

# Spring 2024 In-Person + Online Course Catalog

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UMass Boston

**PROVIDING LIFE-ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS**



**GERONTOLOGY INSTITUTE  
ROBERT AND DONNA MANNING COLLEGE  
OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES**



## **OLLI Board of Directors (2023–Spring 2024)**

OLLI at UMass Boston has a volunteer advisory board composed of current members that oversees the governance of OLLI. It provides tremendous support to the OLLI office staff and helps shape the overall direction of the organization and its programs. It is also a working board, meaning that its members are part of other OLLI committees and contribute their ideas and time to achieving various goals and projects. Members are listed below, along with their current town of residence and any committees on which they currently serve.

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*Molly Murphy* – Operations Coordinator

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*Jerrilyn Quinlan* – Copy Editor

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### **Sponsored by**

The Bernard Osher Foundation

The Gerontology Institute

The Robert and Donna Manning College  
of Nursing and Health Sciences

Cover artwork by OLLI member Arlene Simon, 3-dimensional, multi-media collage of paper, feathers and twigs.



# About OLLI at UMass Boston

**Learning for the love of it!** The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UMass Boston is an inclusive member-powered community that offers educational, cultural, and social programs to inspire adult learners ages 50+.

Through a modestly priced membership, OLLI provides non-credit courses, special lectures, social events, theatre outings, and field trips in the United States and abroad. OLLI at UMass Boston values the diversity of its members, staff, facilitators, and volunteers, and we strive to model and promote a welcoming environment by embracing our community, which includes differences in race, socioeconomic status, cultural background, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and educational background.

**No specific background or education level is required to join, just an interest in learning, the desire to participate actively with your peers, and an open mind.**

OLLI offers over 200 learning opportunities every year through our courses, OLLI Talk presentations, and special events. These educational programs vary in length. Courses meet once a week (mostly during the day) and might last from 3–10 weeks. The length of most classes is 90 minutes, but some might only be an hour and a few

last up to two hours. OLLI Talks and special events are typically one-day programs and generally last for an hour.

OLLI is funded in part by the Bernard Osher Foundation, which supports educational programs, the arts, and integrative medicine centers. OLLI at UMass Boston is one of 125 institutes in all 50 states in the United States funded by the Foundation.

## How Do I Join OLLI?

To join or renew and register for classes, submit Membership and Course Request Forms on the last two pages of this catalog with payment by check or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express). **Membership is valid for one year, expiring in January or June.** Contact the OLLI office at 617.287.7312 to find out your renewal date. Online course registration is available at [www.umb.edu/olli](http://www.umb.edu/olli). Registration is not accepted by phone.

## Financial Assistance

OLLI at UMass Boston does offer scholarships for those who might need assistance in paying the annual membership fee. For more information, please email the OLLI office ([ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com)).

Membership Level	Membership Benefits	Annual Cost*
<b>Full Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register for OLLI courses each semester, depending upon course availability, at no extra charge.</li> <li>Register for as many OLLI Talk presentations as you wish at no extra cost.</li> <li>Attend OLLI social activities and take trips to museums, the theatre, and domestic and international travel at discounted group rates.</li> <li>Receive OLLI catalogs, notice of OLLI Talks and other events, newsletters, and information about lectures and special events on campus.</li> <li>Obtain student ID, with benefits such as JFK Library and Museum admission, Healey Library on-campus access, and no cafeteria meal tax (see details on pg. 3).</li> <li>Receive free access to Mango Languages Program to learn over 70 languages (see details on pg. 3).</li> <li>Obtain a UMass Boston email address.</li> </ul>	<p>\$225 per person</p> <p>\$425 for two living in same household</p>
<b>Associate Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register for as many OLLI Talk presentations as you wish at no extra cost.</li> <li>Attend OLLI social activities and take trips to museums, the theatre, and domestic and international travel at discounted group rates.</li> <li>Receive OLLI catalogs, notice of OLLI Talks and other events, newsletters, and information about lectures and special events on campus.</li> <li>Receive free access to Mango Languages Program to learn over 70 languages (see details on pg. 3).</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: <b>Not eligible</b> for UMass Boston student ID card, UMass Boston email, or to take OLLI courses.</p>	\$100 per person

\*OLLI at UMass Boston does offer scholarships for those who might need assistance in paying the annual membership fee. For more information, please email the OLLI office ([ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com)).

# Learning at OLLI

OLLI at UMass Boston continues to provide in-person and online programming for its members. We are ever so grateful for the time and effort our facilitators, presenters, and tour guides dedicate to researching, creating, and offering their knowledge and expertise to OLLI students.

## Learning Etiquette and Conduct

OLLI encourages rich dialogue and the exchange of ideas, opinions, and information in its courses and programs. This is at the heart of lifelong learning as older adults bring with them individual personal and professional experiences. OLLI and its facilitators/presenters wish to build a learning atmosphere (whether that is in-person or online) that is welcoming and accepting of differences. Members grow by actively listening to one another with respect and dignity. It is the expectation that members help one another in this endeavor, allowing various voices to be heard. We appreciate your cooperation in helping create this inclusive community.

## Zoom

OLLI at UMass Boston uses Zoom as the main platform to deliver course and program content online. A personal Zoom account is not required in order to participate in OLLI courses and programs. Zoom is a free video-conference platform that allows users to meet online and participate via video and audio. It is an application that can be easily installed or downloaded for free on your mobile device or home computer/laptop. The OLLI Zoom account is hosted through the university and is well secured. OLLI does not publicly promote Zoom details for meetings or courses; they are intended strictly for OLLI members. Members can learn more about Zoom by visiting its website: [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)

### RECORDING OF OLLI COURSES AND PRESENTATIONS

OLLI will take several things into account in determining whether or not to record a course or presentation. Where presenters grant permission for their course or program to be recorded, we will clarify whether it will be made available to just those OLLI members who are registered for the specific course or program, or the wider membership and public on the Archived Lectures webpage. Wherever possible we will notify members ahead of time if a course or event will be recorded and how that recording will be distributed. Other aspects OLLI considers include whether recording will hinder member engagement in the course or event, and the availability of staff or assistants if the recording requires more oversight.

## In-Person Locations and Directions

Approximately 45% of OLLI spring courses will be offered in-person at the UMass Boston Campus, Hingham Public Library, Thayer Public Library in Braintree, or Mt. Ida Campus in Newton. **Covid vaccinations and masking are no longer required by the University.** OLLI will inform its members if mandatory health policies change. *Masks are welcomed at all in-person courses and events.*

### UMass Boston Campus

McCormack Hall, 3rd Floor, Room 003  
100 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125-3393

### Hingham Public Library

Whiton Room  
66 Leavitt Street, Hingham, MA 02043

### Thayer Public Library

Logan Auditorium  
798 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184

### Mount Ida Campus

Campus Center Theatre  
100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

Detailed information on directions and parking can be found on OLLI's contact/locations webpage: [www.umb.edu/olli/contact/](http://www.umb.edu/olli/contact/). For those attending programs at the UMass Boston campus, OLLI has arranged for discounted parking of \$9/day. Members planning to be on campus for more than five days during the spring semester can purchase a \$45 semester parking plan available through the OLLI Office. This plan allows for unlimited single use parking passes to be used for OLLI courses and programs being held on campus during the spring semester.



# OLLI Member Benefits

## UMass Boston Student ID

Full members of OLLI are eligible to receive a UMass Boston student ID card. To obtain your ID, first go to the OLLI office (3rd floor, McCormack Hall) to get the required form and make your payment. Then, visit the BeaconCard Office (2nd Floor, Quinn Administration Building) to have your photo taken and receive your card. The cost is \$25: cash, money order, or check. Checks are made payable to UMass Boston (not OLLI).

## Mango Languages Program

A great benefit for all OLLI members is access to the online Mango Languages Program. Learn any of 70+ languages at your own pace on your desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. All you need is an internet connection, your email address, and a password, which will be provided by the OLLI office upon request.

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## Volunteering with OLLI

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OLLI is more than just taking classes, listening to lectures, and participating in various trips and activities. The program also provides opportunities for members to become active within the leadership of the organization. Volunteers play a vital role in helping shape and guide the various elements of OLLI through committee work as well as individual commitments such as being a course facilitator or OLLI Talk presenter. Volunteering is a great way to give back to an organization that is making a lasting impact on the lives of its members. For more information on volunteer opportunities, please call the OLLI office at 617.287.7312 or email your inquiry to [ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com).

## Shared Interest Groups

An OLLI Shared Interest Group (SIG) is a group of OLLI members who share a common interest and like to meet outside the normal OLLI class environment to discuss and enjoy this mutual interest. Each group has a different focus and is self-managed: Members decide when they will meet and plan how the group will function. Most SIGs meet once a month but may meet more or less often if members wish. *Some OLLI SIGs continue to meet via Zoom, while others have outings and in-person events.*



More information about our Shared Interest Groups is available on our website at [www.umb.edu/olli](http://www.umb.edu/olli). To join a SIG, email [ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com) with your specific request.

The groups currently active are

- ♥ Book Group (waitlist only)
- ♥ Culinary Adventures
- ♥ French Conversations through Cinema
- ♥ Knitting
- ♥ Intergenerational Book Club
- ♥ Stonewall at OLLI
- ♥ Walking
- ♥ Writing

Are you interested in starting a new Shared Interest Group? All it takes is a core group of like-minded OLLI members. If you have an idea, seek out a few interested members, come up with a mission statement, meeting schedule, and core leadership group. Email Jim Hermelbracht for assistance at [james.hermelbracht@umb.edu](mailto:james.hermelbracht@umb.edu).

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT EMAIL

Now more than ever, OLLI uses email to communicate important information about classes and events to its members. We do not give email addresses to any organization outside of UMass Boston OLLI and we do not send unnecessary emails. Since OLLI continues to offer some online programming, it is essential that members have an email address and check it regularly.

Here are some of the ways the office utilizes email communication:

- Class confirmations
- Class schedule changes and emergency cancellations
- OLLI Talk schedules and other free events
- Updates and other information about OLLI and its programs through our regularly scheduled e-newsletter (which members can opt out of)

**Members should frequently check their email spam/junk folders as messages from OLLI could end up marked as spam by your email provider.** If you do not have an email account, we will help you set one up and learn how to use it. Contact the OLLI office for more information.

## OLLI Course Information

### Facilitators

OLLI course facilitators and OLLI Talk presenters share their areas of expertise with OLLI students on a **volunteer** basis. A course evaluation form is provided at the end of each course, and your constructive suggestions are welcomed by our facilitators. If you would like to complete an evaluation before the end of the course, please request a form from the OLLI office.

Please note that the views and opinions expressed are strictly those of the facilitators, presenters, and their guest speakers and may not reflect the philosophical perspective of UMass Boston or OLLI leadership.

### OLLI Scholars

This symbol indicates courses that are taught by UMass Boston graduate students under the OLLI Scholar program. The OLLI Curriculum Committee reviews proposals, interviews candidates, and mentors students from various graduate programs on campus. If accepted into the program, OLLI Scholars receive a stipend after successful completion of their courses. This intergenerational experience benefits both UMass graduate students and OLLI members.

### Extra Fees for Courses

Additional fees are sometimes required for courses that involve off-campus activities, special events, or a high amount of handout copying or instructional supplies.

### Course Cancellation

OLLI reserves the right to cancel a scheduled course because of low registration, non-availability of a facilitator, or any other unavoidable circumstance. Students will be notified as soon as possible.

### Attendance Policies

*OLLI events have a maximum capacity determined by the course topic or the facilitator's preference.* If requests for a course exceed capacity, the registration priority system is used to determine who will be enrolled, based on the priorities set by each registrant. If you would like to be placed on a waitlist for a course that is full, please contact the OLLI office, and you will be notified if a space becomes available.

**Remember to cancel if you cannot attend a course or OLLI Talk.**

## Registration Information

**Courses:** OLLI Full Members can **request** up to five courses per semester before the Priority Registration Deadline of February 20. After that date, additional course requests will be considered if space remains available. *The maximum number of students registered for each course depends on the course topic (some may work best with a smaller class size) and the preference of the facilitator.*

Please list your course choices **in order of priority** (*highest priority = 1, and so on*) on the Course Request Form or when using the online registration system.

**Submit your requests by mail or online by February 20, 2024.** Students who indicate that a course is their first or second priority will have the best chance of being registered for that course. Course requests received after the February 20 deadline will be assigned based on availability on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Online Registration:** For instructions about use of our online system, please go to our website at [umb.edu/olli/courses](http://umb.edu/olli/courses)

**Course Confirmation: Students are not registered for courses until they receive a final confirmation.**

Confirmations will be emailed in late February. Please pay close attention to the details of the confirmation correspondence: **“registered”** means a student has been confirmed to attend the class; **“not registered”** means the course was oversubscribed, and the course request could not be accommodated.

**OLLI Talk Registration:** Dates for OLLI Talk presentations are announced approximately three weeks in advance; registration is not open until the dates are announced. OLLI Talks registration is always on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register responsibly! Sign up for only those presentations you can reasonably attend and remember to cancel if your plans change.



















**Dropping or Adding Courses:** All dropped courses and OLLI Talks are handled by the OLLI office. Please email [ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com) or call 617.287.7312 as soon as you determine that you will not be attending a course or OLLI Talk for which you registered.

**Use of Email Addresses:** OLLI uses email to communicate important information: course confirmation and location; class schedule changes; OLLI Talk dates; and updates and announcements on other special events and programs. We do not send unnecessary emails nor give email addresses to any other organizations. Please contact the OLLI office to learn how to set up an email account.


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## OLLI In-Person Classes

The following IN-PERSON courses will be held during the Spring 2024 semester. Each course is listed chronologically under each location. Full course descriptions and facilitator bios can be found starting on page 9. Please check location listings carefully and register for your preferred location on the request form.

Please note that IN-PERSON courses on the UMass Boston campus are held on Mondays and Thursdays only.

### Braintree – Thayer Public Library

#### Who Are Those Singers?,

6 Thursdays, 3/7–4/18 (no class on 3/28), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Exploring Identity: An Analysis of Internal and External Influences that Impact Identities,

6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Independent Films: A Sampler,

6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

#### Manifestations of Divinity:

##### Exploring the Avatars of Lord Vishnu,

5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Discovering Documentaries,

6 Fridays, 3/15–4/26 (no class on 4/19), 10:00 a.m.–12 noon

#### Willa Cather: Isolationism and Perseverance on the Prairie,

5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Exploring Longevity (Series 6),

3 Fridays, 5/3–5/17, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

### Hingham – Hingham Public Library

#### History and Consequences of the Vietnam War,

6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Complete Look at Fashion History,

5 Thursdays, 4/4–5/9 (no class on 4/18), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Chair Yoga for Everyone,

4 Wednesdays, 4/24–5/15, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

#### What's Your Favorite Song?,

5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

### Dorchester – UMass Boston Campus

#### American Art from 1860 to 1945,

7 Thursdays, 3/7–4/18, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Tech Savvy,

5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### TED Talks (and Other Videos) Discussion Group,

5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### World War II in Germany: From the Outside Looking In,

5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Embellishing Knits with Colors and Stitches,

8 Mondays, 3/11–5/6 (no class on 4/15), 10:00 a.m.–12 noon

## OLLI In-Person Classes (cont.)

### Dorchester – UMass Boston Campus (cont.)

#### 400 Souls—Building A Slave Society in Real Time,

5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8, 1:00–2:30 p.m.

#### Russian Serfs and Nihilists: Turgenev and Social Change,

6 Mondays, 3/11–4/22 (no class 4/15), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Quantum Mechanical Puzzles,

5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Can We Stop Climate Change?,

5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Designing Intelligent Machines and Reprogramming Humans,

5 Mondays, 3/18–4/22 (no class on 4/15), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Oceans: Navigating the Frontlines of Climate Change,

5 Thursdays, 3/21–4/18, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Refining Your Poetic Voice,

8 Thursdays, 3/21–5/9, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Survival French for Travelers (or for Fun),

7 Thursdays, 4/4–5/16, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Gender in Film,

5 Thursdays, 4/18–5/16, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Learning Physics through Simple Experiments,

5 Mondays, 4/22–5/20, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Child Development,

5 Mondays, 4/22–5/20, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### The Digital Camera:

#### Taking Photographs, Not Snapshots,

5 Mondays, 4/22–5/20, 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Meet the Beatles (Again),

7 Mondays, 4/22–6/10 (no class on 5/27), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### A Math Course That My Mom Would Have Loved!,

5 Thursdays, 4/25–5/30 (no class on 5/23), 10:00–11:30 a.m.

#### Degenerate Art of the Nazi Era,

7 Thursdays, 4/25–6/13 (no class on 5/23), 1:30–3:00 p.m.

#### Memory Training Program,

4 Mondays, 4/29–5/20, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

#### Understanding the Environment Using Art,

5 Thursdays, 5/9–6/13 (no class on 5/23), 10:00–11:30 a.m.

### Newton – Mt. Ida Campus

#### Great Artists in American Roots Music 2,

8 Fridays, 3/1–5/3 (no class on 3/29 and 4/26),  
10:00 a.m.–12 noon

## Spring 2024 Courses by Day of the Week

**Note:** All course information is correct at the time of printing. Any changes to course details will be announced in the OLLI newsletter and reflected in the online information about the course. On the following pages, course descriptions and facilitator bios are listed by day of the week. **OLLI is offering both in-person and online courses this semester. Please note the location as you consider and submit your course requests.**

Course formats are the ways in which OLLI facilitators anticipate presenting their course information and material. Some courses may use a combination of formats. The various formats include the following:

- **Lecture**—Lecture-based courses primarily present information to students, although they often include some time for comments and questions.
- **Discussion**—Discussion-based courses foster active participation by all students and usually include sharing comments and questions.
- **Hands-on Activity**—These courses are based in hands-on learning. Examples include our knitting, photography, and art courses.
- **Activity/Exercise**—These courses require physical participation. Examples include our yoga and tai chi as well as other movement courses.

## Monday

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### Tong Bei Exercises

Tong Bei is one of the oldest martial arts styles in China (500s BC). Tong Bei exercises involve many back and shoulder exercises, which help you to relax and stretch your back. They are easy to do and easy to remember.

**Facilitator:** Huan Zhang has 40 plus years of martial arts experiences. He has studied a variety of martial arts with top masters from China. He has been interviewed by *WCVB* and *NECN*. Huan has published many martial arts articles in major magazines from both China and America. He is also the chief exercise designer for an NIH grant, the Joint Pain Study for the Elderly at UMass Boston. Huan was the co-president of the 2023 World Open Martial Arts Championship (WOMAC). As vice president of the World Fighting Martial Arts Federation (WFMAF), he helps to promote martial arts worldwide.

**Dates:** 10 Mondays, 3/11–5/20 (no class on 4/15)

**Time:** 9:30–10:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Activity/Exercise

### Tai Chi for Beginners

Tai Chi is an internal Chinese martial art, which embodies Taoist philosophy and, accordingly, is extremely beneficial for good health. It is also a method of relaxation, used to increase focus and concentration. Benefits include stress reduction and better concentration, as well as improved flexibility, strength, enhanced immune system, balance, memory, and circulation coordination.

**Facilitator:** Huan Zhang, see bio above.

**Dates:** 10 Mondays, 3/11–5/20 (no class on 4/15)

**Time:** 10:45–11:45 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Activity/Exercise

### Embellishing Knits with Colors and Stitches

It is Springtime. This class has two parts: The first two classes are geared towards new knitters (experienced knitters are welcome); and the remaining classes will be dedicated to learning different stitches using colored yarn. The aim is to create awareness about how to embellish the knitted garments. We will go over these different techniques: knitting stripes, using multicolor yarn, duplicate stitch, slipstitch, fair isle or stranded knitting, intarsia knitting, and entrelac.

**Facilitator:** Samia Awad was born in La Paz, Bolivia. Her parents were born in Lebanon. Samia went from Bolivia to Lebanon to pursue a university degree in biology. She left Lebanon because of the civil war and came to the United States with a J-1 visa. Samia then became a U.S. citizen and was a career biochemist.

She has been knitting since she was seven years old and, like most people, learned the skill from her mother. Samia followed some of the classes in *Craftsy* for new techniques and used YouTube to teach herself new knitting stitches.

**Dates:** 8 Mondays, 3/11–5/6 (no class on 4/15)

**Time:** 10:00–12 noon **Note:** These classes are two hours long.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Hands-on Activity

### Tech Savvy

"Tech Savvy" is a comprehensive program designed to empower older adults with essential computer and technology skills. The course aims to enhance participants' confidence in using computers, smartphones, and the internet safely and effectively. Through interactive sessions, hands-on workshops, and personalized guidance, attendees will gain practical knowledge and skills to navigate the digital landscape with ease.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Shivam Juneja is a vibrant and tech-savvy individual who finds immense joy in exploring new horizons and embracing exciting experiences. His passion for technology is matched only by his love for teaching, as he eagerly shares his knowledge and skills with others. Shivam's warm and compassionate nature makes him exceptionally good at connecting with individuals and he demonstrates patience and understanding in every interaction. With his unique blend of enthusiasm, expertise, and empathy, Shivam brings happiness and learning to people's lives, leaving a lasting and positive impression on everyone he meets.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Hands-on Activity

### TED Talks (and Other Videos) Discussion Group

TED Talks consist of videos from expert and engaging speakers whose talks expose new ideas and concepts to help us think about and live our lives differently. The topics are far ranging from education, business, and science to emerging technologies, international concerns, and creativity. Informative videos from other sources that augment, support, or refute TED Talks will also be viewed to provide additional perspectives where appropriate. Each week we will watch 2–4 curated videos together in class. Background information about the speakers and questions derived from the talk will be presented for you to discuss in groups. This will enable you to delve more deeply into the topic and examine the merits of the talk and topic and how it relates to and affects you. The goal is to awaken your curiosity, solidify your own thinking and feelings, and learn something new.

**Facilitator:** Myrna Finn is a professor emerita at Salem State University where she taught courses in all aspects of oral communication. With her motto "you're never too old to learn

something new,” she is a lifelong learner seeking to expand her horizons by constantly engaging in new experiences as well as with people of diverse perspectives and backgrounds.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Discussion

## **World War II in Germany: From the Outside Looking In**

This course explores the multifaceted aspects of Germany's experiences in World War II. It delves into the political, economic, and social conditions that led to the rise of Nazism, examining key figures like Adolf Hitler and his inner circle. The course covers major military campaigns and battles, the Holocaust, and the impact on civilians. Students will analyze Germany's strategies, the home front's experience, and the war's aftermath, including the Nuremberg Trials. Partly through discussing films and books about the war, this course invites you to put aside the simple labels of “the good guys” and “the bad guys” to better understand how a country like Germany spiraled downward into Nazism.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Rounak Burman is a graduate student majoring in computer science at UMass Boston. He loves studying about the world wars, especially WWII. Some of his favorite books include *Night* by Elie Wiesel and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak and he loves watching war films, too. Rounak has probably watched *Schindler's List* over 20 times! He is an international student from India.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture

## **400 Souls— Building A Slave Society in Real Time**

In this five-session course, OLLI students will explore the meteoric rise of American chattel slavery from 1619–1861 through economic, historical, legal, political, religious, and scientific lenses provided in the book *Four Hundred Souls: A Community of African America, 1619–2019*, edited by Ibram Kendi and Keisha Blain. We will then apply these lenses to increase our understanding of the current racially polarized historical moment.

**Facilitator:** Joshua Frank worked for 28 years in public schools. He has designed and taught adult education courses on race and equity in many settings. Josh completed his undergraduate education at UMass/Amherst and received his master's degrees from UMass Boston and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Josh is the president of Equity Intersection, an equity and justice education non-profit based in Boston.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 3/11–4/8

**Time:** 1:00–2:30 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## **Russian Serfs and Nihilists: Turgenev and Social Change**

Mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Russian author Ivan Turgenev both facilitated and documented social change in his country through his art. His stories presenting serfs as unique individuals with skills, talents, emotions, hopes, and beliefs were instrumental in broadening support for emancipation. And his novel *Fathers and Sons* documented the beginning of Russian nihilism and created a generational model for viewing social change that is still widely used today. What gives Turgenev's writing the power not only to document but also to change his society? How do these influential stories both serve their own time and transcend it to remain valuable today?

**Facilitator:** Patricia Suhrcke received her PhD in Russian literature from the University of Chicago. She previously taught Russian literature in translation in Chicago and Atlanta. Patricia has been facilitating courses for OLLI since 2016 and enjoys using her experience leading public dialogues to discuss the great Russian novels with interested readers.

**Dates:** 6 Mondays, 3/11–4/22 (no class 4/15)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## **Designing Intelligent Machines and Reprogramming Humans**

If you could train a machine to help you with something, what would it be? Writing that book, you always wanted? Think through new recipes using ingredients you already have? Or help you manage your finances? In this hands-on course, we will learn how to design generative artificial intelligence (AI) models that generate text, images, or other media. We will explore how machines are trained. We will also examine complex questions like, what does it mean for a machine to have intelligence? Memory? Do machines really think? Finally, as a class, we will train our own AI machine.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Lilo Altali is an experienced and award-winning innovator with more than a decade of experience in product design and innovation. He is currently a PhD candidate who is studying how innovation can be designed to be more inclusive for workers and consumers worldwide. Lilo also serves as an assistant teaching professor at Northeastern University, where he teaches innovation, design thinking, and nonprofit management.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 3/18–4/22 (no class on 4/15)  
**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus  
**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Hands-on Activity

## Traveling through Landscapes

Artists have depicted landscapes in art for centuries, and the genre continues to captivate audiences. The landscapes of certain regions (geographic, political, and social) have been influential to artists in terms of subject matter, materials, and style as well. In this course, participants can explore artists' depictions of landscapes, in addition to the diversity of peoples, traditions, and artistic expressions from across many lands. Session topics will include the following: the importance of the Seven Jeweled Mountain in North Korea and its role in the tradition of Korean landscape painting; the complex artistic relationships between northern and eastern African Christian kingdoms, and the Byzantine Empire seen through secular and sacred art from across geographies and faiths; and how Monet captured the momentary effects of light and atmosphere on subjects, at various times of day and under different weather conditions.

**Facilitator:** Arielle Levine of the Cleveland Art Museum teaches students all around the world during video conferences in the museum's Distance Learning Program. She has a degree in art history from Case Western Reserve University and has been with the museum's education department for over 15 years.

**Dates:** 6 Mondays, 3/25–5/6 (no class on 4/15)

**Time:** 1:30–2:45 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture

## Learning Physics through Simple Experiments

This is a dynamic and engaging course designed to introduce students to fundamental principles of physics through hands-on experimentation. This course emphasizes a practical approach to understanding complex concepts by demonstrating various scientific laws and theories through easily replicable experiments. Students will explore topics such as motion, forces, energy, and waves, gaining a deeper understanding of the underlying principles of physics in an interactive and accessible learning environment. Through this course, students will develop critical thinking skills and a deeper appreciation of the practical applications of physics in everyday life.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Sachin Gupta is currently a PhD candidate in Foundations. Alongside his research, he is deeply passionate about physics education. Sachin is engaged in teaching various physics courses and labs fostering an environment where students can grasp the nuances of the subject and cultivate a profound understanding of its principles.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 4/22–5/20  
**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus  
**Format:** Lecture/Hands-on Activity

## Child Development

Are you ever interested in what your little ones are doing and thinking? Perhaps you find the behaviors of your grandchildren curious, or you have a general interest in how children perceive the world. This course is designed to help you understand the basics of children's abilities—and they may be surprising. We will be learning about how babies and children perceive numbers, physics, social interactions, language, music, and the future. All materials are compiled from the rich literature on child development, and the class involves a short lecture and a discussion where you can ask any question about children!

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Que Anh (Quinn) Pham is a PhD student studying children's cognitive development. She studies complex cognitive behaviors such as the development of future thinking, episodic memory, and social behavior. Outside of academics, Quinn enjoys board games and creative writing.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 4/22–5/20

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## The Digital Camera: Taking Photographs, Not Snapshots

Despite the advanced photography technology found on today's smartphones, the digital camera remains a powerful and amazing device that has the potential to deliver high quality and creative photographs. Whether you have a high-end digital SLR or an inexpensive point-and-shoot digital camera, they are all controlled by the same basic settings that affect the digital photograph. This introductory "hands-on" course will explore the obscure world of the Automatic, P, S, A, M, Av, Tv, etc. camera settings as well as the weird dial/screen icon settings that also affect photos. Each week, a few camera settings and modes will be explained in a non-technical way, demonstrated through digital slides, and then students will try the settings on their cameras in class. The "homework" each week will be to go out and take a few photographs using the settings explained and demonstrated in class. The following week, we will review the results in a non-critical way and see what we can learn from your photos, settings, and the valuable embedded photo information. The goal of the class is for each student to understand and exploit the capabilities of the digital camera and gain the confidence to move from the safe "AUTO" zone setting to the more-creative camera settings and resulting photographs.



**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Nicholas Lance Bradley is a gerontology graduate student at UMass Boston. Originally from California, Nicholas moved to the beach town of Winthrop, MA in 2022 to finish his master's in aging services and pursue a PhD. Outside of his educational career, Nicholas is an artist with over 15 years of photography experience. He plans to bring his unique eye and talent to the OLLI classroom to help unlock the secrets of the digital camera.

**Dates:** 5 Mondays, 4/22–5/20

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Hands-on Activity

## Meet the Beatles (Again)

We will listen to and analyze all the Beatles' albums created between 1962 and 1970. In addition, we will compare them to their contemporaries such as The Rolling Stones, The Beach Boys, and The Byrds among others.

**Facilitator:** David Pogue is a veteran OLLI presenter with over 35 years of teaching experience. The subjects he presents focus primarily on the history of music and art. Science is also one of his interests.

**Dates:** 7 Mondays, 4/22–6/10 (no class on 5/27)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Memory Training Program

The goals of the Memory Training Program are to help participants develop good memory habits and to teach techniques to improve memory. The course targets the four most common memory complaints that people experience in daily life: 1) forgetting names and faces; 2) forgetting to do things in the future (like keeping an appointment or forgetting why you walked into a room); 3) forgetting where you put things (like your keys, glasses or wallet); and 4) knowing something you can't immediately recall ("tip of the tongue" memory challenges).

**Facilitators:** Corinne White is the Dementia-Friendly coordinator for the City of Boston's Age Strong Commission. The Dementia-Friendly initiative is a multi-sector approach to creating a supportive, safe, respectful, and engaging city for persons living with dementia, simultaneously encouraging healthy brain practices for all residents. Luz Leal is the assistant director of the East Boston Senior Center, operated by the City of Boston's Age Strong Commission. She is a master trainer for UCLA's Memory Training Program.

**Dates:** 4 Mondays, 4/29–5/20

**Time:** 1:30–3:30 p.m. **Note:** These classes are two hours long.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Taming the Monkey Mind

Come take a meditative journey to connect to yourself on a deeper level, stimulate your brain, and learn how to tame the monkey mind through a variety of meditative, mindfulness, and breathing techniques. Explore the benefits of meditation and create a practice that fits your lifestyle.

**Facilitator:** Katherine Robinson majored in psychology and anthropology at the University of Vermont. She also did graduate training in mental-health counseling and is certified by the McLean Meditation Institute (AZ) and Yoga Body. She recently became a certified Brain Longevity Therapist through the Alzheimer's Research & Prevention Foundation. Katherine's passions are teaching meditation, breathwork, and energy techniques to calm the body and grow new neurons in the brain. She loves to explore the healing vibrations of sound and motivate and inspire others to be the best that they can be.

**Dates:** 4 Mondays, 5/6–6/3 (no class on 5/27)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Exercises

*Tuesday*

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## Acting: Characters, Improvisation, and You

Do you enjoy storytelling? Are you enchanted by sparkling conversations or wonderful dialogue from movies and plays? Do you sometimes want to be someone else for a time? This course is open to anyone who is curious and interested in acting; prior experience is not necessary! We will focus on a variety of activities including improvisation, creating characters, and working with scripts. Positive feedback will be central to our work as we create our theater family. Acting work encourages positive connections to create stories on the stage. Participation is central to this course. Be prepared to have your camera on, be ready to engage, and bring your unique imagination. Be ready for joy!

**Facilitator:** Margarita Bonifaz started her 33-year teaching career with a teaching fellowship at Smith College. She taught drama in the Amherst Public Schools for over 20 years. Margarita believes in the power of theater to create joy, strengthen individual voice, and encourage community. She loves to write, sew, and embroider. Margarita is delighted to be teaching at OLLI.

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Discussion/Activity

## Watercolor Painting

This class is for anyone interested in learning the wonderful medium of watercolor painting! At the beginning of each class, the instructor will present a specific technique or concept. Students will have the choice of painting a suggested still life (that they will set up) or they may choose to paint from a reference photo provided by the instructor. This course is driven by student choice and is scaffolded so that the instructor can assist all students based on their needs, interests, and prior experience. Students with prior experience will have opportunities for additional challenges. Some prior experience is helpful. This course is taught entirely online through the Zoom platform.

**Facilitator:** Kate Nordstrom is an artist and teacher based in Barrington, Rhode Island. Her true love of art started when she was a young child. Kate considers herself a lifelong learner who seeks out opportunities to be a student whenever and wherever she can. Subjects of interest in her own work continue to be the California landscape and architecture, the ruggedness of the New England coastline, and the concepts of light and space. Kate is thrilled to be teaching at OLLI!

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Hands-On Activity

## Exploring Identity: An Analysis of Internal and External Influences that Impact Identities

**Note:** This course is a repeat of the Fall 2023 course of the same name. How do you describe your identity? How do others define who you are? Do you find yourself in conflict with the duality of identities you may portray to others? For some, identity is merely based on biology and ethnicity. Identity, however, covers many other facets of our lives and how we relate to others. Varying perspectives of religion, ideology, and economic and sociological constructs mold us into who we are and what we believe. Identity is informed through generational ideologies, stereotypes, and individual and collective perspectives. This class will be held in person and will be a weekly discussion of related topics and how identities are formed. We will also discuss how we relate to internal and external factors that impact us. The objective is to obtain a thorough understanding of the complexity of identity, its myriad facets, and how our identities are formed. This process can lead to a better understanding of ourselves and our world.

**Facilitator:** M. Teresa Mascarenhas is an immigrant who arrived in the United States at the age of five. The topic of identity has always been a most important and dear one to her heart. In all phases of life, she has analyzed her identity

in relation to the various realities of her life: born under a colonized regime, adjustment as an immigrant, learning the nuances of a different culture and country, and development as a woman and mother of a special needs child. These experiences, among others, have helped mold Teresa. To further strengthen her interest in the topic, Teresa conducted research as a PhD student on the importance of identity in education. We all experience challenging moments that define us. Acknowledging and analyzing them is an important step to self-preservation and the development of a strong mindset and satisfying identity.

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Independent Films: A Sampler

Independent and international films tend to come and go so quickly in theaters. Come and see some of the best that you may have missed or may want to see again.

In this six-week course we will view and discuss a wide variety of independent films: *Wild Rose*, from Scotland; *Good Night and Good Luck*, an American period piece; and *Lucky*, featuring Harry Dean Stanton's last film role.

**Facilitator:** Julie Kinchla enjoyed taking several film classes while a student at UMass Boston in the 1970s. The experience sparked a lifelong love of movies and further attendance at many additional film classes. Julie is a retired librarian with many years of experience developing and presenting programs for the public. Previous classes for OLLI include "American Film Noir" and "Boston in the Movies."

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16

**Time:** 1:30–3:30 p.m. **Note:** These classes are two hours long.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## History and Consequences of the Vietnam War

**Note:** This course is a repeat of the Fall 2023 course of the same name. The content will be similar but the discussion resulting from questions is always different. This course will expose the origins of the "American" Vietnam War. We will start with the presence of the French in the 1850s and travel through the years, up to and including our involvement in the fighting. Many commonly held concepts and beliefs will be shattered by the information presented. The role that our leaders, both military and political, played will be examined and critiqued. After taking this course, you will likely learn many previously untold truths about the events that happened so many years ago.

**Facilitator:** Michael Cunningham is a combat Vietnam veteran who has studied the history of Vietnam for many years. He has visited Vietnam on numerous occasions and has conducted countless interviews. Mike's interest is to find the answers to WHY, to prevent any further fiascoes.

**Dates:** 6 Tuesdays, 3/12–4/16  
**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** IN-PERSON at the Hingham Public Library  
**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## The Music of Light: An Intermediate Film Appreciation Course

All feature films are the work of many hands (studio executives, distributors, technicians, cast members, writers, camera operators, editors, musicians, marketers, etc.). Yet some movies turn out to be the product of a single mind because a few special filmmakers manage to achieve movies that express their personal artistic vision. Participants will view, analyze, report on, and discuss a variety of such filmmakers from the whole range of movie history. Requirements: (1) Participants commit to two weekly online movie-viewings at home on TV, pc, or tablet/laptop. (2) Must have access to YouTube, Amazon Prime, and Kanopy video streaming service (via Boston Public Library card). Recommended: Access to Criterion Channel, IMDB. Most films free, some rentals (less than \$30).

**Facilitator:** Bernard F. Swain, PhD, is a Boston-area native. Bernie began studying film at the Cinémathèque Française in Paris at age 20 and spent the next 50+ years (in Cambridge, Washington, DC, Chicago, Boston, and back to Paris again) pursuing his passion to really see the beauty only cinema offers.

**Dates:** 10 Tuesdays, 3/12–5/21 (no class on 4/23)

**Time:** 1:30–3:30 p.m. **Note:** These classes are two hours long.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Discussion

## Astrology and Personality Assessment

Students in this course will delve into the field of astrology and learn how to conceptualize the use of astrology as an assessment of personality. Students will explore the historical and cultural foundations of astrology and will then learn the basic aspects of Western astrology and how it can be applied to themselves and others to understand society's aspects of personality.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Alec Hall is a PhD candidate in the School Psychology Program at UMass Boston. Growing up, he used Western astrology to make sense of the world around him. Jungian psychology integrates Western astrology in his practice, and we can use astrology in general to understand ourselves and archetypes.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 3/19–4/16

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Hands-on Activity

## Linguistic Human Rights: Language, Identity, and Power

This course examines how languages create community and identity through their speakers, and then explores the relationship between these communities and power structures such as national governments and academic institutions. We will examine case studies of minority languages around the globe to discuss their context, history, and the sociopolitical factors that impact their community of speakers. The goal of the course will be to broaden our understanding of the connection between language and human rights so that we as global citizens are better equipped to recognize and celebrate linguistic diversity.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Aveen Ver Ploeg lives in Washington state. She moved around a lot in life, living on three continents. This experience, as well as growing up in a family that is Kurdish from Iran, has provided her with the perspective that Aveen brings to the Department of Applied Linguistics at UMass Boston.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 3/19–4/16

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Writing a Legacy Letter

A legacy letter (also called an “ethical will”) is a written document that allows you to share your life lessons, express your values, and transmit your blessings to future generations. A legacy letter is shorter than a memoir, typically just a few pages. Writing one is a rewarding experience that creates an enduring gift for family and friends. This four-session online course includes discussion and brief writing exercises to help you examine your life history, explore your values, and capture important insights. It offers advice, encouragement, and a model structure to help you draft and complete your own legacy letter.

**Facilitator:** Jay Sherwin has practiced law, given away money for five different charitable foundations, and served as a hospital chaplain. In 2019, he created the Life Reflections Project to educate people about legacy letters, ethical wills, and other legacy documents. Jay has taught this course for adult learning programs nationwide.

**Dates:** 4 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/21

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Willa Cather: Isolationism and Perseverance on the Prairie

Though born in Virginia and having spent most of her adult life in New York City, author Willa Cather is perhaps best known for her novels that take place on the pioneer frontier during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Her readers are introduced to the new and harsh life of the Great Plains that immigrant settlers had to face and endure. In this course, OLLI students will read and discuss two of Cather's novels, *O Pioneers!* and *My Antonia*. They will also learn about the author through a special presentation by the National Willa Cather Center in Red Cloud, Nebraska.

**Facilitator:** Jim Hermelbracht has been the OLLI director since August 2017. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in English and accounting from Doane University in Nebraska. Jim's senior English thesis course explored the works of Alice Walker and Toni Morrison. Prior to coming to UMass Boston, Jim was director of student activities at Stonehill College for 10 years. His previous OLLI courses have included "The Inaugural Poets" and a documentary films course on libraries.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Discussion

## Grief and Loss: Examining Cross-cultural History to Better Understand Ourselves

**Note:** This course is a repeat of the Fall 2023 course of the same name. We experience grief, the human response to loss, throughout life. Grieving happens after all sorts of losses, from the death of a loved one to changes in ability or how we spend our time. Participants in this course will learn about historical and present-day grief practices across the world, how our understanding of loss changes depending on our stage of life, and how to support yourself and your family through loss. Grief, loss, and death are uncomfortable topics shunned from daily conversation. This course offers you the opportunity to openly engage with loss, an experience that impacts us all.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Lilly Day is a third-year doctoral student studying school psychology. She holds an MS in child life, the coursework for which included understanding grief and loss throughout the lifespan. Lilly is passionate about supporting children and families and providing psychoeducation to bring research outside of academia.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Aging and Transportation: Destination, Health, and Happiness

In this course, students will explore the various ways transportation and aging interact. We will discuss how older adults get around, how other countries tackle this issue, and how transportation is related to health and happiness. Students will also have the option to complete a project where they develop a transportation plan for themselves! Join in this exciting class that will serve as a learning experience for everyone involved as we tackle one of the most pressing issues facing older people across the globe!

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Taylor Gray is a fourth-year PhD student in the Gerontology Program at UMass Boston. He has studied psychology and criminology, but his passion is gerontology. Taylor's main interest is transportation needs for older adults, especially rural and underserved populations.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## What's Your Favorite Song?

We'll discuss some of your favorite songs in this class. Steve and class members will suggest songs to explore. We'll collectively choose a song, search for a performance of it on the internet and play it. We'll then have a class discussion on that song and try to understand what touches you or makes it interesting. After the discussion we'll play the song again listening especially for the key ideas unearthed during our discussion. We'll repeat this process (choose, listen, discuss, listen again) until our class time is done. To give our class a little structure, in the first session we'll decide which five genres to explore for each of our sessions—perhaps rock, country, or classical (whatever the class wants). It should be a lot of fun hearing people's favorites and working on understanding why. We each might begin to appreciate songs in genres to which we don't normally listen.

**Facilitator:** Steve Vorenberg earned a minor in music from the University of New Mexico (BS/MA in math), sang in a classical music chorus, and plays piano and bassoon. He has a lifetime of attending concerts and recitals. Steve frequently listens to selections from his extensive classical music collection. He has facilitated courses for OLLI about classical composers and their works. Steve is interested in expanding his musical horizons with this course.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at the Hingham Public Library

**Format:** Discussion/Activity

## Gettysburg Campaign

Gettysburg Campaign talks about one of the defining battles of the Civil War. This popular class goes in-depth about the three days of battle (July 1–3, 1863) and introduces you to the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac. You will meet the citizens of what was once a sleepy college town in Pennsylvania. They would soon see more than 10 times their number in dead and wounded left behind. We will talk about topography, strategy, and more. There will be resources, readings, and activities. Join us for these engaging and exciting five weeks!

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Kristie Poehler has studied, taught, and written about American history for over three decades. Specializing in the Civil War, Kristie has published two books, edited the *Battlefield Journal*, and created an award-winning Civil War documentary for a local PBS station. Kristie lives in Western Mass with her son.

**Dates:** 5 Tuesdays, 4/30–5/28

**Time:** 6:00–7:30 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

.....  
*Wednesday*  
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## Who are Those Singers?

Many people are needed to produce an opera. First, there are the composer and the librettist. It is their job to present a story that will appeal to audiences and hold their attention. Then, there are all the people who put together the set in such a way that it enhances the story. There may be dancers and a chorus. Then there is a symphony orchestra, whose conductor is responsible for putting everything together. And finally, there are the singers. Through acting skills, they convince us of the truth of the story interpreted through their voices, which must soar over the orchestra. There are no microphones in an opera house. How do singers choose their roles? What is it that opera house directors look for when they are hiring the singers. The four basic operatic voices are as follows: soprano, mezzo, tenor, and bass. Roles vary in their demands. In the mid-nineteenth century, the Germans began to classify voices according to range, weight, and color to give better focus. The system is known as Fach which, in German, means compartment. In this course, we will look at the singers and their roles and we will examine what it is that makes that singer effective in that role.

**Facilitator:** Mary Doller became aware of opera as a child, listening to the Saturday afternoon Metropolitan Opera broadcasts and watching opera singers perform on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. She enjoys attending live performances of local opera companies and the *Metropolitan Live in HD* performances at local theaters. Mary is a retired educator.

**Dates:** 6 Wednesdays, 3/6–4/17 (no class on 3/27)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m. **Note:** This course begins a week earlier than our other courses.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Global Energy Resources and Politics

Energy is crucial for human life. Despite Earth being replete with a variety of energy resources, access to energy is not yet a reality for every individual on this planet. Rather, energy at times becomes a political weapon or a tool of foreign policy for states to achieve the desired outcomes. This course, therefore, explores what variables moderate or mediate global energy political governance. For better comprehension of global energy politics, we will briefly review the concepts of energy interdependence, energy security, energy value chain, and energy supply and demand.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Leena Maqsood, a student of global governance and human security, reflects upon how much progress we have made to make energy accessible for everyone. While studying the governance of the global informal economy, she is cognizant of the fact that the democratization of energy is critical for inclusive development.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 3/13–4/10

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## The Best of English Poetry: The Modern Era

This course is the 15<sup>th</sup> in a series that examines poems written in the English language from Geoffrey Chaucer through Robert Frost and beyond. Our guidebook is Harold Bloom's anthology *The Best Poems of the English Language* (paperback \$22.00). In this segment, we will study the works of Robinson Jeffers, John Crowe Ransom, Conrad Aiken, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Louise Bogan, and John Brooks Wheelwright. A brief biography and historical context for each poet will be followed by exploration of selected works. Our comprehension of the beauty and wisdom we encounter will deepen through discussing our insights into what each work expresses and evokes. Newcomers to the class are welcome.

**Facilitator:** Evelyn Ryan holds a BA in English and mathematics and a master's in critical and creative thinking from UMass Boston. Throughout her mathematics teaching career, she pursued a lively interest in literature. Evelyn hopes that her teaching experience and love of poetry will help you to increase your knowledge of and appreciation for poetry.



**Dates:** 6 Wednesdays, 3/13–4/17. An optional in-person class gathering will be held on 4/24 at UMass Boston.

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Why Should Exercise Be Boring? Let's Dance!

Join the ultimate dance-fitness party that beats a boring exercise workout any day! Zumba® Gold is part of the Zumba® dance-based fitness program, designed for active older adults, so no high impact moves. It includes the same wide variety of Latin and other international rhythms, with a little disco, R&R, and pop songs tossed in for good measure. It's not a dance class, though, so there are no right or wrong moves in Zumba® Gold. Join us either standing or seated in a chair—your choice! Wear workout clothes and sneakers and have some water handy.

**Facilitator:** Mary Ellen Reardon is a certified group exercise instructor and has taught Zumba® Gold classes in the Boston area for 14 years. Her dance training is primarily tap-dancing and Irish step, which allows her to include "fake" Irish step dancing as one of her "other international rhythms" when appropriate.

**Dates:** 8 Wednesdays, 3/13–5/1

**Time:** 1:30–2:30 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Exercise

## Unpacking Development: Critiques, Realities, and Global Dynamics

This five-week OLLI course at UMass Boston explores global development for older adults. Week one examines development theories like modernization and dependency, scrutinizing capitalism's impact. Week two dives into development aid, analyzing motives and consequences through real-life cases. Week three highlights U.S. economic influence and foreign aid ethics. Week four explores Global South development challenges, discussing ethical dilemmas. The course concludes in week five, encouraging a critical review of development principles and fostering discussions on sustainable, inclusive global futures. Participants engage in independent analysis, delving into nuanced explorations of global development dynamics for a life-enriching experience.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Racheal Inegbedion, a leader in disability, development, and social justice, is the founding executive director of the Special Needs Initiative for Growth (SNIG). Acknowledged by Ashoka and a Mandela Washington Fellow Alumna, her COVID-19 efforts were lauded by the UN Envoy on Youth. SNIG, awarded by the Zero Project, employs Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

for inclusive education and employment. Racheal, a UMass Boston PhD candidate, aims to shape global policy for disability rights and human development.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 3/20–4/17

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Activity

## Movement Class for Older Adults

Our weekly virtual classes for older adults employ adaptive ballet/modern techniques. They are specially designed to promote social/emotional/physical fitness and artistic expression while catering to older adults' interests and needs. These classes provide a welcoming and supportive environment where participants can explore the joy of dance, regardless of previous experience. These classes can be taken standing or seated. Class highlights are as follows. Adaptive techniques: We adapt ballet and modern dance principles to accommodate various mobility levels, making it accessible to everyone. Gentle warm-up: Classes start with a gentle warm-up to prepare the body for movement and reduce the risk of injury. Technique and expression: Participants will learn the foundations of ballet and modern dance techniques, allowing them to express themselves creatively. Balance and strength: We emphasize exercises that improve balance and strength, supporting overall health and fall prevention. Community and fun: Our classes foster a sense of community and provide an enjoyable space for older adults to connect and engage with dance.

**Facilitator:** Abilities Dance centers disability culture through our performing company and community engagement programs. Our performing company creates high-quality productions with accessibility features built in for audiences that tell compelling stories around race, gender, and other intersecting identities within the disabled community. We have partnered with the MFA, Peabody Essex Museum, Eric Carle Museum, HUBweek, and more to highlight much-needed representation on stage and begin the conversations of the systemic barriers depicted in our art and how we can start to dismantle them.

**Dates:** 9 Wednesdays, 3/20–5/15

**Time:** 10:00–11:00 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Activity/Exercise

## Hot Hits: Pop Music 1950s–1980s; How Was It a Hit?

Relive and rediscover your 45 collections with this fun class that explores how pop songs from the 1950s through the 1980s became the hits we know and love. Hundreds of songs were released by many independent record labels and while some were natural hits, others found success by accident, luck, or a combination. The charts were determined by airplay and sales calculated

by methods over which only a few people had control. *Cash Box* magazine was one of the prominent music publications that *Dick Clark*, *Solid Gold* and *Rick Dees' Weekly Top 40* used to count down the hits. Class content is different each semester.

**Facilitator:** Gregory Leschishin was born in the city where Rock and Roll was discovered: Cleveland! Besides being a chart fanatic, Gregory was a disc jockey before he became determined to work in Hollywood. For close to five years, he was one of the musicologists who determined the biggest hits that the United States listened to and purchased!

**Dates:** 7 Wednesdays, 4/17–5/29

**Time:** 6:30–8:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture

## Can We Stop Climate Change?

This series of five 90-minute meetings is designed for people interested in learning more about climate change and climate justice; becoming more effective in communicating with friends, family, and community members and leaders about climate change; and taking action to mitigate the impact of climate change on our planet and ourselves. We will cover various climate-related topics: the problems, basic science, and equity issues behind climate change; a powerful simulation tool that lets you see the positive impacts of climate action; a wide range of climate change solutions, including the recent remarkable progress in renewable energy; climate change opinions in the United States and how those relate to our local communities and affect communication and advocacy; and how you can effectively communicate with others and join together to take action on climate change.

**Note:** This course has similar content to the course of the same name offered in previous semesters, but the course is continually updated with new material. If you attended in the past, you are welcome to repeat if you wish.

**Facilitator:** Tom Rawson is a retired 7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade science teacher who lives near Boston. He works with a team to help lead “Can We Stop Climate Change” courses and works on climate change education and advocacy with Third Act, Mass Audubon, and others. Tom spends his free time doing carpentry, bicycle riding, and hiking.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 4/24–5/22

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Discussion

## The Scramble for Africa: How the African Countries Got Their Shapes

Most of Africa was generally unknown to the rest of the world until the 1870s. Then, an ambitious and ruthless king from a minor European country started a rush for glory and riches years later known infamously as the

“Scramble for Africa.” The result was a carving up of the great continent, first into colonies and later nation-states that generally ignored the cultures and histories of the indigenous peoples who lived there. We will examine the roots and legacy of the Scramble, specifically how the map of Africa evolved into the configuration we recognize today.

**Facilitator:** L. Jon Grogan earned a BA in political science from Tufts University, an MA in history from the University of San Diego, and a PhD in history from Loyola University, Chicago. Also, he served 21 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring as a major. Dr. Grogan has taught for OLLI programs at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and Tufts University. Additionally, he has taught at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, worked with several museums and historical associations, and judged at National History Day competitions at local, state, and national levels.

**Dates:** 5 Wednesdays, 4/24–5/22

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture

## Chair Yoga for Everyone

Have you ever wondered what chair yoga is? The movements will increase circulation, stretch and strengthen muscles, and can help you relax by learning better breathing. It is done in a chair with some standing movements (optional). Everyone can benefit from this practice.

**Facilitator:** Elaine Kerrigan has taught yoga for 25 years in yoga studios, health clubs, and senior centers. She has taught yoga on the mat and now in a chair, which is great for people who prefer not to get on the floor.

**Dates:** 4 Wednesdays, 4/24–5/15

**Time:** 1:30–2:30 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at the Hingham Public Library

**Format:** Activity/Exercise

## Best Hikes

From Acadia to America Samoa, Alaska to the Caribbean, some 21,000 miles of trails wind through our national park system. We share pictures and reflections on some favorite day hikes within the 424 National Park Service units.

**Facilitator:** David Kroese is one of fewer than 100 people known to have visited all 400+ National Park Service units and he has hiked over 4,500 miles in our national park system over the past decade.

**Dates:** 3 Wednesdays, 5/8–5/22

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture

### The Longevity Path to Brain Health

In this four-week series, you will learn about the newest cutting-edge research and information about longevity and the brain. The facilitator will also be guiding energetic practices along with sending weekly homework assignments. This course will help to transform your perspective about aging and turn greater life expectancy into a gift and not a curse.

**Facilitator:** Katherine Robinson, see bio on page 12.

**Dates:** 4 Thursdays, 3/7–3/28 **Note:** This course begins a week earlier than our other courses.

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Exercises

### Who Are Those Singers?

Many people are needed to produce an opera. First, there are the composer and the librettist. It is their job to present a story that will appeal to audiences and hold their attention. Then, there are all the people who put together the set in such a way that it enhances the story. There may be dancers and a chorus. Then there is a symphony orchestra, whose conductor is responsible for putting everything together. And finally, there are the singers. Through acting skills, they convince us of the truth of the story interpreted through their voices, which must soar over the orchestra. There are no microphones in an opera house. How do singers choose their roles? What is it that opera house directors look for when they are hiring the singers. The four basic operatic voices are as follows: soprano, mezzo, tenor, and bass. Roles vary in their demands. In the mid-nineteenth century, the Germans began to classify voices according to range, weight, and color to give better focus. The system is known as Fach which, in German, means compartment. In this course, we will look at the singers and their roles and we will examine what it is that makes that singer effective in that role.

**Facilitator:** Mary Doller, see bio on page 16.

**Dates:** 6 Thursdays, 3/7–4/18 (no class on 3/28) **Note:** This course begins a week earlier than our other courses.

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

### American Art from 1860 to 1945

We will meet some of the greatest American artists, such as John Singer Sargent and Georgia O'Keefe, and view and discuss their works as well as art movements including American Impressionism and Regionalism.

We will also address The Works Project Administration (WPA) from the 1930s.

**Facilitator:** David Pogue, see bio on page 12.

**Dates:** 7 Thursdays, 3/7–4/18 **Note:** This course begins a week earlier than our other courses.

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

### Shaolin Qi Gong

Shaolin Qi Gong is a good exercise that focuses on strengthening your Dan Tian (energy field) and connecting the energy inside your whole body through the meridians. With simple movements, you will be able to feel the energy moving. You will also be able to exercise each part of your body.

**Facilitator:** Huan Zhang, see bio on page 9.

**Dates:** 10 Thursdays, 3/14–5/16

**Time:** 9:30–10:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Activity/Exercise

### Post Standing for Beginners

Post Standing is a very important exercise for health and Chinese martial arts. It's an ancient Chinese art that was recorded 2,000 years ago in the *Yellow Emperor's Inner Bible*. Regular practice can make you feel more relaxed and balanced with better body structure.

**Facilitator:** Huan Zhang, see bio on page 9.

**Dates:** 10 Thursdays, 3/14–5/16

**Time:** 10:45–11:45 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Activity/Exercise



### Manifestations of Divinity: Exploring the Avatars of Lord Vishnu

Embark on a transformative journey within this course, which offers a comprehensive exploration, enabling the understanding of the profound significance of Lord Vishnu's Avatars in Hinduism. Delve into the rich mythology and symbolism underpinning each divine incarnation while discovering their profound influence on art, culture, and literature. Engage in vibrant, meaningful discussions to deepen knowledge and foster a holistic appreciation of these timeless and revered manifestations.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Itish Pandey developed a love for history during his school years. For Itish, who is interested in spirituality, this course is a perfect fusion of his passion for history and his deep interest in the spiritual realm.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Zero Waste: A Catalyst to Achieving Low Carbon Circular Cities

**Note:** This course is a repeat of the Fall 2023 course of the same name. Zero-waste approach to waste management encapsulates a holistic view of sustainable waste management by preventing waste occurring, conserving resources, and recovering all values from materials. The aim is to provide participants with knowledge about our current take-make-waste system, then introduce how we can manage resources, how we make and use products, and what we do with the materials afterwards by applying methods and concepts learned in the course. With a more holistic view on sustainability, we create a thriving circular economy that can benefit everyone within the limits of our planet.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Adanna Kalejaye is an internationally specialized lawyer in the fields of commercial law, environmental law, energy law, and maritime law. She holds an LL.M. (Master of Law) from Swansea University, Wales, UK. She is currently a doctoral candidate and research assistant in the Public Policy Program at UMass Boston. She teaches courses on sustainable development and zero waste for OLLI at UMass Boston. Adanna's research interests are in environmental law and policies, climate change, sustainable development, renewable energy, waste management, policy building, and analysis at national and international levels.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Quantum Mechanical Puzzles

No math or physics background is required, only curiosity and a willingness to play! Since its introduction in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, quantum mechanics has been a perennial source of philosophical puzzlement. While providing the basis for the most precise predictions in the history of science, it brought with it a bevy of seemingly counterintuitive ideas, from wave/particle duality to entanglement, forcing physicists and philosophers to re-evaluate the nature of matter and the role of the observer. This class aims to provide a gentle introduction to the key conceptual issues: beginning with the humble qubit, or quantum bit, we'll ultimately make our way to the disproofs of local realism, which were the subject of last year's Nobel Prize.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Matthew Weiss is a 3rd year PhD student in the Computational Sciences Program on the physics track at UMass Boston, working in the fields of quantum information theory and quantum foundations. In an earlier life, he obtained an MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers Workshop.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Can We Stop Climate Change?

This series of five 90-minute meetings is designed for people interested in learning more about climate change and climate justice; becoming more effective in communicating with friends, family, and community members and leaders about climate change; and taking action to mitigate the impact of climate change on our planet and ourselves. We will cover various climate-related topics: the problems, basic science, and equity issues behind climate change; a powerful simulation tool that lets you see the positive impacts of climate action; a wide range of climate change solutions, including the recent remarkable progress in renewable energy; climate change opinions in the United States and how those relate to our local communities and affect communication and advocacy; and how you can effectively communicate with others and join together to take action on climate change. **Note:** This course has similar content to the course of the same name offered in previous semesters, but the course is continually updated with new material. If you attended in the past, you are welcome to repeat if you wish.

**Facilitator:** Tom Rawson, see bio on page 18.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 3/14–4/11

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Discussion

## Refining Your Poetic Voice

This poetry workshop will allow OLLI poets an opportunity to work together to revise their poems in a supportive atmosphere. The facilitator will lead discussions, provide guidelines, and support each poet's effort to find his/her own authentic poetic voice. The workshop will look to poet Billy Collins for inspiration and guidance.

**Facilitator:** Bill Valentine has facilitated and participated in writing workshops at OLLI as well as elsewhere, including the 92nd St. Y, Bread Loaf, and the Frost Place. (Some might call him a workshop junkie.) *Watermark*, UMB's literary journal, has published Bill's poetry.

**Dates:** 8 Thursdays, 3/21–5/9

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Discussion/Activity

## Islamic History: Highs and Lows

The word Islam in Arabic is derived from Salama and means "Peace and Submission to the Lord." To some scholars, Islamic history began with Abraham—a biblical figure, known to Muslims as Jad-e-Amjad, an Arabic word representing "Father of the Nations" in English. Muslim theologians, thus, consider Abraham the First Muslim for his unwavering devotion to the Lord. The modern-day

scholars, however, deem the advent of the prophethood of Muhammad as the beginning of Islamic history. This course, therefore, presents a brief but comprehensive overview of the history, spanning over nearly a millennium and a half, from Muhammad to present day Islam.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Leena Maqsood was born and raised in an Arabic-speaking society of Saudi Arabia. Leena studied Islamic history and over time was able to identify the commonalities it has with the history of other world empires. She shares with course participants how the history of Islam traverses highs and lows.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 3/21–4/18

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Oceans: Navigating the Frontlines of Climate Change

Our modern lifestyle, marked by a reliance on fossil fuels, over-consumption of goods, and lack of global consensus, has given rise to a monumental environmental challenge: Climate Change. This course will delve into the intricate relationship between our world's oceans and our shifting climate, unraveling the profound impacts on marine ecosystems and the implications for our planet's future. We will cover five major drivers: sea level rise, plastic pollution, acidification, deoxygenation, and changing temperatures.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Katie Johnson is a master's student at UMass Boston in the Marine Science and Technology Program and holds a BS in marine science from the University of South Carolina. She is also a Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) professional who loves to travel and has been scuba diving since she was 10 years old. Katie's research focuses on microplastics and their impacts on the environment.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 3/21–4/18

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Survival French for Travelers (or for Fun)

Are you going to France or to a French-speaking country? If so, you need to be able to communicate at least at a minimum to show that you are making an effort toward the culture of the host country. The people there will greatly appreciate (even if they answer in English) and may even be friendlier. In this class you will learn French basic vocabulary and phrases in a conversational setting. The course will integrate the Mango Languages computer program to practice and reinforce your new skills at home.

**Facilitator:** H el ene Olken is a native of France. She graduated in French and psychology from UMass and holds a master's degree in ESL. H el ene taught in Milton in the Grade 2 French Immersion Program for 25 years.

**Dates:** 7 Thursdays, 4/4–5/16

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Complete Look at Fashion History

What people wore says much about how they lived and the socio-economic conditions of their time in history. This survey will extend from early man through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. You will learn the how and why fashion change comes about and often recycles with a slight update at another time. You will see how sometimes "what is old is new again."

**Facilitator:** Maralin Manning is a graduate of Mass College of Art with a major in fashion design. She has extensive work experience in the fashion retailing industry and in small business development in urban development. Ms. Manning also served in management positions and as a faculty member at several post-secondary education institutions.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 4/4–5/9 (no class on 4/18)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at the Hingham Public Library

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Talking Sondheim

The recently deceased Stephen Sondheim is commonly thought to be the most significant musical theater composer and lyricist in the contemporary theatre, and the single most influential force in bringing the Broadway musical into the modern era. We'll enjoy a lively overview of the major works of Stephen Sondheim (and a few minor gems as well) and take a close look at how he uses rhymes (including musical rhymes) to reinforce thematic ideas and tell the story. Then, we'll explore three of his musicals: *Road Show*, *Assassins*, and *Anyone Can Whistle*.

**Facilitator:** Gail Leonard-Wright has taught classes exploring Stephen Sondheim's genius for several lifelong learning communities connected with universities and religious congregations around the country. She holds an MA in performance studies from New York University and a BA in drama from the University of California at Berkeley.

**Dates:** 6 Thursdays, 4/4–5/16 (no class on 4/25)

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture

## Gender in Film

This course will delve into the effects of how gender has been portrayed in media, specifically very influential movies throughout history. Not only will we talk about the portrayal of gender roles in the movies, but also about the timeframe in which the movies were produced. To begin, we will look at two of the biggest movies in cinematic history: *Gone with the Wind* and *The*



*Wizard of Oz* had big effects on the population and had interesting gender identities. To work through history, we will move into *Grease*, *Pretty Woman*, and *Rent*. Each offers insight into the gender roles of the time and what happens when those ideas are challenged. The course will also offer supplementary reading to understand gender theory. The guiding question will be how much influence society had on the movies at the time, how much the movies influenced the population, and the effect it has on modern views.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Tayler Stephenson is an avid cinephile and has spent considerable time analyzing the role of gender in movies. In undergrad, she focused on English literature and explored the many ways how this has changed society and made a lasting impact on global societal norms. After joining the National Guard, Tayler switched her area of focus to world politics, but has continued looking into the effects of gender norms on a world scale.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 4/18–5/16

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Degenerate Art of the Nazi Era

The Nazi movement was an aesthetic movement that used art to evil ends. We will discuss their preoccupation with art, meet the great artists they deemed "degenerate," and learn what became of their works.

**Facilitator:** David Pogue, see bio on page 12.

**Dates:** 7 Thursdays, 4/25–6/13 (no class on 5/23)

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## A Math Course That My Mom Would Have Loved!

The facilitator watched his mother do crosswords and puzzles for years, knowing she wanted to do something more challenging. He pulled concepts from logic, set theory, graph theory, and other topics, seldom or barely taught in primary or secondary schools and that are self-contained, to make a math course interesting and approachable to someone like her. Every session will include funny paradoxes and stories based on mathematics history: 1.) Can one infinity be larger than another? and 2.) Suppose there is a village with only one barber. Everyone in the village needs to cut their hair and no exception. The barber says, "I will cut hair for those who do not cut hair for themselves." Who cuts the barber's hair? No homework! No tests!

**Facilitator:** Luis Roman, PhD, the prodigal son of math returns. He was a professor in academia for 6 years before transitioning to the financial sector for 17 years. Mathematics is one of his passions, and he loves finding joyful and accessible ways to share this treasure with more people.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 4/25–5/30 (no class on 5/23)

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion Activity

## Tuning into Your Essence

Do you find yourself feeling stressed, overwhelmed, easily irritable/emotional, unable to sleep well, with judgmental/negative thoughts running through your mind? All of this can lead to feeling depleted and burned out on a very deep level. These are all clear warning signs that we are moving away from our soul/true self/essence, which is our source of peace, wisdom, and happiness. Many of us find that we have no time to connect inwards and build our inner harmony so that we can release burdens, stressors, and connect with our peace and emotional balance. What would our life be like if we could have this energy to guide us instead of our ego, which is never happy and always onto the next new thing? In this class, the facilitator will be helping guide you to reconnect with your essence and to learn techniques to anchor into your wisdom so that you can become a conscious creator and not be stuck in the muck in survival mode where every day feels like Groundhog Day.

**Facilitator:** Katherine Robinson, see bio on page 12.

**Dates:** 4 Thursdays, 5/2–5/23

**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Exercises

## Understanding the Environment Using Art

This course will teach students all about local environments, the organisms in them, and how those organisms interact with one another through the creation of art. The art techniques students will learn include basic pencil drawing, composition and emotion with crayons, color theory and blending with colored pencils, and watercolor techniques. Multiple classes will involve going outside and walking around campus to observe species. Students must be able to move across flat terrain and walk for 5–10 minutes at a time.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Averie St. Germaine is a current PhD student studying the impact of climate change on insect relationships. Outside of studying bugs, she loves to create art of all types with a focus on linocut printmaking.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 5/9–6/13 (no class on 5/23)  
**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** IN-PERSON at UMass Boston Campus  
**Format:** Lecture/Hands-on Activity

## Journalism and the Social Justice Issues that Matter to You

Tired of the news cycle? Be the news cycle! Modern journalism is not limited to newsrooms anymore. This is an introductory course on social justice journalism. This course will help students reach an understanding of the basic ideas of journalism, and how including social justice issues in journalism can inform and educate the world about topics like racial inequality, climate change, gender inequality, minority rights, and so on. What issues are most important to you? Get your voice out there! In this course, students will have the opportunity to work on an optional small journalism project.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Kohinur Khyum is a PhD student at UMass Boston, researching forced marriage. She is a Fulbright Scholar and has a professional background in journalism. Kohinur's work is focused on social justice. She has worked with news organizations and has two master's degrees, one in journalism and another in criminology.

**Dates:** 5 Thursdays, 5/9–6/13 (no class on 5/23)  
**Time:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom  
**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

*Friday*

## Great Artists in American Roots Music 2

*This course is a collaboration with OLLI at Brandeis University.*

This class is a sequel to the class offered in the Fall of 2023 and is appropriate for both new and repeat students. From its birth amid the rapid changes in American culture in the first years of the 20th century, country music has continually appealed to people from various backgrounds who feel left behind by a rapidly changing world. Country music, a key genre in American roots music, not only expresses the hardships of modern life, but also purposefully evokes an emotional response. Whether you are stuck in a troubled relationship, unemployed, homeless, spiritually bereft, or just lonesome, there's a country song for you. Each session of "Great Artists in American Roots Music" will involve a dynamic mix of lecture, performance, and discussion. We will move beyond a historical survey of American roots music to focus on the individual stories and artistic developments of particular roots artists including Merle

Haggard, Loretta Lynn, and Johnny Cash. By examining their musical output in the context of these long, celebrated careers, new perspectives on famous works like "Mama Tried," "The Pill," and "The Man in Black" emerge. These stories will also help us to understand the roles race, class, and gender have played in the history and reception of country music.

**Facilitator:** Taylor Ackley is first and foremost a folk musician. Born into a working-class family with a remarkable musical heritage, his work was influenced by generations of pickers, singers, songwriters, and fiddlers across his family. He holds a master's degree and PhD in composition and a master's degree in ethnomusicology from Stony Brook University, exploring American folk and popular music through analysis, composition, historical research, performance, and ethnography. Taylor is a professor at Brandeis University, writing a book titled *Hearing Class*.

**Dates:** 8 Fridays, 3/1–5/3 (no class on 3/29 and 4/26)  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.–12 noon **Note:** This course begins a week earlier than our other courses and the classes are two hours long.  
**Location:** IN-PERSON at Mount Ida Campus in Newton  
**Format:** Lecture

## Healthcare Sector and Labor Market in the United States and India: People, Policy, and Practice

This course briefly explores the healthcare labor market in two large democratic countries in the world (United States and India) by examining the dimensions of policy, people, and practice with a historical lens.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Mahesh Admankar is a PhD student in public policy at UMass Boston. He earned his bachelor's degree in social science and master's in economics from India. Earlier, Mahesh worked as an assistant professor of economics for four years. His research interests are labor market, education, healthcare, and climate justice in the context of social exclusion.

**Dates:** 5 Fridays, 3/15–4/12  
**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom  
**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Great Conversations: What Matters Most

Exploring what is important to us is a lifelong endeavor. It's a major preoccupation of young people, and we typically reexamine our priorities as we pass through different life stages. As we transition from career to retirement, many of us take a fresh look at what we care most about now. *Life Worth Living: A Guide to What Matters Most* by Volf, Croasmun, and McAnnally-Linz was developed from a popular undergraduate course at Yale and will be the basis for our discussions. The content is challenging, exciting, sometimes uncomfortable, and

frequently fun to read. It provides tools and insights that enable us to reflect on our previous life decisions and may guide us in the choices we make today.

**Facilitator:** Linda Seale loves exploring new ideas with friends and colleagues and feels that "Great Conversations" is a perfect vehicle for doing so. She loves the wide-ranging discussions prompted by the readings and the mutual respect that develops among the participants who continue to enjoy this course, which has been an OLLI tradition for more than 20 years.

**Dates:** 6 Fridays, 3/15–4/19

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Discussion

## Discovering Documentaries

Six documentaries have been selected as worth rewatching, chosen by past members of this course. After viewing, we will talk about your observations, thoughts, and feelings. We grow as we discover the value or purpose of what we watched. How well was it put together? Did you enjoy watching it? Why or why not? A full list of films will be provided at the first class. Again, as noted above, these documentaries have been shown in previous courses. So, newcomers to the class should feel free to question the selections.

**Facilitator:** Lee Colello is an offsite OLLI facilitator who has been facilitating "Discovering Documentaries" in Braintree and other classes in Hingham. She graduated from UMass Boston and has had various instructor/facilitator roles in her church, Parents Helping Parents, and the IRS.

**Dates:** 6 Fridays, 3/15–4/26 (no class on 4/19)

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.–12 noon

**Note:** These classes are two hours long.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Climate Adaptation in Coastal Cities

The projections for climate induced crisis are dire and, as such, adaptation to our changing climate has become a necessity. It is high time now to involve everyone in climate-change related issues, to prepare against the onslaught of climate change. This course aims to provide a broad understanding of adaptation to climate change, beginning with an overview of the impacts of climate change in coastal cities. In this course participants shall examine elements of climate vulnerability assessment that cities can use to determine appropriate adaptation strategies or plans. Participants will be introduced to the leading strategies coastal cities are utilizing in planning against sea level rise as well as the connection between climate justice and climate adaptation.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Adanna Kalejaye, see bio on page 20.

**Dates:** 5 Fridays, 4/19–5/17

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture /Discussion

## Comics: The Ninth Art in Latin America

The comic is a series of illustrations and images in deliberate sequence that have the purpose of transmitting information and eliciting a response from the reader, according to Will Eisner. Considered by many as the ninth art, comics want to entertain but also educate and raise awareness. This course will include an introduction to comics in Latin America. We will see the socio-historical and cultural particularities of this artistic expression in the region through the review of characters such as Mafalda, El Eternauta, and Condorito, as well as the biographies of their creators.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Mario Portugal Ramírez is a current PhD candidate at UMass Boston. He has taught various courses about Latin America and his country, Bolivia, for OLLI.

**Dates:** 5 Fridays, 4/19–5/17

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Exploring Longevity (Series 6)

This is the 6<sup>th</sup> in the series on "Exploring Longevity." Scientific research has identified three core concepts that support quality longevity: a balanced diet, regular exercise, and quality sleep. While these terms are familiar to most of us, this course will focus on discussions about efforts in turning conceptual understanding into actual implementation of these ideas in everyday life. This course continues the dialogue started from its 1<sup>st</sup> OLLI course series "Is Longevity a Lifelong Effort?" in fall 2021. Each series has been independently designed and delivered. Even if you skipped previous ones, you will still be able to participate in and thoroughly enjoy this one.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Hua Chen is a graduate student at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at UMass Boston. He is now studying geriatric nursing. Hua's goal is to become a geriatric nurse educator. He feels humbled to explore, share with, and learn from OLLI members the science and art of longevity.

**Dates:** 3 Fridays, 5/3–5/17

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** IN-PERSON at Thayer Public Library, Braintree

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Unlocking the Taliban Enigma: A Deep Dive into Afghanistan's Complex Reality

This intensive five-week course will provide a comprehensive understanding of the Taliban's rise, their impact on Afghanistan, and the intricate web of political, social, religious, and historical factors that have shaped the country's complex reality. We will delve deeply into the history, ideology, and strategies of the Taliban, as well as explore the challenges and prospects for Afghanistan's future.

**Facilitator:** Muhammad Iqbal Uddin Arif holds a PhD in governance and public policy and his background spans interdisciplinary studies. He completed his undergraduate degree in English literature and linguistics, and his MPhil research focused on the impact of religion and ethnicity on the electoral participation of Pashtun women. Iqbal possesses a substantial research portfolio within his academic career.

**Dates:** 5 Saturdays, 3/16–4/13

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

### Early Alice Munro

Alice Munro is perhaps the most celebrated short story writer globally, but when and where did she start out? "Early Alice Munro" will look at a set of eight stories she first published in the late 1960s. Did she come out of the gate fully formed? Did her early work show her hallmark sophistication and style? Let's explore together.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Suchita Nayar, a short story buff and aspiring short story writer, is a huge Alice Munro fan. She just loves how her stories span complete lifetimes. Suchita is currently completing her MFA (creative writing) thesis. Earlier in her career, she worked in journalism and finance.

**Dates:** 5 Saturdays, 3/16–4/13

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## The Stunning Short Stories of Raymond Carver and Tobias Wolff

If "the human heart is a dark forest," as Tobias Wolff claims, then his writing will take you to the deepest, most secret parts of it. In this course, we will be exploring the short stories of Tobias Wolff and Raymond Carver, two of the most acclaimed storytellers of the 20th century. Prior to our first class, please pick up a copy of *The Stories of Tobias Wolff* and the short story collection *Cathedral* by Raymond Carver.

**Facilitator:** Michele Harris received a BA in English from Allegheny College and an MFA in poetry from UMass Boston. She is the author of the poetry collection *Blackdamp* (David Robert Books, 2019), a recipient of the 2011 David A. Kennedy prize, and a finalist for the 2018 New Millennium Award. Her writing has appeared in *Cicada*, *New Millennium Writings*, *The Tishman Review*, *Anderbo*, *The Prose-Poem Project*, *Dirtflask*, *Escarp*, *The Columbia College Literary Review*, *Stirring*, and elsewhere. She has been a facilitator with OLLI since 2009.

**Dates:** 6 Saturdays, 3/23–4/27

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Discussion

## Using History and Storytelling to Rediscover Mysterious Haiti

Long confined to oral literature, storytelling can be used to understand actual historical events drawn from academic research. Paul Revere's famous 1775 Midnight Ride, Haitian abolitionist Toussaint Louverture being named England's 1802 Man of the Year, or Haitian hero Capois LaMort surviving French cannon balls to achieve glory, sound at times glorified folktales, superhero narratives conceived for specific audiences, and yet they remain defining moments that shaped history. Using the instructor's oral storyteller techniques, this class will enhance your understanding of the Haitian Revolution through a selection of tales inspired by 19th century Haitian and American heroes and formatted for students to enjoy using stories to tell history.

**Facilitator:** Charlot Lucien is a public health professional, a storyteller with a master's in international relations, who became further interested in the U.S.-Haiti connections after surveying the historiography of the Haitian revolution in the United States. Charlot frequently travels in the United States and abroad as a storyteller and a scholar, discussing or illustrating the intersects or the disconnects between history and storytelling.

**Dates:** 5 Saturdays, 3/30–4/27

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion/Activity

### Mysteries of the Microbiome: How Your Digestive and Mental Health Are Influenced by Your Microbiome

The microbiome consists of the microbes that live in and among us. Research into how the microbiome contributes to our health is exploding and bringing about a fascinating shift in certain areas of medicine. In this class you will learn about the latest findings in this field and how this relates to the health of you and your family members. Curious about probiotics? Concerned about

the side effects of antibiotics? Want to know what diet is best to keep yourself healthy? All of this will be covered in this interactive class.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Dr. Abby Egginton is an RN and Naturopathic doctor practicing in Arlington, MA. She earned her doctorate in Naturopathic Medicine from Bastyr University and completed a residency in Naturopathic Oncology at Indiana University Cancer Center followed by a fellowship at Bastyr. Dr. Egginton has worked as a primary care RN and in college health and enjoys helping people view their health holistically and connect evidence based medical research to our concept of health and wholeness.

**Dates:** 5 Saturdays, 4/13–5/18 (no class on 4/27)

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

## Exploring Longevity (Series 6)

This is the 6<sup>th</sup> in the series on “Exploring Longevity.” Scientific research has identified three core concepts that support quality longevity: a balanced diet, regular exercise, and quality sleep. While these terms are familiar to most of us, this course will focus on discussions about efforts in turning conceptual understanding into actual implementation of these ideas in everyday life. This course continues the dialogue started from its 1<sup>st</sup> OLLI course series “Is Longevity a Lifelong Effort?” in fall 2021. Each series has been independently designed and delivered. Even if you skipped previous ones, you will still be able to participate in and thoroughly enjoy this one.

**Facilitator:** OLLI Scholar Hua Chen, see bio on page 24.

**Dates:** 3 Saturdays, 5/4–5/18

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Location:** ONLINE via Zoom

**Format:** Lecture/Discussion

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## Teach for OLLI!

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The OLLI Curriculum Committee is always looking for new course facilitators and OLLI Talk presenters. If you (or someone you know) would enjoy sharing knowledge and experience with our members through a course or OLLI Talk, please contact the OLLI office.

**Deadlines for Course/OLLI Talk Proposals:**  
**early May for the fall catalog; early November for the spring catalog.**

OLLI offers a future-facilitator workshop prior to each of these deadlines, to help members develop their ideas and transform them into actual proposals (workshop details and dates are announced in the OLLI newsletters). Prior to the beginning of each term, an orientation session is offered to all new (as well as returning) facilitators to help them become better acquainted with OLLI and to learn and share best practices for facilitating and presenting in OLLI classrooms. Questions? Contact OLLI Project Coordinator Genny Peterson (617.287.7322 or [Genevieve.Peterson@umb.edu](mailto:Genevieve.Peterson@umb.edu))

## Spring 2024 OLLI Talk Presentations

OLLI Talk presentations are usually held in-between the morning and afternoon classes; they start at noon. Specific dates and locations (whether ONLINE or IN-PERSON) will be announced approximately three weeks prior to each event. Members will be notified, and they can sign up at that time. **Please do not put any of these OLLI Talk presentations on your Course Request Form.** The detailed descriptions of the content and the presenters will be listed on the OLLI website. Additional presentations may be announced later.

### **Create Watercolor Note Cards!**

*by Kathryn Bender*

### **Coming Out, Becoming Ourselves**

*by Sarah Boyer*

### **MLB: The Annual Roberto Clemente Award**

*by Stephen Devaney*

### **ADLs/IADLs and Fall Risk Prevention**

*by Carmel Kotyan-Murphy*

### **Comfort Care at the End of Life**

*by Carmel Kotyan-Murphy*

### **Exploring our National Park System**

*by David Kroese*

### **What's My Diagnosis, Does It Matter, and Who Cares?**

#### **A Review of Psychiatric Diagnoses over the Past 50 Years**

*by Neil Liebowitz*

### **The Plight of the Tasmanian Devil and**

#### **Other Fascinating Facts I Learned on My Trip Downunder**

*by Marguerite Magri*

### **A New Approach to Understanding Dementia:**

#### **Wisdom from the Dementia Diaries**

*by Kelly Marnfeldt and Patrick Destrampe*

### **Peace of Mind: Hypnosis Presentation**

*by Kathryn McGlynn*

### **The Science of Ha!**

*by David Misch*

### **The Great North American Solar Eclipse: April 2024**

*by Patricia (Pat) Monteith*

### **The Great Jazz Singers, Part One (1920–1950):**

#### **From Satchmo to Lady Day**

*by Allen Morrison*

### **The Art of Starting Over:**

#### **A Deep Dive into Dr. Nell Irvin Painter's 2018 Memoir *Old in Art School***

*by Mary-Anne Morrison*

### **Arequipa: Peru's Enchanting Land of Volcanoes**

*by Barry Pell*

### **Bhutan: Travels in the Land of the Thunder Dragon**

*by Barry Pell*

### **Let's Watch Anime!**

*by Genevieve Peterson*

### **The OLLI Feedback Loop**

*by Genevieve Peterson*

### **What?? On Hearing Loss:**

#### **A Conversation for the Hard-of-Hearing and Everyone Trying to Speak to Them**

*by Genevieve Peterson*

### **Introduction to Latin**

*by Rachel Simon*

### **Interactive April Fool's Virtual Tour**

*by Dina Vargo, Sally Ebeling, and Gretchen Grozier*

## Spring 2024 In-Person Day Trips and Walking Tours

At the time of printing, day trips and walking tours for Spring 2024 are still being planned and confirmed. Trips and tours will be announced when available through OLLI's weekly newsletter, *Connections*.

## Spring 2024 Overnight Travel Opportunities

All participants in OLLI's overnight travel programs must be an OLLI member at the time of travel. Future overnight trips not published in the catalog will be announced in OLLI's newsletter, *Connections*.

### Downeast Maine Coast Adventure



Join us as we travel and tour picturesque Maine's coastal villages. They are rich with history and contain an abundance of locally-owned

shops, art galleries, attractions, and restaurants to visit. Explore the villages of Rockland, Camden, and Boothbay Harbor and enjoy visits to the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, the Farnsworth Museum, and more! We will have delicious meals including a Cabbage Island Downeast Clambake Adventure in Boothbay! Enjoy first class accommodations, fun-filled touring, and gorgeous scenery as we tour the scenic coast of Maine! Transportation provided by Yankee Line Coach Bus tours.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader Eileen Condon at 617.470.5612 or email [Elcondon104@gmail.com](mailto:Elcondon104@gmail.com)

**Date:** June 17–19, 2024

**Cost:** \$895.00 per person double occupancy; \$210 single supplement

### Alaska Discovery: Denali National Park and the Kenai Fjords



Witness the rugged beauty of America's 49th state—from snowcapped mountain peaks and gleaming glaciers to friendly seals and whales

emerging from deep-blue seas. This 11-day mostly land tour features tours of Fairbanks, Denali National Park, Talkeetna, Seward (Kenai Fjords), and Anchorage. Trip includes 21 meals, 4 guided tours and 4 exclusive Discovery Series: gold rush experience, northern lights conversation, dog musher visit, and musk ox farm visit.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader John Capuano at 617.913.3828 or email [jotinoc@gmail.com](mailto:jotinoc@gmail.com)

**Date:** July 9–19, 2024

**Cost:** \$5,895 per person, includes airfare from Boston.

### Musical Journey through the South



Enjoy a finger-snapping, toe-tapping time on a tour of America's most famous musical cities: Nashville, Memphis, and

New Orleans. In Nashville, tour RCA Studio B, one of the oldest remaining recording studios, and attend a renowned Grand Ole Opry performance. Then on to Memphis to tour Graceland, American legend Elvis Presley's palatial mansion on his 14-acre estate. Next is Indianola, MS to tour the BB King Museum honoring his extraordinary life. Experience New Orleans, where jazz, food, and fun are always on the menu with a walking tour of the French Quarter, the oldest neighborhood in vibrant New Orleans. There is an optional Swamp tour of the heart of Louisiana's Swamplands in a protected National Park.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader Elaine Kerrigan at 781.985.4222 or email [gowithinyoga@verizon.net](mailto:gowithinyoga@verizon.net)

**Date:** October 21–28, 2024

**Cost:** \$3,250 per person double occupancy, includes air from Boston; \$2,749 without airfare; \$750 single supplement

### Christmas Markets along the Danube



Embrace the magic of Christmas in Old World towns like Regensburg, Passau, and Linz. This 9-day riverboat cruise on the Danube will include

stops in Germany: Nuremberg, Regensburg, and Passau and Austria: Linz, Melk, and Vienna. The trip includes 21 meals - plus all onboard house beer and wine, as well as soft drinks. The trip also includes 5 tours with personal headsets, up to 5 Christmas Markets, and 6 exclusive Discovery Series events.

**Questions?** Contact trip organizer and leader John Capuano at 617.913.3828 or email [jotinoc@gmail.com](mailto:jotinoc@gmail.com)

**Date:** November 30–December 8, 2024

**Cost:** \$3,295 per person, includes airfare from Boston.

# Let's Go to the Theatre

OLLI at UMass Boston is excited to offer the following theatre performances for winter and spring at very low discounted prices. All tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Limit two per member. For shows with no time, date, or pricing information, those details will be announced at a later date via the OLLI newsletter, *Connections*, as well as on the ticket order form.

## Huntington Theatre presents

### John Proctor is the Villain



At a rural high school in Georgia, a group of lively teens explore *The Crucible* while navigating young love, sex ed, and a few school scandals. With a contemporary lens on the American classic, the young women begin to discover their

power and agency, finding a way to hold both the classic text and their community to account—with a profound sense of rage, authenticity, and hope. Alternately touching and biting funny, this new comedy captures a generation in mid-transformation, running on pop music, optimism, and fury, writing their own coming of age story.

**Date:** Saturday, February 24  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$27

## American Repertory Theater presents

### Becoming a Man



When we change, can the people we love come with us? For 50 years, P. Carl lived as a girl and then a queer woman, building a career and a loving marriage while waiting to realize himself in full. When he decides

to affirm his gender at a pivotal political moment in America, his transition puts everything—family, career, friendships—at stake. Adapted from P. Carl's acclaimed memoir and co-directed by Diane Paulus and P. Carl, *Becoming a Man* is a story about the courage—and the community—we need to become ourselves.

**Date:** TBD  
**Time:** TBD  
**Cost:** TBD

## SpeakEasy Stage presents

### Cost of Living



Winner! 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Drama! In this wry and quietly observed play, Polish-born playwright Martyna Majok interweaves the stories of four lonely souls to examine the forces that bring people together and the ways we all

need each other. Eddie, an unemployed truck driver, and his estranged ex-wife, Ani, find themselves unexpectedly reunited after she suffers a devastating accident. And John, a brilliant PhD student with cerebral palsy, hires Jess, a first-generation Princeton graduate who has fallen on desperate times, as his new aide. Together these powerful stories comment on the complexity of caring and being cared for, and “the various tendernesses of simply being human.” (*The Daily Beast*).

**Date:** Saturday, March 9  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$32



# Let's Go to the Theatre

**SpeakEasy Stage presents**

## A Strange Loop



Winner! 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and 2022 Tony Award for Best Musical! Michael R. Jackson's blisteringly funny masterwork exposes the heart and soul of a young artist grappling with desires, identity, and instincts he both

loves and loathes. Meet Usher: a Black, queer writer writing a musical about a Black, queer writer. Usher wrestles with the thoughts in his head in an attempt to capture and understand his own strange loop.

**Date:** Saturday, April 27

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$32

**Huntington Theatre presents**

## Toni Stone



Toni Stone is an ace ballplayer who knows her stats, plus she's got a great arm. Rejected by the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League because of her race, she becomes the first woman to play professional baseball on a man's team in the Negro Leagues, shattering expectations and creating her own set of rules. Filled with humor and the love of the game, Huntington favorite Lydia R. Diamond knocks it out of the park with this beautiful, rich portrait of a trailblazing woman. Play ball! Inspired by the book *Curveball: The Remarkable True Story of Toni Stone* by Martha Ackmann.

**Date:** Saturday, June 1

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$27

**American Repertory Theater presents**

## Gatsby



F. Scott Fitzgerald's legendary novel *The Great Gatsby* comes to new life in this world-premiere musical with a score by international rock star Florence Welch (Florence + The Machine) and Oscar and Grammy Award nominee Thomas Bartlett (*Doveman*), and a book by Pulitzer Prize winner Martyna Majok (*Cost of Living*). *Gatsby* is staged by Tony Award-winning director Rachel Chavkin (*Hadestown*; *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; *Moby-Dick*) with choreography by Tony Award winner Sonya Tayeh (*Moulin Rouge!*).

**Date:** TBD

**Time:** TBD

**Cost:** TBD

### HARRY GLOSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The purpose of the Harry Gloss Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships (full or partial) to individuals who cannot afford to pay the annual OLLI membership fee due to financial hardship. It was named in memory of the late Harry Gloss, who was a founding member, course facilitator, and member of the OLLI Board of Directors.

Individuals who need financial assistance with the OLLI membership fee should email the OLLI office ([ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com)) to inquire about the scholarship forms and process.

Contributions to this scholarship fund can be accepted at any time and are tax deductible. Please send a separate check made out to "Friends of OLLI" with your registration and/or course request forms if you care to make a donation at this time.

Thank you for your generosity!

**OLLI AT UMASS BOSTON  
COURSE REQUEST FORM — SPRING 2024**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred First Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Note any changes to the below contact information if there have been changes since Fall 2023.*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Important Information**

A priority system is used to determine who will be admitted to classes that are oversubscribed. We believe it to be the most equitable method of deciding who gets into those classes. In order for you to participate in this system, you must return your request form to us by **February 20**, indicating your order of priority for each course (1<sup>st</sup> choice = most desired). After the deadline, class assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please indicate which courses you are requesting, including location. For locations, use the following abbreviations: **UMB** = UMass Boston Campus, **HPL** = Hingham Public Library, **BR** = Thayer Public Library, Braintree, or **Z** = Zoom. Please print the full course title.

**(DO NOT** include OLLI Talk registrations on this form!)

1<sup>st</sup> Course Choice \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Course Choice \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Course Choice \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup> Course Choice \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup> Course Choice \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

It is **IMPERATIVE** that all request forms are received in our office by Tuesday, **February 20** in order to be included in the lottery process. Registrations are accepted thereafter, but are subject to course availability.

**Course Confirmation**

You are not registered for courses until you receive a confirmation letter by email in late February.

**Questions about registration?**

**Call 617.287.7312 or email [ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com)**

**Mail to: OLLI, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393**

## OLLI AT UMASS BOSTON MEMBERSHIP FORM SPRING 2024

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please note any changes to any of the contact information since you last renewed your membership. If no changes, you can leave blank.*  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBER PROFILE

We **require** your responses to the following questions, which will be used for statistical purposes only. This information will help us to better serve our members.

<p>How did you hear about OLLI? _____</p> <p>Gender    <input type="checkbox"/> Male    <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p>Year of Birth _____ <i>(required)</i></p> <p>College Degree   <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>UMass Boston Alumnus/a   <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Do you consider yourself to be retired?   <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Current/Former Occupation _____</p>	<p>Would you be interested in facilitating a course?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>What topic(s)? _____</p> <p>Are you a new member?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Ethnicity    <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African/Caribbean  <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian        <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese  <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic            <input type="checkbox"/> Korean  <input type="checkbox"/> Native American   <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese  <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>
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### ORDER INFORMATION

I would like to become an OLLI member. (Make a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in the box below.)	AMOUNT
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership    { \$225 per person \$425 for two living in the same household	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership (\$100 per person) <i>(does not include courses)</i>	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

**Membership is valid for one year  
and expires January 2025.**

#### For Office Use Only

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Payment Information: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership ID#: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

**For Credit Card Payment**    VISA     MasterCard     Discover

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount to be Charged \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to  
 "OLLI/UMass Boston" and return this form to  
**OLLI, McCormack Hall, 3rd Floor, UMass Boston,  
 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393.**

*Annual membership dues must be paid in full  
 at the time of course registration and are  
 non-refundable after **March 29, 2024***



### Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge that the University of Massachusetts Boston is situated upon the traditional, ancestral, and unceded land of the Pawtucket and Massachusett First Nations. We pay respect to the elders, both past and present, as well as future generations. This acknowledgement demonstrates our commitment to working to dismantle the systems of oppression that have displaced Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism.

**OLLI**  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

100 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125-3393

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## FREE Online Winter Programs

During the months of January and February, OLLI will be offering free programs for OLLI members, their guests, and nonmembers. We know it can be challenging to get outside in the winter months, so we are continuing to provide opportunities for members and nonmembers to connect and engage over Zoom.

To see a full listing of our current winter offerings, please visit our website: <https://www.umb.edu/olli>. Programs range from OLLI's annual winter film series to a presentation on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to presentations on dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Acting, art, and writing workshops, weekly coffee chats, book recommendations, and much more will be offered online during the first two months of 2024.

Registration is now open for all OLLI winter events!  
*All events are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.*

### To register:

- OLLI members can register for these winter programs by logging into their OLLI account. These events are listed under the **WINTER PROGRAMS** section of our online course catalog.
- Nonmembers can simply email the OLLI office ([ollireg@gmail.com](mailto:ollireg@gmail.com)) and request to be registered for the programs in which they are interested.

### Questions?

Please contact the OLLI office at 617.287.7312

