivotal role General de Gaulle played in the liberation. Audio and video files, along with literary excerpts, will enrich the course discussions.

**Recommended textbook:** *Army of Shadows*, Joseph Kessel, tr. Rainer J. Hanshe, introduction by Stuart Kendall, 2017, Contra Mundum Press. ISBN-10 : 194062522X. ISBN-13 : 978-1940625225

### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-2/26

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 68

**Cost:** \$170



Room 25

# Religion & Philosophy

## Essential Themes in the Comparative Study of Religion

### Jack Renard

In this course, members will explore key themes and questions central to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. The course is divided into

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-3/3

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 25

**Cost:** \$170



Room B

three segments: how and why religions begin, spread and change; images of ultimate spiritual reality, ethics, eschatology and the relationship between religion and violence; and religious exemplars, including saints, miracles, prayer, sacred architecture and pilgrimage. **Note: No class 1/20.**

# STEMM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math & Medicine)

## Climate Change – Accelerating or Not?

**Tom Mitchell**

In this course, members will explore the increasing effects of climate change and the complex factors driving these changes. Topics will include CO2 emissions and atmospheric retention,

the impact on atmospheric and oceanic temperatures, ice melt rates, and rising sea levels. Members will revisit and update a model presented in a similar course in 2021 to assess whether these factors are accelerating, decelerating, or remaining stable. The course will delve into broader aspects of climate change, including shifting weather patterns, and will address the ecological, economic, and social consequences and potential actions to address these pressing issues.

### Mondays

**Dates:** 2/10-3/3

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 35

**Cost:** \$85



**Room 195/Zoom**

such as cardiology, rheumatology, epidemiology, obstetrics and gynecology, multiple personality disorders and hypertension. Each session will include time for discussion, though personal medical issues will not be addressed.

### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-2/26

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 35

**Cost:** \$170



**Room A**

## Probabilities – Practical and Puzzling

**Tom Mitchell**

In this four-week course, members will explore the concept of uncertainty through various lenses, including basic genetics, math, and games of chance. Week 1 will cover uncertainty, basic

math, genetics and the role of randomness. Week 2 will focus on gambling and hot and cold streaks. Week 3 will address puzzling situations and practical take-home tips. In Week 4, the discussion will shift to medical and life expectancies, along with member-submitted topics. **Note: No class 1/20**

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-2/3

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 30

**Cost:** \$85



**Room 195/Zoom**

## Stuff Matters

**H. Juergen Biangardi**

In this course, members will explore the fascinating world of materials, following the storyline of Mark Miodownik's book Stuff Matters. From

steel to plastics, glass to ceramics, members will dive into the history, chemistry, physics, and applications of various materials that shape our daily lives. Why is glass transparent? What makes elastic stretchy? These are just a few of the intriguing questions that will be answered as members uncover the science behind everyday objects, from teacups to jet engines.

### Wednesdays

**Dates:** 1/8-2/26

**Time:** 1 – 3 pm

**Course limit:** 35

**Cost:** \$170



**Room B**

## The Story of Money: Free Markets & Government Regulations

**Marlene Katz, Anne Korb**

In this course, members will explore the concept of free market fundamentalism, which posits that markets function best without government intervention. The course will examine the history

of this idea and consider contemporary critiques of free markets. Members will also discuss key economic questions being debated today, such as whether GDP measures economic strength, what causes inflation, how large the national debt can grow, and how tariffs work. The course will include a mix of small group discussions and facilitator commentary to foster an engaging learning experience.

### Thursdays

**Dates:** 1/9-2/27

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 35

**Cost:** \$170



## Medical Potpourri

**David Brown, Harold Korb, Ann Korb**

In this course, members will explore a variety of medical topics presented by retired medical professionals and fellow OLLI students who are eager to share their expertise. The goal is to increase members' knowledge and help them become better advocates for themselves and others. Presentations will cover fundamental information in areas



# Writing

## Art as a Muse

**Karen Sterbenz, Bill Brizzard**

In this writing course, great works of art are your muse. Each week you'll be e-mailed three examples of art and will choose one as inspiration for your writing. Writing formats can include fiction, poetry, drama, essay or memoir. Members will share their writing in class and receive constructive feedback from their peers. **Note: No class 1/20.**

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-3/3

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 8

**Cost:** \$170



## Memoirs: Writing Life Stories

**David Krausch**

In this course, members will write the stories their families will cherish and wish they had asked for, all while discovering more about themselves. Each week, members will write approximately 800 words about a person, event or adventure from their lives. In class, members will share their writing, receive feedback and engage in thoughtful discussions with fellow writers. **Note: No class on 1/20.**

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-3/3

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Course limit:** 6

**Cost:** \$170



**Room C**

## Memoirs: Writing Life Stories

**David Krausch**

In this course, members will write the stories their families will cherish and wish they had asked for, all while discovering more about themselves. Each week, members will write approximately 800 words about a person, event or adventure from their lives. In class, members will share their writing, receive feedback and engage in thoughtful discussions with fellow writers. **Note: No class on 1/20.**

### Mondays

**Dates:** 1/6-3/3

**Time:** 1 — 3 pm

**Course limit:** 6

**Cost:** \$170



**Room C**

## Memoirs: Writing Life Stories

**Shirley Baker, David Krausch**

In this course, members will write the stories their families will cherish and wish they had asked for, all while discovering more about themselves. Each week, members will write approximately 800 words about a person, event or adventure from their lives. In class, members will share their writing, receive feedback and engage in thoughtful discussions with fellow writers.

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 10 am – Noon

**Course limit:** 6

**Cost:** \$170



## Storytelling for Everyone

**Henry Greene**

In this course, members will hone their storytelling skills while sharing life experiences in a supportive and collaborative environment. The goal is to provide a meaningful, enjoyable, and inspiring experience for all participants. Through storytelling practice, members will not only refine their skills but also grow closer to one another as they share personal stories and reflect on the connections these stories create.

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 10 am – Noon

**Course limit:** 10

**Cost:** \$170



**Room A**

## Memoirs: Writing Life Stories

**Ruby Lapin, Jeannette Altman**

In this course, members will explore writing stories from their life experiences and observations, whether to share with family, friends or the general public. These stories could range from memorable events, lessons learned, people met or places traveled. A memoir can be a collection

### Tuesdays

**Dates:** 1/7-2/25

**Time:** 1 — 3 pm

**Course limit:** 8

**Cost:** \$170



of individual life moments or a chronological reflection of an entire life journey. Members will serve as sounding boards for each other's writings, providing feedback in a supportive and constructive environment.

### Writing Poetry Polly Willard

In this course, members will explore the art of poetry, an expression shaped by the constraints of form and poetic devices combined with personal ideas, experiences, memories and dreams. On the first day, members are encouraged to bring a poem they have written, with a copy for each class member, using an easy-to-read font no smaller than size 14. Weekly assignments and handouts will be provided, and poems will be shared via email before each class for more prepared discussions. Members will read and discuss their poems to enjoy the writing process, offer encouragement and provide constructive feedback.

**Optional text:** *The Poetry Home Repair Manual* by Ted Kooser; *A Poetry Handbook* by Mary Oliver.

### Art as a Muse Sarah Wilson, Judy Ronzio

In this writing course, great works of art are your muse. Each week you'll be e-mailed three examples of art and will choose one as inspiration for your writing. Writing formats can include fiction, poetry, drama, essay or memoir. Members will share their writing in class and receive constructive feedback from their peers.

### Memoirs: Writing Life Stories Ellen Boone, Rudy Yanuck

In this course, members will explore writing stories from their life experiences and observations, whether to share with family, friends or the general public. These stories could range from memorable

events, lessons learned, people met or places traveled. A memoir can be a collection of individual life moments or a chronological reflection of an entire life journey. Members will serve as sounding boards for each other's writings, providing feedback in a supportive and constructive environment.

### Rewriting Workshop Sarah Wilson, Janet Guillet

In this course, members will strengthen their writing skills while working on stories, books, plays or screenplays. The focus will be on developing the "spine" or structure of your piece, creating compelling scenes and crafting memorable, fully realized characters. Each week, members will workshop each other's writing through positively focused critiques and brainstorming sessions. Discussions will reference examples from movies, TV, plays and novels to illustrate key points. Together, members will ask questions, navigate through challenging spots and move their projects forward in a supportive environment.

**Thursdays**  
**Dates:** 1/9-2/27  
**Time:** 10 am—Noon  
**Course limit:** 8  
**Cost:** \$170



**Tuesdays**  
**Dates:** 1/7-2/25  
**Time:** 1 – 3 pm  
**Course limit:** 8  
**Cost:** \$170



**Lounge**

**Thursdays**  
**Dates:** 1/9-2/27  
**Time:** 1 – 3 pm  
**Course limit:** 6  
**Cost:** \$170



**Wednesdays**  
**Dates:** 1/8-2/26  
**Time:** 1 – 3 pm  
**Course limit:** 8  
**Cost:** \$170



### Writing for Ourselves Nina Kaplan, Rita Hulbert – Section 1 Dennis Smith, January Kiefer – Section 2

Whether you're an experienced writer or just beginning, this course offers a supportive and congenial space to explore your interest in writing. Members can write essays, poetry, fiction or memoir—whatever inspires them—and bring their work to class to read aloud. Through active listening and participating in constructive critiques, members will improve their writing skills while enjoying the creative process in a welcoming environment.

**Thursdays**  
**Dates:** 1/9-2/27  
**Time:** 1–3 pm  
**Course limit:** 8 per section  
**Cost:** \$170



# Member Policies

STAY  
CURIOUS

## Scholarships:

OLLI is accessible to everyone who wishes to participate. If you need financial assistance to register, please call 314-935-7000. All requests are kept confidential.

## Course Books:

Books are not included in the course fee. Please check the course listing to see if books are required or recommended. Titles are available from online booksellers; many are also available from the traditional retailer of your choice. Be advised that WashU Campus Store no longer provides a discount on OLLI course books. Please email [osher@wustl.edu](mailto:osher@wustl.edu) if you have difficulty locating a book for your OLLI course.

## Course Location:

In-person courses meet at WashU's West Campus at 9 N. Jackson at Forsyth Blvd., Suite 180; St. Louis, MO 63105. OLLI occupies six classrooms in the building on the northwest corner of Forsyth Blvd. and Jackson Ave. in Clayton. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 am - 4 pm.

## Missing Class:

There is no penalty for missing an OLLI class as courses do not offer credit or certificates of completion. Pro-rated refunds for partial attendance in an OLLI course are not possible. If you need to miss a class for a religious observance, please notify OLLI staff so alternative arrangements can be made for you to receive class content.

## Privacy:

OLLI does not share, sell or rent its mailing lists. In addition, by becoming an OLLI member, you grant WashU permission to use your likeness in photograph, video, or other digital media in any and all of its publications, including web-based publications, without payment or other consideration.

## Parking & Public Transportation:

**Pay per visit:** To pay each time you park at the West Campus Garage, you must download the Passport Parking application on your phone and register your vehicle. The Passport Parking app will require you to enter credit card information. Each parking visit will be charged to the credit card you provide.

**Annual Permits:** Annual parking permits are valid August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025 at a cost of \$43. Proration is not possible. Permits require a Vehicle Registration Form

**MetroLink:** OLLI is located just west of the Forsyth Station on MetroLink's Blue Line.

Scan this code with your phone to access the Vehicle Registration Form



**OLLI is located on WashU's West Campus**  
**9 North Jackson Avenue**  
**St. Louis, MO 63105**

Enter door labeled 5-9 North Jackson Road and follow the signs to OLLI.



**WashU**

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Osher Lifelong  
Learning Institute

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Clayton, MO 63105

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# STAY CURIOUS

## On the cover ...

“ I love facilitating the New Yorker class at OLLI. It has given me a whole new circle of friends who are very dear to me. OLLI provides learning, fun and a lot of laughter.

- Karen Sterbenz  
OLLI member since 1996

”



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