



 UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

OLLI@DU / 2026

FALL CATALOG

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Welcome to OLLI at DU

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Denver (OLLI at DU) offers courses, lectures, webinars, and social and travel opportunities designed for adults 50+. With no tests or grades, it's learning purely for the love of it.

At the heart of OLLI at DU is a welcoming community of curious learners. Whether you enjoy in-person classes or the convenience of learning from home, you'll find opportunities to explore new ideas, share experiences, and connect with others who value lifelong learning.

With locations across the Denver metro area and a wide range of virtual offerings, OLLI at DU makes it easy to stay engaged, inspired, and connected. OLLI at DU is part of a national network of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes supported by The Bernard Osher Foundation.

OLLI at DU Staff

Visit our website at olli.du.edu/olli/about/#staff to learn more about the people behind OLLI at DU.

OLLI at DU Main Office

College of Professional Studies at the University of Denver

University Hall, 2197 S University Blvd., Suite 323, Denver, CO 80210

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9 AM–2 PM, Closed Friday

Phone: 303-871-3181 **Email:** olli@du.edu

OLLI at DU Class Locations

Get Directions: **[Click here](#)** to view our in-person locations on Google Maps.

Denver

First Universalist Church
4101 E. Hampden,
Denver, CO 80222

DU Campus

University of Denver,
2197 S. University Blvd.
Denver, CO 80208

(On-campus locations may vary)

Golden

Jefferson Unitarian Church
14350 W. 32nd Ave.
Golden, CO 80401

Littleton

Columbine United Church
6375 S. Platte Canyon Rd.
Littleton, CO 80123



Broomfield

*in partnership with the City
and County of Broomfield*
Broomfield Community Center
280 Spader Way,
Broomfield, CO 80020



Lowry

*in partnership with
the Lowry Foundation*
Eisenhower Chapel
293 Roslyn St.,
Denver, CO 80230

Online

Hosted on Zoom

Osher Online

Offered nationwide through the
National Resource Center for OLLI
at Northwestern University



OLLI



UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS!



OLLI MEMBERS ENJOY

Annual OLLI Membership

\$65

valid through
August 12, 2027.

**Enroll online at olli.du.edu
or call 303-871-3181.**

- Access to 300+ online and in-person courses*
- Free Friday morning STEM webinars
- Fall Recess and Summer Webinar Series*
- Free weekly online fitness classes
- Discounted pricing on OLLI Enrichment programs
- Member-only events and travel opportunities*
- A variety of Shared Interest Groups
- Discounts at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts
- Access to the DU Library
- Reciprocal membership opportunities with OLLI at CSU*
- Discounts at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts and most Colorado Symphony concerts.

**Registration fees vary by course or activity.*

REGISTRATION

Before registering for courses and programs, you'll need to create an account and purchase a 2026–2027 annual membership. It's quick and easy!

New to OLLI? Start Here.

1. Go to olli.du.edu
2. Click the **gold Member button** in the top right corner and select **Create Account**
3. Complete the form and save your **username** and **password** for future use

Returning Member? Welcome Back!

1. Go to olli.du.edu
2. Click the **gold Member button** in the top right corner and select **Sign In**
3. Enter your **username** and **password**

After signing into your account, you'll be directed to the OLLI at DU Registration Portal. You can also access the portal anytime by clicking **Register** on our homepage at olli.du.edu.

Purchase Your Annual Membership

In the registration portal, click the **Purchase a 2026–2027 Annual Membership** button to purchase your membership.

Choose your Courses and Programs

To register for courses and programs, use the menu to search by day, subject, or location. When you're ready to register, click **Add to Cart** next to your selected course. When you are ready to check out, click **Cart** at the top of the screen and follow the prompts. You'll receive a confirmation email once your registration is complete.

Having trouble registering? Email us at olli@du.edu.



⚙ Monday, August 17



10AM: Registration is open for **all courses**.

OLLI Courses

At the heart of OLLI at DU is an **expansive lineup of engaging courses offered each year across eight subject areas and three academic terms**. Courses are available both online and in person and are led by passionate facilitators who bring deep knowledge, lived experience, and infectious curiosity into the classroom. Whether you're exploring something new or diving deeper into a longtime interest, OLLI courses are designed to spark learning, conversation, and connection.

Osher Online

Take your learning beyond DU with Osher Online—an exclusive opportunity for OLLI at DU members. These **six-week online courses** are developed by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University and taught by distinguished instructors from Osher Institutes across the country. **Each course includes weekly 1.5-hour live Zoom sessions** and offers the **chance to connect with a national community of lifelong learners**. OLLI at DU membership is required. Registration and course fees apply. Osher Online classes are non-refundable.

After registration, you'll receive your Osher Online login credentials, access to course materials and discussion boards, plus an invitation to an important pre-class orientation. We strongly encourage all participants to attend to familiarize yourself with the Vimeo platform used to deliver these courses. Sessions are live and not recorded, so plan to attend each week for the full experience.

Friday STEM Webinars

Friday **STEM webinars** are a member favorite—and **free for OLLI at DU members**. Held on **Zoom Friday mornings from 10–11:30am**, these live presentations feature esteemed speakers exploring captivating topics in science, technology, engineering, and math. Join fellow members for thought-provoking ideas, fresh perspectives, and lively Q&A, all from the comfort of home.

OLLI Fit Classes

Stay active, energized, and connected with **OLLI Fit classes—free for OLLI at DU members**. These fun, dynamic **Zoom-based classes** are designed for adults who want to improve fitness, maintain mobility, and enjoy movement in a supportive environment. **Classes are held Monday through Thursday mornings from 8–9am**.

OLLI on the Move

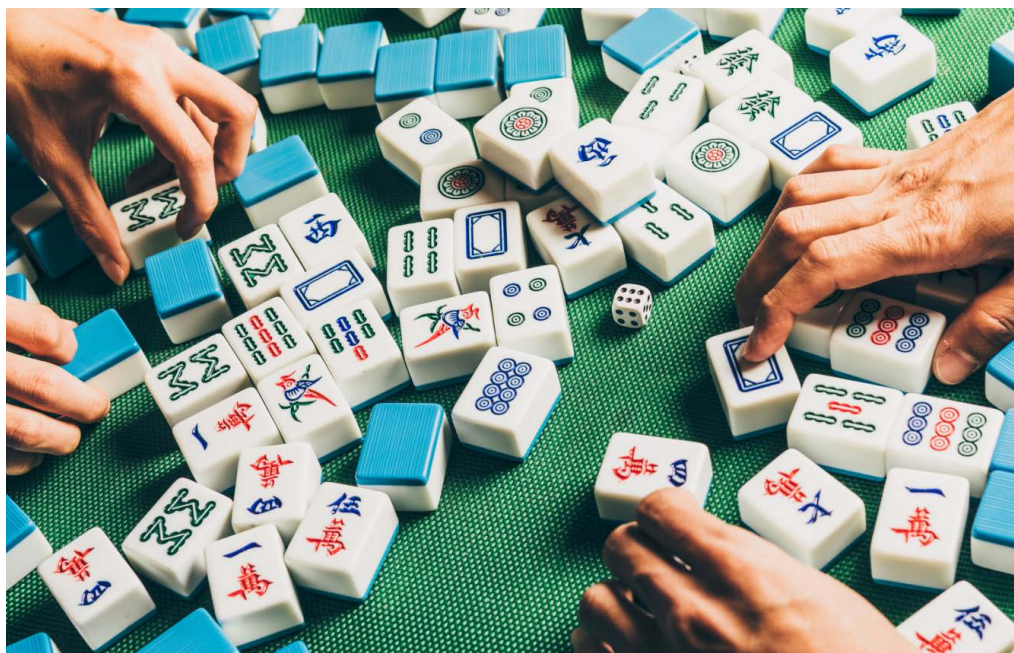
Take learning out into the community with OLLI on the Move—featured off-site **courses held throughout the Denver area**. These special offerings highlight local destinations, experiences, and expertise. OLLI membership is not required, so feel free to bring a friend. Registration and course fees apply.

OLLI Travel

OLLI Travel offers **members-only group travel experiences** designed for curious minds and adventurous spirits. From destinations across the U.S. to journeys around the globe, these thoughtfully curated trips blend cultural exploration, learning, and community. Travel with fellow members, deepen your understanding of the world, and create meaningful shared experiences along the way.

Shared Interest Groups

Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) are a vibrant and member-driven part of the OLLI community. Organized and facilitated entirely by OLLI members, SIGs bring people together around **shared hobbies, passions, and interests**—without the structure of a traditional course. Join a SIG to connect with others, explore what you love, and strengthen your OLLI experience.



REGISTRATION FEES AND POLICIES

Registration Fees (2026–2027)

8 week courses:	\$70	4 week courses:	\$50
7 week courses:	\$65	3 week courses:	\$40
6 week courses:	\$60	2 week courses:	\$30
5 week courses:	\$55	1 week courses:	\$15

Special Events, Osher Online, Webinars, and Weekends

Special Events, Osher Online, Weekends, Fall Recess Webinars, and Summer Short Webinars are individually priced.

If financial hardship is preventing you from participating, please contact the office to inquire about tuition assistance.

Course Waitlist

If a course or event is full, a waitlist will open automatically during online registration. You may add yourself to the waitlist, and if a spot becomes available, you'll receive an email notification. You'll have 24 hours to register and pay before the spot is offered to the next person on the list. Waitlisted spots will only be offered through the first week of classes; after that, no additional seats will be filled. Please note that the course fee remains the same regardless of when a participant joins from the waitlist.

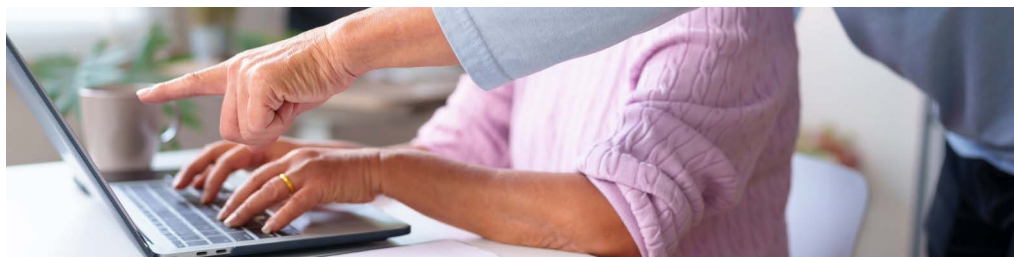
Refund Policy

Refunds are available based on the type of course or event. For multi-week courses, members are eligible for a full refund if they cancel before or during the first week; no refunds or partial refunds will be issued after that point. For one-day courses, a full refund is available if the cancellation is made at least three business days before the course date. Refunds for special events vary and are determined on a case-by-case basis—please refer to the specific event details on our website or contact the office for more information. If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the office.

Weather Closure Policy for In-Person Classes

In-person OLLI classes follow the weather closure decisions of the local school district or the University of Denver (for DU-based classes). If the district or DU campus is closed, OLLI classes at that location are cancelled. If there's a delayed start, OLLI classes will still begin at their regular time. On teacher in-service days when the weather is bad, closures may not be announced publicly—please check the OLLI website or call 303-871-3181 for updates.

Your safety is our top priority—please use your best judgment when traveling in inclement weather.



Need Info About Your Classes?

It's All In Your OLLI Account!

Looking for your course location, Zoom link, syllabus, or facilitator bio? The fastest, easiest way to get the details you need—any time, day or night—is by signing into your OLLI account.

How to log into your OLLI Account:

1. Go to the OLLI at DU website: <https://olli.du.edu>
2. Click on the **gold MEMBERS button** on the top right of the homepage
3. When the menu opens, click **SIGN IN**.

How to access course information and Zoom links:

Once you're logged in, click on **MY ACCOUNT** at the top of the page, and you'll have access to everything related to your courses and membership.

Here's what you can do from your account:

- View your course info – Click on **CLASS LIST** to see in-person locations, Zoom links, and syllabi.
- Check your registration history – Click **HISTORY** to review past and current memberships and course registrations.
- Update your contact info – Use **MY PROFILE** to change your email or phone number.
- Update your login – Use **USERNAME** and **PASSWORD** to make changes to your login credentials.
- Make a payment – Click on **MAKE A PAYMENT** to settle any outstanding balance.

Still have questions or need help with registration or membership?

Contact us by email at olli@du.edu or call our office at (303) 871-3181.

COURSES AT-A-GLANCE - FALL 2026

MONDAY AM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/14 & (Wed) 9/16	Colorado's Hummingbirds: Nature, Ecology & Culture	Del Rosso	DU Campus	64
9/28–11/2	Art Detectives: Forgery, Provenance, and the Science of Authentication	Maasdam	Osher Online	69
10/19–11/23	The Invisible Thread: 3,500 Years of Global Supply Chain	Jones	Osher Online	30

MONDAY PM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/14–10/5	Great Decisions 2026	Lauscher	Broomfield	55
9/14–10/12	Is Media Ruining America?	Winning/George	Lowry	56
9/14–11/2	Discussing Alternative Societal Futures	Ortlieb	Online	47
9/14–11/2	Matinee at the Bijou—Blake Edwards and Friends	McHugh	Online	76
9/21	Introduction to Genealogy Part 1 (Hybrid)	Larson	DU Campus or Online	42
9/28 & 10/5	Purposeful Retirement: Your Next Chapter	Bhargava	Online	50
10/5–10/26	Music of the Movies	Kaufman	Online	74
10/5–11/9	Sacred Mountains of the World	Duncan	Osher Online	74
10/12–11/2	Gustav Mahler: Difficult Genius, Tough Climb	Isseroff	Broomfield	72
10/19	Introduction to Genealogy Part 2 (Hybrid)	Larson	DU Campus or Online	43

MONDAY EVENING

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
10/5–11/9	The History and Experience of Route 66	Dedek	Osher Online	29

TUESDAY AM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/15–10/6	Understanding Personalities: The 7 Archetypes that Shape Relationships	Kennedy	DU Campus	<u>51</u>
9/15–10/6	The Late 19th and Early 20th Century Trains We Rode	Erickson	Golden	<u>32</u>
9/15–10/13	Our Courts Colorado: A Speaker Series	Gabriel	DU Campus	<u>58</u>
9/15–10/13	Ten Voyages of Discovery and Survival	Van Arsdale	Golden	<u>28</u>
9/15–10/20	Great Disasters: Natural Accidents, Man's Errors, Acts of God	Johnson	Denver	<u>25</u>
9/15–10/20	<i>Howard's End</i> : Societal Change and Social Class in the Edwardian Era	Eastman	DU Campus	<u>38</u>
9/15–10/27	The Art of Writing: Seven Different Author Journeys	Maher	Golden	<u>40</u>
9/15–11/3	AI Data-Center Impacts on Water, Energy, Minerals & the Environment	Kunkel/Steele	Denver	<u>63</u>
9/15–11/3	The Invention of American Political Parties, 1787 – 1800 (In-Person)	Lippman	Denver	<u>31</u>
9/15–11/3	That Wascally Wabbit—The History and Cultural Impact of <i>Looney Tunes</i> !	Moody	DU Campus	<u>76</u>
9/15–11/3	America's Great Migration: Hardship, Struggle and Grit	Jones	DU Campus	<u>46</u>
9/15–11/3	What is Socialism, Really? Beyond Propaganda and Distortion	Tsoucatos/Hughes	Golden	<u>34</u>
9/15–11/3	Four Asian Religions and Philosophies	Putman	Online	<u>48</u>
9/22–11/3	DCPA's <i>The Tempest</i> : Know Before You Go	Jones	Online	<u>36</u>
9/29–11/3	Chatting in Spanish—Intermediate	Gordon	Denver	<u>36</u>

COURSES AT-A-GLANCE - FALL 2026

TUESDAY PM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/15	Benefits of Personal Coaching for Seniors	Weinbaum	Online	<u>20</u>
9/15–10/6	A Short History of FBI Undercover Operations	Wincelowicz	Golden	<u>23</u>
9/15–10/6	Amazing Artistry: Partnering in Ballet	Engel/Engel	Golden	<u>69</u>
9/15–10/13	Jewish History and Christianity: Common Roots and Intertwined Branches	Draznin	Denver	<u>27</u>
9/15–10/20	The Risks and Rewards of Full Contact Football	Levinson	Denver	<u>21</u>
9/15–10/20	What's a Life Well Lived at 70+? (Hybrid)	Young	DU Campus or Online	<u>22</u>
9/15–10/20	The Beginner's Lucky Draw: Learning Poker One Hand at a Time	Winn/Weiss	Littleton	<u>44</u>
9/15–11/3	Israel's Existential War of Survival & its Message for the Free World	Melmed	Denver	<u>57</u>
9/15–11/3	Celebrating 250 Years of the American Short Story	Eastman/Walling	DU Campus	<u>36</u>
9/15–11/3	The Baby Boomer Experience	Epperson	DU Campus	<u>60</u>
9/15–11/3	Got Comedy?	Sieke	Golden	<u>72</u>
9/15–11/3	Using AI to Thwart the AI Apocalypse	Hughes	Golden	<u>62</u>
9/15–11/3	The Vietnam War (Part 1) 1919-1967 (Hybrid)	McHugh	DU Campus or Online	<u>33</u>
9/15–11/3	Current Events: Politics, Society, and Global Change	Tebbe	Littleton	<u>53</u>
9/15–11/3	Science Fiction Movies	MattenPetty	Online	<u>75</u>
9/15–11/3	The American Revolution 250 Years to Contemplate	Folkestad	Online	<u>28</u>
9/15–11/3	The Evolution of Systemic Racism	Puglielli/Kempinen	Online	<u>61</u>

TUESDAY PM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/15–11/3	The Origins of Our Social Safety Net	Rich	Online	<u>32</u>
9/22–10/27	The History of Quantum Mechanics	Friedman	DU Campus	<u>66</u>
9/22–11/3	Your Front-Row Seat to the Universe	Holt	Littleton	<u>67</u>
9/29–11/3	Political Theory: Judith Shklar's Political Thought	Stewart	DU Campus	<u>49</u>
9/29–10/27	Issues in Higher Education	Eaker	Lowry	<u>58</u>
10/13–11/3	Meet the Brass—The Musicians, the Instruments, the Music!	Dais	Golden	<u>73</u>
10/13–11/3	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> —Exploring a Masterpiece	Mackey	Denver	<u>39</u>

TUESDAY EVENING

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/15–9/29	The Science of Play: Unlocking Human Potential	Sundstrom	DU Campus	<u>21</u>
9/29–11/3	Apple at 50: How it Revolutionized Computing and Transformed Daily Life	Kahney	Osher Online	<u>63</u>

WEDNESDAY AM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/16–10/21	Artrageous: From Impressionism to Surrealism	La Certe	DU Campus	<u>70</u>
9/16–10/28	Imperialism and War: 1890-1939	Hochstadt	Denver	<u>25</u>
9/16–11/4	Current Events	Reinish/Myers	Denver	<u>53</u>
9/16–11/4	What is Socialism, Really? Beyond Propaganda and Distortion	Tsoucatos	Denver	<u>34</u>

WEDNESDAY AM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/16– 11/4	You Are What You Watch! Media, Messaging, and the Midterm Elections	Thomas	Denver	<u>62</u>
9/16– 11/4	Great Decisions	Brovarone	DU Campus	<u>54</u>
9/16– 11/4	Ireland's Response to Colonialism from 1801 to 1939	Casey	DU Campus	<u>26</u>
9/16– 11/4	The Industrial Revolution: The Intersection of Technology and Social Change	Gentry	Littleton	<u>30</u>
9/16– 11/4	The Reawakening Dragon (In-Person)	Wyngarden	Littleton	<u>61</u>
9/16– 11/4	<i>Bygone Badass Broads</i>	Peters	Online	<u>35</u>
9/16– 10/21	<i>The Way of Humanity</i> by Martin Buber	Levin	Online	<u>51</u>
9/16– 10/21	A Day at the Opera	Friedlander/ Adelman	Online	<u>68</u>
9/16– 11/4	Bridge Basics I: An Introduction	Holmes	Online	<u>42</u>
10/14– 11/4	Puerto Rico at the Crossroads: History, Culture, and Global Community	Laureano Ortiz/ Nowakowski	Online	<u>49</u>
10/7– 10/21	Israel's Strategic Position in the Middle East	Schwartzman	Online	<u>57</u>
10/7– 10/28	The Origins and Evolution of Country and Bluegrass Music in the United States, 1860-1960	Jenson	DU Campus	<u>77</u>
10/14– 11/4	Not Dead Yet: Exploring AI in Life's Wide Afternoon	Chomic	Broomfield	<u>65</u>
9/16– 10/7	A Conversation on Reincarnation (There and Back Again)	Silmon	DU Campus	<u>46</u>

WEDNESDAY PM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/16-11/4	Faulkner's <i>Light in August</i> : Alienation in Black and White	Morris	DU Campus	<u>38</u>
9/16-11/4	Eight Classic Films	Reinish	Denver	<u>71</u>
9/16-11/4	Black Music, U.S.A.—A Soulful Journey Through Eight Cities	Weiss	DU Campus	<u>71</u>
9/16-11/4	I Am Not a Robot: An All-New AI Speaker Series	Smith/ Friedlander	Littleton	<u>65</u>
9/16-11/4	Red Scare: FEAR and the Hollywood Blacklist	Moody	Littleton	<u>26</u>
9/16-11/4	Through the Lens of History: Photos that Tell a Story	Conklin/ Bramley	Littleton	<u>78</u>
9/16-11/4	Archaeology: Exploring Early Cultures in the Americas	Christner	Online	<u>24</u>
9/16-10/21	Current Economic Issues: Facts and Fallacies	Sahling	Online	<u>24</u>
9/16-11/4	My Favorite Bridge Conventions	Holmes	Online	<u>43</u>
9/16-11/4	The Invention of American Political Parties, 1787 – 1800 (Online)	Lippman	Online	<u>31</u>
9/23-10/28	Science Fiction in the Movies	Grant	Online	<u>75</u>
10/14-11/18	Living off The Laughter: History of Comedy in America	Friedfeld	Osher Online	<u>27</u>
10/21-11/4	Unforgettable: The Legacies of Nimoy, Rickman, and Kahn	Peters	Online	<u>78</u>

WEDNESDAY EVENING

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/16-10/28	What “Near-Death Experiences” Reveal About an “Afterlife”	Arapakis	Online	<u>52</u>
9/30-11/4	Tracing Our Roots: DNA, Family History, and the Politics of Identity	Cervantes	Osher Online	<u>67</u>
10/7-11/11	August Wilson and His American Cycle-The First Five: 1904-1957	Menson-Furr	Osher Online	<u>70</u>

COURSES AT-A-GLANCE - FALL 2026

THURSDAY AM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/17–10/22	The Desecration of Mt. Rushmore: Crime, Corruption & Conspiracy (Hybrid)	Savitz	DU Campus or Online	<u>60</u>
9/17–11/5	<i>A Yellow Raft in Blue Water</i> by Michael Dorris: A Novel of Western Identity	Batt/Batt	Online	<u>35</u>
9/17–11/5	Mysterious Places: Women and the West	Lange	Online	<u>40</u>
9/17–11/5	The Art of Making Movies	Magnani	Online	<u>77</u>
9/17–11/5	The Reawakening Dragon (Online)	Wyngarden	Online	<u>61</u>
10/1–11/5	Current Policy Issues	Bergstrom	DU Campus	<u>54</u>
9/17–11/5	Religious Experiences, Psychedelics and Near Death Experiences	Melgoza	DU Campus	<u>50</u>
10/15–11/19	Power and the People: The Evolution of the U.S. Federal Judiciary	Andersen	Osher Online	<u>59</u>

THURSDAY PM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/17–10/8	Almost Presidents: The Men who Kept Running	Kleinschmidt	Online	<u>23</u>
9/17–10/15	Wow! What Was That?	Parfrey	DU Campus	<u>79</u>
9/17–10/22	The Great Courses: How Winston Churchill Changed the World—Part One	Rough	DU Campus	<u>29</u>
9/17–10/29	<i>I, Too, Sing America</i> : Voices of Diversity 4 (new class)	Walling	Online	<u>39</u>
9/17–11/5	Tango! The Dance and Music of Love	Dobyns	DU Campus	<u>76</u>
9/17–11/5	Against the Odds: Stories of Survival on Film	Vice/Lungerhausen	Online	<u>68</u>

THURSDAY PM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
10/1– 11/5	<i>The Nights Are Quiet in Tehran: After Revolution</i>	Paul	Online	<u>41</u>
10/1– 11/5	“Studies Show...” (Or Do They?): Under the Hood of a Scientific Study	Hendrickson	Osher Online	<u>66</u>
10/8– 11/5	Earth, Wind, Fire and You: Discovering Ayurveda	Loverro	DU Campus	<u>20</u>

THURSDAY EVENING

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
10/15 & 10/22	The Soundtrack of Vietnam: Voices of a Divided Nation	Kreisman/ Kronser	DU Campus	<u>33</u>

FRIDAY AM

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/18– 11/6	Trails & Tours	Friedlander	Offsite	<u>45</u>
10/9– 11/13	The 60s Through the Great Speeches	Benedict	Osher Online	<u>59</u>

WEEKENDS

DATE	TITLE	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	PAGE
9/20 & 9/27	Fossils, Fire, and Civic Courage at Florissant	Kite	Online & Offsite	<u>48</u>
10/10 & 10/17	Bearing Witness: A Pilgrimage to Amache, Colorado's WWII Incarceration Site	Kite	Online & Offsite	<u>47</u>

WEBINARS

DATE	TITLE	PRESENTER	PAGE
9/18	Orbital Data Centers: AI in Orbit, Data Centers on the Moon, and the Race to Move the Cloud Off the Planet	Mike Kaplan	82
9/25	The Perfection Trap: Why We Confuse Feeling Safe With Being Safe	Jonathan Slotkin	82
10/2	Critical Thinking as Civic Infrastructure: Lessons from The Institute for Science & Policy	Kristan Uhlenbrock	83
10/9	How Our Words Reflect Who We Are: Psychology, Language, and AI	Jamie Pennebaker	83
10/16	Education in the AI Era	Jennie Magiera	84
10/23	Exploring the Mysteries of the Deep Sea	Jim Hekkers	84
10/30	Parkinson's and Other Preventable Brain Diseases	Ray Dorsey	85
11/6	From Wildfire Crisis to Real-Time Coordination: How Technology is Transforming Emergency Response	Ben Miller	85

OLLI FIT

DAY	DATES	TITLE	LOCATION	PAGE
Monday	9/14–11/2	Meditation in Motion: The Art and Science of Tai Chi	Online	80
Tuesday	9/15–11/3	Gentle Hatha Yoga	Online	80
Wednesday	9/16–11/4	Medical Qigong: Healing Exercises from China	Online	81
Thursday	9/17–11/5	Breath, Meditation & Community	Online	81



Support OLLI. Inspire Lifelong Learning.

Ask any member and you'll hear about engaging courses, fascinating discussions, inspiring speakers, and friendships that last well beyond the classroom. Behind every memorable experience is a community of supporters who believe in the power of lifelong learning.

Your gift helps:

- Bring inspiring speakers and new courses
- Support volunteer facilitators
- Keep classes affordable and accessible
- Build community and connection



Whether you're a longtime supporter or considering your first gift, now is the perfect time to invest in OLLI's future.

Give today: olli.du.edu/olli/give
Questions? Contact 303-871-3181



Benefits of Personal Coaching for Seniors

Online

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Marvin Weinbaum

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$15

Elite athletes, business leaders, musicians, and performers often rely on coaches to help them reach their goals, overcome obstacles, and perform at their best. Why should coaching stop at retirement or with performance-related goals?

This engaging one-hour seminar explores how personal coaching can help older adults navigate life's transitions, clarify priorities, pursue meaningful goals, and create greater satisfaction in retirement. Whether you're adjusting to retirement, considering new opportunities, strengthening relationships, improving well-being, or simply seeking greater purpose and fulfillment, coaching provides a structured, supportive partnership focused on your growth and success.

Participants will learn what coaching is—and what it is not—how the coaching process works, and the research-backed benefits of having a trusted thinking partner. Real-life examples will illustrate how coaching can help individuals move from feeling stuck or uncertain to taking purposeful action.

Earth, Wind, Fire and You: Discovering Ayurveda

In Person

Thursday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/8–11/5 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Nova Loverro

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$55

Earth, Wind, Fire & You: Discovering Ayurveda introduces the foundational principles of a 5,000-year-old holistic science of well-being originating in India. At its core, Ayurveda examines how the five natural elements shape our physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual health. By understanding these elemental qualities, participants will gain deeper insight into their own unique tendencies, habits, and daily experiences. This five-week course blends rich educational content with engaging, experiential activities designed to spark curiosity and self-awareness. Through group discussions, reflective exercises, and introductory self-assessments, learners will discover prakriti—the Ayurvedic concept of an individual's natural constitution—and look at how this ancient tradition interprets balance and imbalance in modern life. Ultimately, the course empowers participants to apply these timeless concepts to their everyday routines, supporting more thoughtful, personalized choices regarding nutrition, movement, media consumption, and relationships.



The Risks and Rewards of Full Contact Football

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/20 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Rick Levinson

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$60

We will start by learning basic football concepts and terms. The class will then examine and discuss the pros and cons of allowing young people to play full-contact football. Finally, we will examine the current state of the game at the elementary school, high school, college, and professional levels.

The Science of Play: Unlocking Human Potential

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–9/29 **Time:** 6:30–8:30pm

Facilitator: Mia Sundstrom

Location: DU Campus

Member Price: \$40

Play isn't frivolous. It's foundational. Backed by decades of neuroscience research, this course explores how play shapes the human brain, builds character, and serves us in a world grappling with loneliness, polarization, and the rise of AI. Across three sessions, you'll ground yourself in the science of play and discover how it cultivates the three fundamental character strengths: resilience, curiosity, and courage. This isn't a course about having more fun. It's about becoming more human.

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the neuroscience of play and its role in building resilience, curiosity, and courage as foundations of character;
- Identify their personal play style and understand how it shapes the way they engage, connect, and grow;
- Articulate their core personal values and recognize how play activates those values in everyday behavior;
- Apply practical frameworks for play and character development to their personal and professional lives.

Required Course Material

Play Styles Assessment: <https://playstyles.nifplay.org/> (7 min survey to discover your play style)

Optional Course Material

The Live Playfully Journal: <https://store.nifplay.org/products/play-journal> (Available for purchase; a small fee applies.)

What's a Life Well Lived at 70+? (Hybrid)

Online

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/20 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Jon Young

Location: DU Campus or Online **Member Price:** \$60

Around the mid-seventies, a quiet question often arrives: Am I spending this last stage of life the best way I can?

This class examines what 37 cultural and philosophical traditions have said about living well in the final arc. Insights gathered across recorded history are presented as findings to explore together, not doctrine to accept. No religious belief is required or assumed; the tools work without any metaphysical system. Together we'll work through five frameworks—each a practical tool—and close with the Annual Lighthouse Review: a structured five-part reflection you can use every year on your own. No background in philosophy is needed; personal experience counts as much as academic study. If that question sounds familiar, this course is for you.

Required Reading: *A Quiet Reckoning - Ancient Tools for a Life Well Lived* and *Why It's Never Too Late*.

Recommended Reading: *What Is a Life Well Lived? A Global Cross-Cultural Historical Synthesis*. (for reference if, as needed)

Both no charge, provided as e-books (pdf and epub formats)



A Short History of FBI Undercover Operations

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/6 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Vincent Wincelowicz

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Cost:** \$50

This course will explore a number of significant FBI Undercover Operations from 1978 to 1998. The course will provide an overview and a history of FBI Undercover Operations. Some of the cases that will be discussed: Operation Double Steele; ABSCAM; NYCON; and Greylord. The instructor will provide unique insight to the inner workings of organized crime with some anecdotal stories of organized crime members and “con” men!

Almost Presidents: The Men who Kept Running

Online

Thursday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–10/8 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Thomas Kleinschmidt

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$50

The lives and campaigns of four of America's most persistent presidential hopefuls—John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay, Stephen Douglas, and William Jennings Bryan—take center stage in this four-week course. Each man sought the presidency multiple times, shaping national debates despite never securing the office. Through their campaigns, class members will examine key issues, such as states' rights, economic policy, expansion, and political realignment in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The course highlights how ambition, ideology, and circumstance intersected in an evolving democratic system. By the end, participants will better understand how these “perennial candidates” influenced American politics even in defeat, and why their repeated bids still matter today.

Archaeology: Exploring Early Cultures in the Americas

Online

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Anne Marshall Christner

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

Archaeology fascinates many people, especially when there are structural ruins to visit. Most fans, including Americans, have focused on the Old World, primarily at sites around the Mediterranean—but we have equally fascinating cultures to study in the Americas. In this course, we will "visit" sites in North, Central, and South America to learn about human migration and settlement patterns, along with facets of their respective ancient cultures. We will also look at new research methods that have made this knowledge more accessible.

More familiar sites and cultures to be studied include the Ancestral Puebloans, the Maya, and Machu Picchu. Some less well-known cultures include the Nazca Lines, Mississippian, Iroquois, Woodland, and Pacific Coast settlements. Our "visits" will be made via lectures from The Great Courses, supplemented by handouts and guided discussions.

Current Economic Issues: Facts and Fallacies

Online

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–10/21 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Leonard Sahling

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

This course will cover six key economic issues: the current slowdown in economic growth, economic inequality, the United States' mounting national debt, the United States' inefficient health care system, soaring prescription drug prices, and immigration. Here are some of the questions that will be addressed: Is the current slowdown in U.S. economic growth a temporary lull or the beginning of prolonged economic stagnation? What is driving the United States' widening income inequality? What's wrong with big government deficits and a growing national debt? Why does the United States spend so much more on health care than other high-income countries, and is it getting its money's worth? Why do prescription drugs cost so much more in the United States than in other industrialized countries? What are the benefits and costs of immigration to U.S. citizens, and does one exceed the other?



Great Disasters: Natural Accidents, Man's Errors, Acts of God

[In Person](#)[Tuesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/15–10/20 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Warren Johnson**Location:** First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$60

You stand shivering alone on the boat deck, dreading each enormous wave that sinks your world deeper into the cold, dark, and very lonely ocean. Perhaps you've been startled out of deep sleep by the walls shaking while the floor beneath your bed slides inexorably into a debris-filled abyss. We begin with these two calamities before exploring many others in our Tour of Disasters. Over six classes we will discuss various cataclysmic events in depth: shipwreck, famine, flood, fire, and more. You will acquire concrete tools to use in the next challenge that man or nature may throw at you. We analyze well-known disasters and lesser-known mishaps through readings, videos, podcasts, music, and artifacts. Each event will reveal a valuable lesson in survival. On each leg of the tour I will ask the question "What would you do?" Each time you will have an answer.

Imperialism and War: 1890-1939

[In Person](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/16–10/28 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Shellie Hochstadt**Location:** First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$65

By 1890, the hubris of Europe's imperial powers was leading the world toward war. WWI ushered in the modern world and created a host of complications—from the autocratic rule of Kaiser Wilhelm II and Czar Nicholas II to the rise of Lenin, Mao, and Hitler. The world would wrestle for stability. The Great Depression and political chaos created instability in world leadership and a struggle to find a peaceful path into the 20th century. Join me for a journey through 1890 to 1939, a period that continues to shape today's world.

Ireland's Response to Colonialism from 1801 to 1939

In Person

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Terry Casey

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

A fascination with Irish history arises primarily from two different phenomena: the country's unique status as the first 19th-century colonized nation—with the Act of Union's dissolution of the Irish parliament in 1801—that battled to regain its independence more than one hundred years later; and the far-reaching role of poets, playwrights, and authors (Standish O'Grady, W.B. Yeats, Joyce, O'Casey, Shaw) as they mediated and interpreted the culture of rebellion and debated what independence should look like. We will travel through the Famine, the Fenians, the Easter Rising, World War I, the Civil War, and up to the death of Yeats and the start of World War II in 1939—with excursions into the land of the faeries and the occult—using the lens of artists and intellectuals to examine the culture of rebellion and query how and why this culture, by 1922, had produced such an economically and socially conservative Free State.

Red Scare: FEAR and the Hollywood Blacklist

In Person

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Gregory Moody

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$70

Have you ever considered the role FEAR plays in American politics? Fascinatingly and unfortunately, FEAR tends to drive our political environment. FEAR of Unions, of Outsiders (anarchists), of African Americans, of “Others” among us. This course examines the cultural and political world that emerged from World War II. Suspicion, mistrust, and paranoia created by the Cold War world drove the US government into the arms of fearmongers and demagogues. What motivated the House Unamerican Activities Committee? Were there spies in the government? Were movies truly spouting “red propaganda?” How and why did naming names become blood sport on Capitol Hill? Careers were both made and destroyed by FEAR. The aftereffects of the Cold War continue today, negatively impacting the lives and rights of all Americans.

Recommended Reading: *Naming Names* by Victor Navasky; *Red Scare* by Clay Risen



Jewish History and Christianity: Common Roots and Intertwined Branches

[In Person](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–10/13 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Boris Draznin

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$55

The origins of Judeo-Christian values that cemented the foundation of Western civilization must be studied and understood in order to preserve them for the future. This series of lectures covers Jewish history, addressing major points of positive and negative intersection with Christianity and their complex relationship, while emphasizing that Judaism and Christianity have more commonalities than divisions.

Topics include Biblical and post-Biblical Jewish history through the First and Second Temples, the history of the diaspora, the birth of Christianity, the interplay between Church and Synagogue in antiquity, the Renaissance, the Middle Ages, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and modern times.

The goal of this series is to build a better understanding of the shared history and values within the Judeo-Christian world—and to construct bridges to a common future for generations to come.

Recommended Reading: 1) Max I. Dimont, *Jews, God, and History*; 2) Paul Johnson, *A History of the Jews*; 3) A.N. Wilson, *Jesus: A Life*; 4) James Carroll, *Constantine's Sword*. **No class on 10/20.**

Living off the Laughter: History of Comedy in America

[Osher Online](#)[Wednesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/14–11/18 **Time:** 1:00–2:30pm

Facilitator: Eddy Friedfeld

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

This course is a history class with a laugh track. We will analyze the 20th and 21st centuries against their historic context, using humor as the platform. We will discuss how comedy was shaped by and responsive to American society, and how comedians influenced and shaped American life. We will cover Silent Films, Vaudeville, Radio, Screwball and Romantic Comedies, and the Golden Age of Television. We will study how each generation's identity influenced what (and whom) they laughed at.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

Ten Voyages of Discovery and Survival

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/13 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Peter Van Arsdale

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$55

What drove some of the world's most famous explorers? How were they able to persevere? What resources did they use? How did they survive in desolate, unforgiving circumstances? When teammates died, how did the others react? And of course, what routes did they take? What did they discover? This five-week course will take a deep dive into ten historic voyages of discovery and survival. The final voyage, featuring Peter Van Arsdale's own journey, explores the heartland of New Guinea and the remote tribe his team discovered. In each case, firsthand narratives—as well as numerous photographs and maps—will be included: Cabeza de Vaca (1527–1536, North America), De Soto (1539–1543, North America), Coronado (1540–1542, North America), Cook (1776–1780, Pacific Ocean), Bligh (1789, Pacific Ocean), Lewis and Clark (1803–1806, North America), Franklin (1845–1846, Arctic), Scott (1910–1913, Antarctic), Shackleton (1914–1916, Antarctic), Van Arsdale (1974, New Guinea).

The American Revolution 250 Years to Contemplate

Online

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:30pm

Facilitator: Alan Folkestad

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

In 1763, the British gained dominance in North America following their victory over the French in the French and Indian War. Despite these victories, Britain ended the war close to bankruptcy. To raise revenue, Parliament passed the Stamp and Townshend Acts. Tensions and disputes began escalating between the British and the Thirteen Colonies. The British Army responded by seeking to occupy Boston militarily. In mid-1774, tensions escalated even further when the British Parliament imposed the Intolerable Acts to punish Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party and assert control over the colonies. In an attempt to disarm colonial militias, the Battles of Lexington and Concord occurred. During the course, we will view 24 Great Courses lectures in a comprehensive overview of the conflict. There will be ample time for input and discussion.



The Great Courses: How Winston Churchill Changed the World – Part One

In Person

Thursday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/17–10/22 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: John Rough

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$60

Winston Churchill is regarded as one of the most important people of the 20th century. Born during the Edwardian Age, he observed and influenced the rise and decline of the British Empire, the devastation of two world wars, and the precarious balance of the early Cold War.

This course, comprising twenty-four Great Courses lectures, examines his military leadership, his relationships with family and friends, his lifelong passion for literature and history, and his interactions with other major historical figures.

Did you know Churchill published over 13 million words and won the Nobel Prize for Literature? By age twenty-six he had earned over \$1 million in today's money from his writings and lectures—and yet he was always broke!

Part one covers his life from birth to Dunkirk. The course draws upon Andrew Roberts' *Churchill: Walking With Destiny* and other sources.

The History and Experience of Route 66

Osher Online

Monday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/5–11/9 **Time:** 5:00–6:30pm

Facilitator: Peter Dedek

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

Route 66 is as much an idea as it is a place. Since 1926, it has evolved from a busy highway into a symbol of nostalgia, travel, and the American road. Today, it serves as a kind of pilgrimage route, marked by neon signs and preserved roadside landmarks. In this course, we will explore its history, cultural meaning, rise and decline, revival, and preservation, while considering the future of this iconic American highway.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

The Industrial Revolution: The Intersection of Technology and Social Change

In Person

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Stuart Gentry

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$70

The Industrial Revolution marked a cataclysmic change in human development, unlike anything seen since humans first learned to grow their own food. And these changes first appeared in Britain—by this time little more than a small island with a second-rate economy. But the shift from agriculture to industrialization sent England, and humankind, on a new trajectory. We will look at some of the key innovations and individuals that drove this transition, including: why it started in Britain; the shift in textile production from cottages to factories; the use of water, then steam power; the industrialization of metal production; and the rapid expansion of new transportation networks. Along the way, we will discuss the impact on society—both positive and negative.

The Invisible Thread: 3,500 Years of Global Supply Chain

Osher Online

Monday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 10/19–11/23 **Time:** 9:00–10:30am

Facilitator: Scott Jones

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

We often only notice the global supply chain when it breaks. Yet, for millennia, the movement of goods has been the silent engine of civilization. In this course, we will track the evolution of trade from an executive's perspective. From the sunken treasures of Bronze Age merchant ships to the high-tech intermodal systems of today, we will explore the vessels that carried the world's wealth and the complex networks that keep our modern shelves stocked.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.



The Invention of American Political Parties, 1787 – 1800

In Person

Tuesday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: David Lippman

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

Online

Wednesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

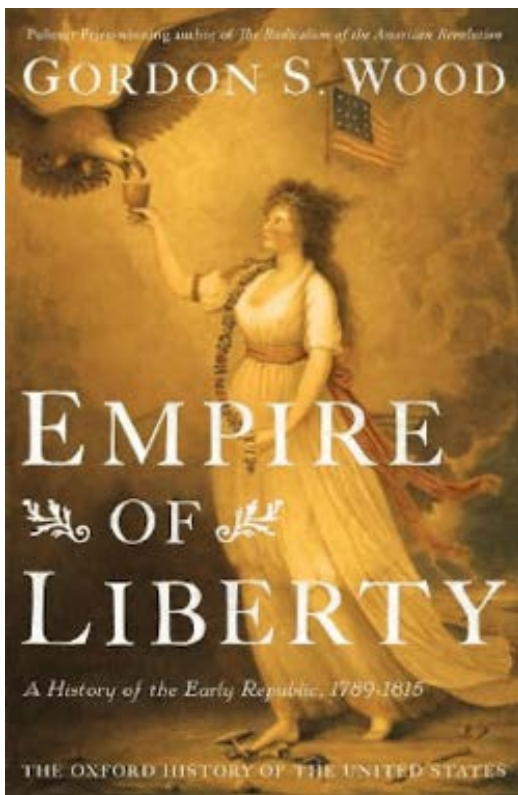
Facilitator: David Lippman

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

The Framers of the Constitution detested factions and political parties. They believed self-interested political divisions were incompatible with republicanism, destructive of civic virtue, and dangerous to the stability of a nation. Organized political opposition, they feared, would poison the republic. Yet by the end of the 1790s, the United States had developed its first party system. What happened to cause such a dramatic change?

This course examines the events and personalities of the 1790s that triggered opposition, faction, and party. Debates over finance, constitutional power, regional interests, and America's relationship with Britain and revolutionary France divided the nation's leaders into rival camps with competing visions of what kind of republic the new nation should become. Americans were forced to ask if political opposition could exist without destroying republican government itself. What emerged was something new in the history of the world: the acceptance of a legitimate political opposition.

Required Reading: Gordon S. Wood, *Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, 1789 - 1815*. Oxford University Press, 2009. Chapters 1 - 8.



The Late 19th and Early 20th Century Trains We Rode

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/6 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Dave Erickson

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$50

Legendary passenger trains like the Twentieth Century Limited, the Colorado Eagle, and the North Coast Limited once provided overland travel with luxury matching the grand hotels of their era. This four-week course explores the golden age of long-distance American rail travel, with a special focus on the iconic lines that shaped Colorado and the American Southwest. Together, we will examine the passengers who traveled on these scenic routes, the dedicated railroad personnel who kept them running, and the rapidly evolving technology that made it all possible.

The Origins of our Social Safety Net

Online

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Myra Rich

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

This course explores the dramatic shifts in political culture and the fierce social reforms that laid the groundwork for our modern social security and welfare systems. By the early 20th century, a diverse coalition of men and women were actively—and often disruptively—pushing for systemic change. Central to our exploration is Kathryn Kish Sklar's acclaimed biography, *Florence Kelley and the Nation's Work: The Rise of Women's Political Culture, 1830–1900*. Through this lens, we will examine how women's emerging political consciousness found a powerful ally in the Progressive Party. Together, these activists tackled the massive challenges of industrialization and immigration head-on—fighting for everything from workers' rights and anti-trust laws to critical support for women and children living in poverty. Join us to discover how these historic battles continue to shape our world today.

Required Reading: *Florence Kelley and the Nation's Work* by Kathryn K. Sklar

No class on Oct. 13.



The Soundtrack of Vietnam: Voices of a Divided Nation

[In Person](#)[Thursday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/15 & 10/22 **Time:** 6:30–8:30pm

Facilitator: Barbara Kreisman/Jack Kronser

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$30

The music of the Vietnam era was more than entertainment—it was protest, grief, patriotism, rebellion, identity, fear, hope, and generational conflict woven into sound. This course explores how the songs of the 1960s and 1970s reflected a nation in turmoil and helped shape public response to war and social change.

Using a documentary-style approach, we will combine music, historical context, visual media, and storytelling to examine how artists and audiences experienced this pivotal period. Discussion will highlight how deeply music is tied to memory, both personal and collective, and why these songs continue to resonate today.

Content Note: Because music may evoke strong personal memories, participants should be aware that material may be emotionally powerful. Veterans and others affected by trauma may experience strong emotional responses.

The Vietnam War (Part 1) 1919-1967 (Hybrid)

[Online](#)[In Person](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Mac McHugh

Location: DU Campus or Online **Member Price:** \$70

Vietnam - the name brings back memories for many of us. It was a decisive conflict - the first war the United States lost in its history. Why? How did the U.S. enter the conflict? What did our leaders believe at the time? How did President Kennedy's assassination change things? The Gulf of Tonkin Incident led Congress to authorize military action. President Johnson continued the military buildup until 569,000 troops were in country. Would they be enough? How did Johnson's orders hinder our military and aid the North Vietnamese? Popular belief held that air power could stop the communists. Did it work? What about the South Vietnamese Army? We will end the class at Christmas 1967 - when our strategy appeared to have a chance of success and support at home was still strong. Part 2 follows in the Winter Quarter.

What is Socialism, Really? Beyond Propaganda and Distortion

In Person

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30am–12:00pm

Facilitator: Alec Tsoucatos

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 9:30am–12:00pm

Facilitator: Alec Tsoucatos/Ralph Hughes

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$70

This dialogue-based seminar will span three terms: Fall 2026, Winter 2028, and Spring 2028. We will cover the history of various kinds of socialism, as well as the cases that have been made in favor of or against it. We will review the history of various kinds of capitalism for comparison and contrast. In the Fall term, we will examine policy proposals that are compatible with socialist thought and practice, such as Universal Basic Income, a Land Value Tax, Public Banking, and Modern Monetary Theory. Subsequent classes will address topics such as Economic Democracy, a Debt Jubilee, Carbon Dividends, a Job Guarantee, a Maximum Wage, and Medicare for All, as well as additional suggestions by participants

Recommended Reading:

Understanding Socialism by
Richard Wolff (\$25 paperback, \$10
kindle)



***A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* by Michael Dorris: A Novel of Western Identity**

Online

Thursday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Don Batt/Gracie Batt**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$70

We will be reading *A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* by Michael Dorris, a contemporary novel of the American West that tells the story of three generations of Native American women caught between their Indian traditions and the pressures of the modern world.

We approach reading as discovery in a reading community; therefore, some of the reading is done in class so that we encounter the text as a group. We use an approach called “reader response theory,” where meaning is created by the reader. For this reason, we encourage discussion and analysis as an ongoing activity during the reading.

Required Reading: *A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* by Michael Dorris.

Bygone Badass Broads

Online

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Susan Peters**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$70

Bygone Badass Broads by MacKenzi Lee features 54 remarkable and forgotten trailblazing women from all over the world. With tales of heroism and cunning, in-depth bios, and witty storytelling, *Bygone Badass Broads* gives new life to these historic female pioneers. Starting in the fifth century BC and continuing to the present, the book takes a closer look at bold and inspiring women who dared to step outside the traditional gender roles of their time. Coupled with Lee's humorous and conversational storytelling style, this book is an outright celebration of the badass women who paved the way for the rest of us.

Required Reading: *Bygone Badass Broads* by MacKenzi Lee

Celebrating 250 Years of the American Short Story

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Lori Eastman/Sally Walling

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

This course will read and discuss eight iconic pieces of American short fiction by authors as diverse as Louise Erdrich and Edgar Allan Poe. Although most national literatures include short fiction, the prolific flowering of the short story in 19th-century America caused it to be considered a particularly American art form. Often revealing character through tightly condensed incidents, these stories highlight American culture and values through the decades. This is a peer-led course, which is to say that the co-facilitators and six participants have already agreed to each lead one class on one story. For this reason, each class meeting will vary in presentation and discussion style, reflecting the variety of approaches represented by American short fiction. Each story will be available online or will be provided as a photocopy, so no book is required.



Chatting in Spanish—Intermediate

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/29–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Linda Gordon

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$60

This course covers reading, writing, and speaking Spanish, with the objective of enabling students to hold a conversation in a second language. The required text is *Practice Makes Perfect: Spanish Verb Tenses*, Fifth Edition, available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon. Its many exercises support memorization and use of verb tenses and the construction of sentences and questions.

Each class period provides opportunities to practice, ask questions, and read explanations for better understanding. Learning another language is challenging and takes time and practice. Once a student no longer has to translate in their mind, they are becoming fluent - a true second-language speaker.



DCPA's *The Tempest*: Know Before You Go

[Online](#)[Tuesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/22–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

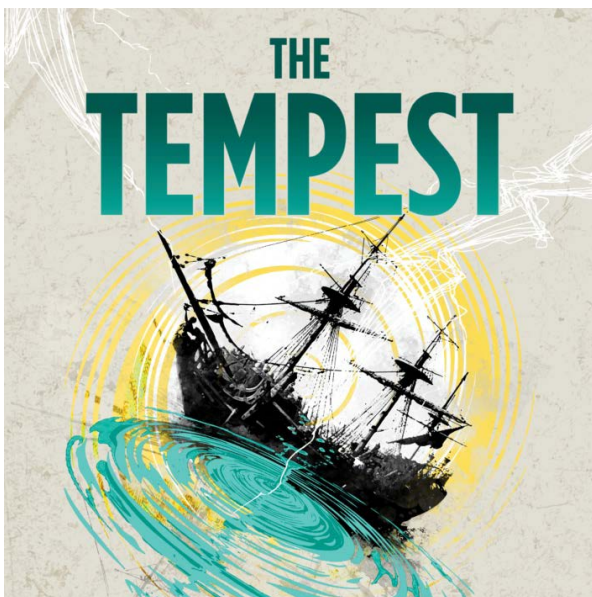
Facilitator: Sheila Jones

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$65

Magic, mystery, shipwreck, betrayal, forgiveness — some of Shakespeare's most astonishing theater. Before attending the DCPA's fall production of *The Tempest* (October 2–November 1, 2026), join me for an engaging exploration of the play, considered Shakespeare's final masterpiece and perhaps his most innovative work. More than a plot summary, this course will uncover the historical, literary, and theatrical questions that actors and directors wrestle with when bringing *The Tempest* to life. We'll examine competing interpretations, surprising themes, and the creative choices that shape every production.

In five instructional class sessions — plus independent attendance at your expense at the DCPA performance and a final discussion session to analyze and critique the production together — this 6-week course will deepen your appreciation and heighten your anticipation for an unforgettable theatrical experience. Participants will experience a closed-captioned video performance during class, and they may choose to read any full text copy freely available online.

For those attending the DCPA performance, class 6 will take place on Nov. 3 instead of Oct. 27. For those not attending the performance, class will be held on Oct. 27 to view a different video production of *The Tempest*.



Faulkner's *Light in August*: Alienation in Black and White

In Person

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/14 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Hal Morris

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$65

Joe Christmas doesn't know if he's Black or White—and in the Jim Crow South, that uncertainty is lethal. Ruthless, rootless, drifting into Mississippi, he passes as White until his secret lover, a Yankee spinster, is brutally murdered. Betrayed and accused as a Black man, Christmas becomes the target of a vengeful manhunt. Faulkner brackets this dark story between two others: Lena Grove searching for the father of her unborn child, and Reverend Hightower, a disgraced minister haunted by Confederate ghosts. In Faulkner's most straightforward major novel, these entangled tales confront us with persistent, complex issues. Class discussion will include race and gender relations, burdens of history, repressive religious traditions, cultures of violence, and the meaning of community.

Required Reading: *Light in August* by William Faulkner (Vintage International Edition, 507 pages, ISBN 0-679-73226-8, or an equivalent edition); the Modern Vanguard audiobook on Audible, narrated by Will Patton, is also an excellent option. No class on 10/21.

Howard's End: Societal Change and Social Class in the Edwardian Era

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/20 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Lori Eastman

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$60

E.M. Forster's *Howard's End* (1910) is sometimes categorized as a "Condition of England" novel because its major concern is the question of which social classes and value systems will prevail in England in the 20th century. The Wilcox family are wealthy and business-oriented; the Schlegel siblings are cultured and intellectual. Mrs. Wilcox dies, leaving their charming country house, named "Howard's End," to her new friend Margaret Schlegel. The plot explores the conflicts and connections that develop between two families with very different values. *Howard's End* is often included in lists of the best novels of the twentieth-century. Join us as we read, discuss, and examine its implications for our own time.

Required Reading: *Howards End* by E. M. Forster (Penguin Classics edition, with an introduction by David Lodge, 2000; ISBN: 978-0-14-118213-1, or an equivalent edition).



I, Too, Sing America: Voices of Diversity 4 (new class)

[Online](#)[Thursday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/17–10/29 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Sally Walling

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$65

As the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary, this course highlights more of the diverse voices that have shaped American art, music, film, and literature. We will read Nella Larsen's *Passing*, a groundbreaking novel exploring race and identity as matters of perception, and view the film adaptation. We will also examine excerpts from Ann Petry's *The Street*, the first novel by a Black American woman to sell more than one million copies. In art, we will study both contemporary painters and pioneering artists of color. In music, we will explore *Show Boat* by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II, works by Florence Price, William Grant Still, Davóne Tines, and Angel Blue in *Porgy and Bess*. We will also read more of Langston Hughes and other influential American poets. Please join me with an open mind and heart.

Required Reading: *Passing* by Nella Larsen (Penguin Books, ISBN: 978-0-14-243727-8, or an equivalent edition).

Much Ado About Nothing—Exploring a Masterpiece

[In Person](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/13–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Michael Mackey

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$50

Far too often, we live in a glittering world of masks and illusions, imprisoned by fear and longing for genuine human connection. No one understood this all-too-human tendency as acutely as William Shakespeare. In *Much Ado About Nothing*, one of his greatest comedies, Shakespeare explores this human struggle and may even suggest a possible way out of this predicament. Using a reading of the play and guided by generous clips from Kenneth Branagh's great film, we will explore not only our capacity for self-imprisonment, but also our real potential for human connection and genuine love.

Required Reading: *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare (Simon & Schuster, 1993, or an equivalent edition).

Mysterious Places: Women and the West

Online

Thursday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Linda Lange

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

Book club and armchair travel! We focus on mysteries with a powerful sense of place, this time exploring the "West" through the eyes of women — both authors and protagonists. A different author and series each week gives us stories to explore "place" as a character and how that location plays into the plot. Choose a couple of books or read one a week from the forthcoming syllabus — but plan to join the wide-ranging discussions every week.

Expectations: You are NOT required to read a book each week but are welcome to do so if you like! Everyone can join the discussion as we start with the book(s) and quickly go off in unexpected directions. Ask questions, share your relevant experiences, suggest additional books that fit and/or illuminate the themes we discover.

The Art Of Writing: Seven Different Author Journeys

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–10/27 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Jack Maher

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$65

Seven Colorado Authors League writers will share their unique paths to becoming published in this fascinating speaker series. Learn about their books, their techniques, their successes, and their failures. Featured authors include the following:

Jaime Siebrase, Colorado Nature and Guidebook Writer

Jean Jacobsen, Sweet Historical Romance Writer

Michele Battiste, Award-Winning Essayist and Poet

Tricia Copeland, Romance Fantasy Writer and Podcaster

Ellen Busch, Memoirist, Leadership Coach

Harry Maclean, New York Times Best-Selling True Crime Writer

Steve Spangler, Emmy-Winning TV Personality & Science Author

A Q&A session follows each speaker, with an opportunity to try your talents with an optional writing exercise. Please note that these are all different League authors from those who led the 2024–25 classes.

The Nights Are Quiet in Tehran: After Revolution

Online

Thursday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 10/1–11/5 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

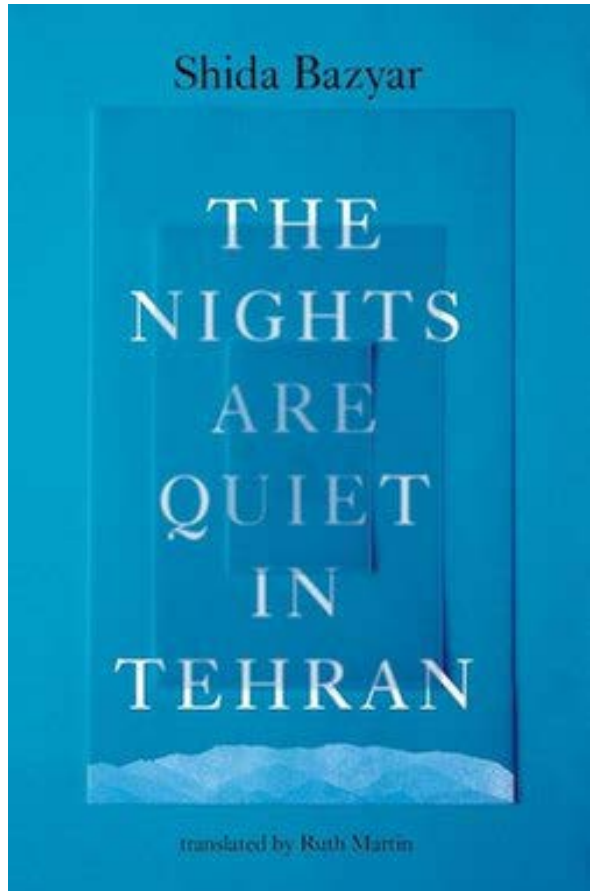
Facilitator: Patricia Paul

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

We will explore Shida Bazayr's powerful and accessible novel (288 pages), shortlisted for the 2026 International Booker Prize. It follows one Iranian family across four decades through four narrators: a young communist gripped by the euphoria of revolution in 1979, a mother adrift in German exile, a teenager returning to a Tehran she barely remembers, and a son watching the 2009 Green Movement erupt on his laptop. Insisting that revolution is not the end but the beginning, the book brings history to life through characters who experienced its aftermath.

Excerpts from the film adaptations of two famous works, *Persepolis*, based on Marjane Satrapi's award-winning graphic novel, and *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, Afar Nafisi's bestseller, provide historical context that enriches understanding. Join us for a conversation about family and the effects of revolution.

Required Reading: *The Nights are Quiet in Tehran* by Shida Bazayr, short-listed for 2026 International Booker



Bridge Basics I: An Introduction

[Online](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Michael Holmes

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

Bridge Basics I is a course for individuals new to bridge or those who have been away from the game for a while. Further, this course would work for anyone currently playing bridge who would like a refresher. This course is taught on Wednesdays, online, for eight weeks. The class starts at 9:30 a.m. and finishes at 11:30 a.m. The classes are two hours long and consist of direct instruction and play of bridge hands via the Shark Bridge app.

There is a \$20.00 non refundable fee for this course, paid to the teacher. The fee must be received by the instructor by the 2nd class. The fee covers the cost of the book for this class, *Bidding in the 21st Century*. The book is provided by the American Contract Bridge league.

Introduction to Genealogy Part 1 (Hybrid)

[In Person](#)[Online](#)[Monday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/21 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Robert Larson

Location: DU Campus or Online **Member Price:** \$15

Curious about your family's past? This engaging course provides a comprehensive introduction to genealogy, exploring its growing popularity, and offering guidance on researching and documenting your family lineage. Explore the various categories of genealogy, discover key historical records and where to find them, and gain insight into major online databases. You'll also learn how to organize your findings and connect with genealogy societies, including those in Northern Colorado. Whether you're just beginning or looking to refine your research skills, this course will help you uncover and preserve your family's unique story.

This two hour class is for beginners (1-3 generations) or intermediate genalogists (4 to 8 generations)! Handouts will be sent the evening before or at the class.



Introduction to Genealogy Part 2 (Hybrid)

[In Person](#)[Online](#)[Monday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/19 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Robert Larson

Location: DU Campus or Online **Member Price:** \$15

Curious about your family's past? Part 2 explores how easy it is to search historical record collections in the top three online genealogy databases: Ancestry.com, MyHeritage.com, and FamilySearch.org. Bob will review these top three genealogy databases in more detail, covering the special features of each. In addition to showing how to create a family tree or add ancestors, Bob shows how to attach records and sources to each ancestor. Join us to uncover your ancestors and preserve your family's unique history.

This is a two-hour class meant for beginners or intermediate genealogists!

My Favorite Bridge Conventions

[Online](#)[Wednesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Michael Holmes

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

My Favorite Bridge Conventions is a course for individuals who have played bridge before or are currently playing on a regular basis. This course is taught on Wednesdays, online, for eight weeks. The class starts at 1:00 p.m. and finishes at 3:00 p.m. The classes are two hours long and consist of direct instruction and play of bridge hands via the Shark Bridge app. If you have questions about this course or are unsure if this is the right course for you, please contact the instructor, Mike Holmes, at 303-928-9187.

There is a \$20.00 non-negotiable or refundable fee for this course, paid to the teacher. Note: The fee must be received by the instructor by the 2nd class. The fee covers the app fees for using our virtual bridge table "Shark."

The Beginner's Lucky Draw: Learning Poker One Hand at a Time

In Person

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

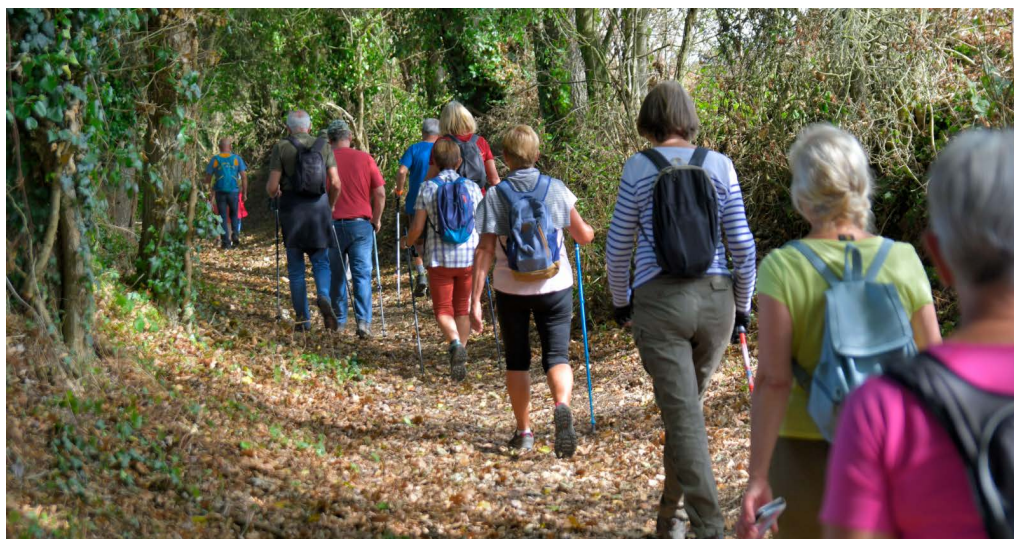
Dates: 9/15–10/20 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Peggy Winn/Jeff (Duke) Weiss

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$60

If 'full house' makes you think of holiday guests instead of playing cards, this six-week class is your perfect introduction to poker. We'll cover the rules, hand rankings, betting, bluffing, table etiquette, and beginner strategies for popular games like Texas Hold'em. Along the way, we'll shuffle in stories, laughs, and a few lessons from *The Gambler* — because you've got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em, and when not to go 'all in.' No poker face required! This class is designed for beginners who want to learn the game, meet new people, and gain enough confidence to sit at the table without asking, 'Wait... which one is the flush again?' No gambling involved — just friendly competition, good humor, and plenty of chips (the poker kind, not the salty kind).





Trails & Tours

In Person

Friday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/18–11/6 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Jan Friedlander

Location: Offsite **Member Price:** \$70

We don't need no stinkin' sidewalks!

What better way to spend your Friday mornings than on a morning walk with your OLLI buddies in Colorado's fall weather?! You'll explore places like land trust properties, state parks, and maybe a private ranch.

Hikes are curated for OLLI's population by local, nature-focused non-profits, rated easy to moderate, with some elevation changes and occasional stepping around roots and rocks. Our hikes are led by trained guides who provide a fun and educational experience. Learn about plants, wildlife, geology, history, and our environment – all this while getting in your steps!

You'll travel to places that may be familiar to you and likely some new ones. We'll arrange meetup spots for those who want to carpool or caravan.

Wait, there's more! A class favorite is the optional lunch after each walk, where we continue the fun and camaraderie.

This class has a \$50 fee, in addition to OLLI's fees, which will be collected at registration. One hundred percent of the class fees will be donated to the non-profit organizations that provide trained guides who curate and lead our hikes and tours during this term.

A Conversation on Reincarnation (There and Back Again)

In Person

Wednesday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–10/7 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Bruce Silmon

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$50

A class on discovering an understanding of the Soul and Karma. Delving into the historical background on reincarnation from several beliefs. Then taking this and studying verifiable instances of remembered reincarnation. In doing so, we can hope to expand our beliefs in what happens after death and possibilities of coming back again.

America's Great Migration: Hardship, Struggle and Grit

In Person

Tuesday AM

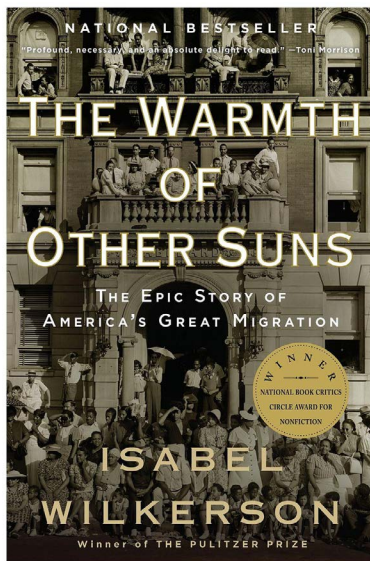
[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Arthur Jones

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

This course will explore the story of America's Great Migration, a large-scale movement of Black Americans from the rural American Southeast to cities in the Northeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West, beginning in 1917 and continuing through 1970. Pulitzer Prize winning author, Isabel Wilkerson's book *The Warmth of Other Suns* New York: Random House, 2010 (or paperback edition, 2011) will be the required course text. Wilkerson employs inspiring, true stories to illustrate the real-life hardships and motives that were typical of women and men who chose to uproot their lives in search of a better future for themselves, their children, and future generations. Arthur Jones will provide his own perspectives and occasional music samples. His own parents were active participants in the Great Migration, moving from Norfolk, Virginia, to New York City in 1931.





Bearing Witness: A Pilgrimage to Amache, Colorado's WWII Incarceration Site

[In Person](#)[Saturday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/10, 4:00–5:00pm (online orientation) & 10/17 6am–6pm (Offsite)

Facilitator: Bobbie Kite

Location: Offsite **Member Price:** \$30

Between 1942 and 1945, the United States government incarcerated over 120,000 Japanese Americans at ten sites across the country. Amache, in southeastern Colorado, held 7000+ people at its peak, two thirds of them native-born American citizens. It is now a National Historic Site.

In this Educational Journey, we travel to Amache together as pilgrims, not tourists. We will bear witness to what happened here, honor those who were incarcerated and those who served, and sit with hard questions about citizenship, shame, and what it means to remember. This is an emotionally demanding experience. Come prepared to be present and grapple with hard truths.

Facilitated by Dr. Bobbie Kite, CPE certified chaplain and practicing secular pilgrim with over 350 documented NPS site visits across all 63 major national parks.

Participation Expectations: This is a full-day experience of approximately 12 hours. Participants should be comfortable sitting in a vehicle for approximately 3.5 hours each way and sustaining a full day outing. Travel and meals provided (breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack).

Discussing Alternative Societal Futures

[Online](#)[Monday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/14–11/2 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Terry Ortlieb

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

This course explores a series of imagined future societies and what they can teach us about the world we live in today. Through structured discussions, participants will examine several thought-provoking models, including Rationalia (inspired by Neil deGrasse Tyson), Symphonia (a society based on cooperation rather than competition), Aethel (a world without money), Equinox (a world without politics), Aura (a world without either politics or money), and Autonomized State (a society without formal social systems).

The discussions are organized around historian Yuval Noah Harari's idea that human societies are built on three shared systems: belief systems, political systems, and economic systems. Together, we will consider how changing these foundations might reshape human life.

Fossils, Fire, and Civic Courage at Florissant

In Person

Sunday

Register ↗

Dates: 9/20, 4:00–5:00pm (online orientation) & 9/27, 8am–4pm

Facilitator: Bobbie Kite

Location: Offsite **Member Price:** \$30

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument holds one of the world's richest fossil records, and one of Colorado's great civic conservation stories.

In this Educational Journey, we travel to Florissant together as a group of pilgrims, using the ancient ritual structure of pilgrimage to move through the site with intention and curiosity. The site is our teacher. Your experience, what surfaces, what surprises you, what stays with you, is the curriculum.

We'll orient, walk, sit with deep time, and close with a shared reflection.

Transportation, lunch, and refreshments are included. Space is intentionally limited to six participants, so each journey remains intimate and unhurried. Come ready to notice, to wonder, and to be changed a little by a remarkable place.

Facilitated by Dr. Bobbie Kite, CPE certified chaplain and practicing secular pilgrim with over 350 documented NPS site visits across all 63 major national parks.

Participation Expectations: This is a full-day experience. Participants should be comfortable sitting in a vehicle for approximately two hours each way and sustaining a seven-hour outing.

Four Asian Religions and Philosophies

Online

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30pm

Facilitator: Dan Putman

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

When the word "God" is mentioned, most people in the West automatically assume a particular idea of God. The Asian religions challenge that idea. In this class we will look at the Hindu concept of Brahman, the Buddhist concept of Nirvana, the Taoist concept of Nature, and the Confucian idea of how our actions relate to the "Way of the Gods." But the class will not be limited to the concept of God. We will cover other central ideas like the nature of knowledge and what it means to be human. It is also inevitable, especially in the Asian religions, that many practices are connected to their philosophical ideas — their rituals and lifestyles. The ethical perspective of each religion will be central, as will the concept of an afterlife. Personally, I have found the Asian religions a rich challenge to the beliefs with which I grew up, and they have opened the door to other ways of seeing the world.



Political Theory: Judith Shklar's Political Thought

[In Person](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/29–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Mitchell Stewart

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$60

Judith Shklar articulated a version of liberalism distinct from the rights-based liberalism associated with John Rawls's egalitarianism and Robert Nozick's libertarianism. In this course we will study some of her most important work - including 'Liberalism of Fear' - as well as critiques from other political theorists. This course will broaden your understanding of orthodox liberalism and provide a different perspective from which to consider contemporary political issues and discourse.

This is an introductory graduate seminar in political theory. The only prerequisite is a commitment to engage thoughtfully with the texts and actively participate in class discussion.

Required Reading: *The Faces of Injustice*, Judith N. Shklar (Yale University Press, 1990)

Recommended Reading: Judith N. Shklar: *Political Thought and Political Thinkers*, Stanley Hoffman, editor (University of Chicago Press, 1998).

Puerto Rico at the Crossroads: History, Culture, and Global Community

[Online](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/14–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Raymond Laureano Ortiz/Adrianna Nowakowski

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$50

Puerto Rico sits at the convergence of the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and their intersecting influences make it unlike anywhere else. This four-session course takes curious learners on a lively journey through the island's layered history: from the ancient Taíno to the complexities of its unique political relationship with the United States, from the rhythms of bomba and salsa to the global phenomenon of Bad Bunny, from the economic upheavals of the 20th century to the hard-won resilience that followed Hurricane María and the mass protests of 2019. Participants will leave with a richer understanding of Puerto Rico's past and present, and a clearer sense of how the island's story connects to broader questions of identity, colonialism, and resilience. No tests, no homework, no pressure — just fascinating stories, lively conversation, and a few surprises along the way.

Purposeful Retirement: Your Next Chapter

Online

Monday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/28–10/5 **Time:** 1:00–2:30pm

Facilitator: Raj Bhargava

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$30

During retirement, many of us seek greater meaning in health, work, relationships, community, or spirituality, yet the path forward feels uncertain. This workshop series helps you reflect on what matters most and create a focused, realistic plan for the next chapter of your life. Drawing on behavioral science, we will explore meaning, purpose, resilience, mindset, and habits, and apply these ideas directly to your own life. Through guided reflection, creative exercises, peer collaboration, and a simple online interactive workbook, you will design a focused plan with achievable goals. You will leave with practical strategies to overcome barriers, along with an accountability group to support continued progress.

Religious Experiences, Psychedelics and Near Death Experiences

In Person

Thursday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Kimberly Melgoza

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$65

This course explores how psychedelics are used in religious practices. We begin by discussing different definitions of religion, who defines what a religion is, and how religions are viewed. This leads into a study of religious experiences involving psychedelics, using the following case studies: hallucinogenic mushrooms in Mexico, marijuana in Jamaica, peyote in North America, and ayahuasca in South America. We will also explore the concept of psychonauts and their use of DMT, as well as religious experiences linked to events such as dreams and near-death experiences.



The Way of Humanity by Martin Buber

[Online](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/16–10/21 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Michael Levin**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$60

Venturing back to Europe in 1947, Martin Buber delivered six lectures to a group of Dutch religious socialists. As we closely read and discuss *The Way of Humanity According to Chasidic Teaching*, we may discern Buber's profound need to offer a spiritual, existential, and moral anchor to a European humanity shattered by the Holocaust, the devastation of World War II, and the alienation of modern life. Is the advice from a breakaway 18th-century Jewish movement applicable to us today? Martin Buber (1878–1965) was a renowned Austrian-Israeli philosopher, theologian, and educator, best known for his philosophy of dialogue and the "I-Thou" relationship, developed in his 1923 masterpiece *I and Thou*. A proponent of cultural Zionism, he advocated for a binational Arab-Jewish state before moving from Nazi Germany to Mandatory Palestine in 1938, where he became a professor of anthropology and sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The Way of Humanity will be on a shared screen during class discussions. If you wish a copy of your own, see: <https://www.amazon.com/Way-Humanity-According-Chasidic-Teaching/dp/0881236373>.

Understanding Personalities: The 7 Archetypes that Shape Relationships

[In Person](#)[Tuesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/15–10/6 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Tyson Kennedy**Location:** DU Campus **Member Price:** \$50

Archetype Profiling explores seven personality types and how they influence communication, relationships, behavior, and emotional responses. Participants will gain a deeper understanding not only of the people around them but, more importantly, of themselves and who they authentically are as individuals. Through this course, students will identify personal strengths, recognize weak links, and learn practical tools for improving communication, reducing conflict, and building healthier relationships. The class encourages greater self-awareness, compassion, and respect for individuality without judgment or the need to change others. Participants can expect to leave with increased confidence in their interactions, stronger communication skills, and a new perspective on human behavior that can be immediately applied in everyday life.

What "Near-Death Experiences" Reveal About an "Afterlife"

Online

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–10/28 **Time:** 6:30–8:30pm

Facilitator: Maria Arapakis

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$65

What happens to human consciousness when we die? In 1975, Dr. Raymond Moody's landmark book *Life After Life* reported on 150 people who died clinically, but were subsequently revived. Because they reported similar extraordinary experiences, his book started a revolution in popular attitudes regarding an afterlife and forever changed how we understand both death ... and life. Now five+ decades of research conducted on thousands of NDEs by physicians and professors at prominent universities, medical schools, and hospitals have brought us powerful evidence that there is indeed "life" after physical death—and what awaits us is both heart-warming and comforting. This course brings you up to speed on these findings and on what we now know about other exceptional paranormal phenomena, like "out-of-body" and "shared death experiences."



Current Events

In Person

Wednesday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Richard Reinish/Sydney Myers

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

This course dedicates its first hour to a discussion of the current week's events. Dick will do the first week's overview, after which two class volunteers are invited each week to provide a recap of the previous week. The second hour will be a discussion of a specific topic. This course approaches current events from a distinctly progressive political perspective.

Current Events: Politics, Society, and Global Change

In Person

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Dean Tebbe

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$70

This class will be a non-partisan discussion of current events that values diverse points of view. The first hour will be a look at the news of the week, with an eye towards independent/alternative news sources. Participants are encouraged to bring news items and opinions every week.

Hour two will be a deeper examination of a single topic, chosen by the facilitator with input from the group. Some of the topics we will examine are: the current media landscape, ecological overshoot, the future of AI. The facilitator will provide background information on the topic prior to the session which, could include articles, videos, or podcasts.

Current Policy Issues

In Person

Thursday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 10/1–11/5 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Neil Bergstrom

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$60

Current Policy Issues is a participant-driven, discussion-based course exploring local and national policies and debates surrounding the November 2026 election. The first session will focus on energy policies, climate change, and fracking. You help choose what comes next. Possible topics include voting methods, campaign finance, immigration and citizenship, healthcare, Social Security, education and childcare, local ballot issues, and more. Short readings from national and local publications are shared each week to form a basis to start the conversation. The final class (after the election) will discuss the outcomes.

Great Decisions

In Person

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Dennis Brovarone

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

Great Decisions is a program of the Foreign Policy Association, updated each year. High-quality educational materials are prepared and distributed to discussion groups in cities and universities throughout the United States. For each topic, participants receive a chapter describing current issues and a video featuring background information and interviews with world leaders and scholars.

Required Reading: *Great Decisions 2026 Briefing Book*, available from the Foreign Policy Association: <https://fpa.org/product/great-decisions-2026/>



Great Decisions 2026

In Person

Monday PM

[Register ↗](#)

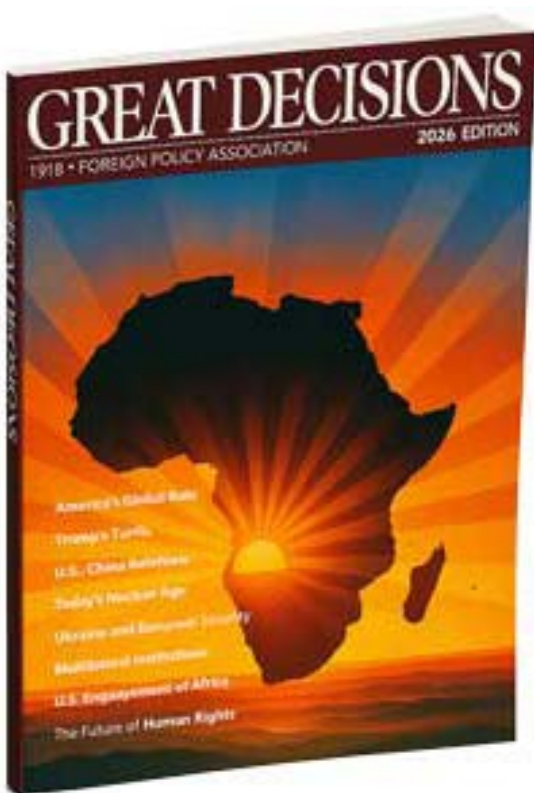
Dates: 9/14–10/5 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Susan Lauscher

Location: Broomfield Community Center **Member Price:** \$50

Great Decisions is a course on United States foreign policy. Each week, we will focus on a specific topic related to that policy from a U.S. perspective. Other perspectives on that policy topic are valued and encouraged. At the beginning of each class, we will watch a video prepared by the Foreign Policy Association to further define the week's topic. Students are encouraged to provide their thoughts and opinions on the presented materials and should be ready to discuss with and learn from their classmates. We will tackle four topics during the Fall 2026 term: America and the World: Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy; Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order; U.S. Engagement of Africa; and The Future of Human Rights and International Law.

Required Reading: *Great Decisions 2026 Briefing Book*, available from the Foreign Policy Association:
<https://fpa.org/product/great-decisions-2026/>



Is Media Ruining America?

In Person

Monday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/14–10/12 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Rebecca Winning/Beverly George

Location: The Eisenhower Chapel in Lowry **Member Price:** \$55

The League of Women Voters of Jefferson County is partnering with Jefferson County Public Library to offer a series of workshops on media mis/disinformation and how media is polarizing the country. We're using the book *True or False: A CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News* by Cindy L. Otis as the basis for the workshops, modeled on the Great Decisions format.

Workshops include:

Week One: The evolution of media and recent changes brought by deregulation and technology.

Week Two: How to recognize and combat bias in ourselves and the media.

Week Three: How to spot (and avoid) 'fake news' and begin to bridge the political divide.

Week Four: The dangers of AI.

Week Five: A panel discussion with local experts on the dangers of media disinformation and how to address them.

Workshops include presentations and encourage audience participation through planned activities and discussion

Recommended Reading: *True or False, a CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News*, by Cindy L. Otis. We have partnered with the Library to make multiple copies available for check-out.





Israel's Existential War of Survival & its Message for the Free World

[In Person](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Herzl Melmed

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

This lecture series examines the Middle East conflict through the lens of Israel's experience and viewpoint. The course opens with the historical background of Israel's conflicts with Hamas, Hezbollah, and regional actors including Yemen and Iran, and examines the unique military challenges of fighting in densely populated areas.

Sessions will help participants become more sophisticated consumers of news by exploring media bias, and will examine the complexities of the Two-State Solution, the origins of the refugee problem, and the strong US-Israel partnership. The series will also address accusations of genocide and apartheid leveled against Israel, the distinction between antisemitism and anti-Zionism, and rising antisemitism in the United States. A final session will explore Israel's economy during wartime.

Please note that this course presents a specific pro-Israel perspective on the conflict. Respectful discussion and questions are encouraged throughout.

Israel's Strategic Position in the Middle East

[Online](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/7–10/21 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Rabbi Joel Schwartzman

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$40

This PowerPoint presentation, comprising three sessions, will briefly touch on the origins of the countries surrounding Israel and the issues of water, natural resources, religion, and regional alliances. It will then examine Israel's relations with its neighbors, along with threats to and opportunities for peaceful coexistence. It will address the Abraham Accords, what is evolving from them, and which countries might be next to join. It will discuss in some detail Iran and its proxies and how Israel broke through the "Iranian noose," bringing matters up to the current moment.

Issues in Higher Education

In Person

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/29–10/27 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Rhonda Eaker

Location: The Eisenhower Chapel in Lowry **Member Price:** \$55

Increasing costs and declining public support have many Americans questioning the value of a university education. Meanwhile, colleges and universities face financial crises, while student loan debt, student activism, and diversity programs generate increasingly negative headlines.

This discussion-based course examines the evolution of higher education to better understand issues currently facing U.S. colleges and universities. Together we will explore the evolving purposes of higher education, the reasons for rising costs, the differences between for-profit and nonprofit education, and how college rankings have impacted the sector. We will also investigate the impacts of NIL money, artificial intelligence, diversity programs, and research funding cuts.

Participants will have short articles to read before each session and are encouraged to share their own educational experiences and learn from the perspectives of others.

Our Courts Colorado: A Speaker Series

In Person

Tuesday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–10/13 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Richard Gabriel

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$55

Gain a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at how our justice system works in this engaging five-part series led by Supreme court justices and other judges from around the state. From the foundations of the rule of law to the realities of criminal and civil trials, participants will explore the people, processes, and principles that shape our courts and impact everyday life.

Topics include:

- The Rule of Law
- Our United States Courts
- Colorado's Judicial Merit Selection and Retention System
- An Introduction to U.S. Immigration Courts
- Law and Order: The Life of a Criminal Case/See You in Court:
The Life of a Civil Lawsuit



Power and the People: The Evolution of the U.S. Federal Judiciary

[Osher Online](#)[Thursday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/15–11/19 **Time:** 11:00am–12:30pm

Facilitator: Lauren Anderson

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

The American Experiment began with the Declaration of Independence and led to the creation of the federal judiciary, one of the country's greatest experiments. In this course, we will trace the evolution of the courts from their English roots to their formal establishment in the Constitution. We will explore how the Supreme Court, lacking the power of the purse or military, derives its authority from its ability to connect with the people of the US and protect democracy. We will examine creation of the federal judiciary and the power of the Marshall Court, the Court's evolution through the New Deal, the Vinson Court, the Warren Court's "Rights Revolution," and the role of today's US Supreme Court.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

The 60s Through the Great Speeches

[Online](#)[Friday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/9–11/13 **Time:** 9:00–10:30am

Facilitator: Arthur (Buck) Benedict

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

There 1960s is a decade wrapped in myth and misunderstanding. In this course, we will cut through that haze by turning to something powerful and concrete: the speeches of the era. The times and the conditions demanded these significant speeches. Together, we will listen to the voices that moved a nation and shaped history. With recordings preserved through television, video, and YouTube, we will discover what these speeches still have to teach us today.

The Baby Boomer Experience

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Kent Epperson

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

Join us for a journey back in time through our baby boomer years. We will look at our lives through the lens of the era as we experienced it. We will reminisce about the good times but also reflect on how we were affected by the history, people and events of the times. It's about us: our legacy and our challenges. At the heart of the class will be opportunities for sharing, reflecting, laughing and maybe some crying too. Not a boomer? Join us anyway. An article relating to the topic will be provided to participants before each session.

The Desecration of Mt. Rushmore: Crime, Corruption & Conspiracy (Hybrid)

In Person

Online

Thursday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–10/22 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: David Savitz

Location: DU Campus or Online **Member Price:** \$60

The title of this course, The Desecration of Mt. Rushmore: Crime, Corruption and Conspiracy, is a metaphor for the actions many consider that "47," our current president, and his co-conspirators in Congress and the Supreme Court, have undertaken to destroy our democracy. The alleged odious activities include violations by 47 of the Constitution's Emoluments Clause, the enrichment of him and his family through self-dealing and corrupt deals, the discontinuation of research grants to medical and educational institutions that infringe upon their freedom of speech, the unwillingness of Congress to rein in 47's conduct, and the unbridled expansion of his executive power sanctioned by Supreme Court decisions. The four presidents sculpted into the face of Mount Rushmore—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt—have symbolized this country's heralded form of democracy, adherence to the rule of law, and protection of its Bill of Rights. That variegated symbol, many assert, has been eviscerated by 47 and his accomplices. This course will explore the circumstances that have led to this perceived destruction of democracy, the actions that have contributed to its desecration, the arguments in favor of the actions, the ramifications of certain actions, and recommended solutions to stymie the completion of its demise. The course will cover six sessions and be taught in a hybrid format to allow individuals to attend in person or online.



The Evolution of Systemic Racism

[Online](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm**Facilitator:** Leanne Puglielli/Ben Kempinen**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$70

We will focus on the history and evolution of the economic, legal, theological, and philosophical systems embedded in our country's laws and institutions. We will follow the four roots as they become ever more intertwined and grow ever more deeply each decade to produce the racial disparities we experience today. While there are many stories of minorities that could, and need to be, told, given the eight-week timeframe, these conversations will focus on the systems and structures that have resulted in wealth disparities, mass incarceration, and the unchecked killing of Black people. "Whites created slavery, segregation, and racial discrimination. Whites have most of the political and social power to change racial discrimination and inequality now. We cannot have a truly free and democratic society until we do that." — MLK. Our desire to be good can prevent us from doing good if we do not see the historical systems and structures we created. If we don't see them, we cannot act to change them.

The Reawakening Dragon

[In Person](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Gary Wyngarden**Location:** Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$70[Online](#)[Thursday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Gary Wyngarden**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$70

Will China Overtake the United States as the World's Leading Superpower? China's extraordinary economic growth and military modernization have made it the principal challenger to American global leadership. This course examines China's rise from Deng Xiaoping's market reforms in 1978 to Xi Jinping's drive for national rejuvenation and expanded global influence. We will also explore the 3,000-year cultural and historical traditions that continue to shape China's political values and worldview. Topics include the tension between individual rights and the common good, China's ambitions toward Taiwan and the South China Sea, the difficulties facing minorities such as Tibetans and Uyghurs, and the implications of China's rise for the United States and the world. Classes will include lectures, videos, and discussion.

Using AI to Thwart the AI Apocalypse

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:30pm

Facilitator: Ralph Hughes

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$70

Artificial intelligence is reshaping work, democracy, and daily life—and not always in ways that serve the public good. This discussion seminar turns the tables, using AI tools themselves to analyze the dangers AI poses to society and explore what we can do about them. We'll dig into the issues that matter most: AI alignment and human control; concentrated power and democratic erosion; labor displacement and inequality; algorithmic bias and surveillance; disinformation and social fragmentation; and the global governance gaps enabling unchecked AI development. For each topic, we'll provide an AI-generated research notebook—loaded with expert warnings, documented harms, and recommended remedies—that participants can query before each class. These notebooks are as easy to use as a web search, so no other technical background is required.



You Are What You Watch! Media, Messaging, and the Midterm Elections

In Person

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Laura Thomas

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

A lively current events class that bring awareness to what media is feeding you. Are you wasting your information calories at this most critical time?

We'll compare news sources and shows literally up to the minute class begins. This class should change the way you see local and national news no matter what your news source. Political ads are on the menu too, with a side of ethics in journalism, algorithms, show stacking and producing.

AI Data-Center Impacts on Water, Energy, Minerals & the Environment

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: James Kunkel/Timothy Steele

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

States and counties across the U.S. are actively luring AI data centers with tax breaks and incentives involving electricity, water, and land, hoping to claim new municipal revenues and a share of AI's explosive growth. Data centers are genuinely resource-intensive: even a mid-sized one consumes as much water as a small town, while larger ones require up to 5 million gallons daily - equivalent to a city of 50,000. Powering and cooling server stacks also demands significant resources; a conventional data center draws as much electricity as 10,000 to 25,000 households.

This series of OLLI sessions will examine the demands for water, energy, minerals, and land, as well as the potential environmental impacts of AI data centers, with world, state, and local examples.

Apple at 50: How it Revolutionized Computing and Transformed Daily Life

Osher Online

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/29–11/3 **Time:** 5:00–6:30pm

Facilitator: Leander Kahney

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

This course traces Apple's fifty-year history and its massive impact on personal computing, design, product culture, platforms and ecosystems, and daily life. Each session focuses on a different decade in Apple's history, from the birth of the PC in the late 1970s to the latest Apple silicon, VR headsets, and future iPhones. We will learn how Apple reshaped not just technology, but how people live, work, and communicate.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

Colorado's Hummingbirds: Nature, Ecology & Culture

In Person**Monday AM****Wednesday AM****Register ↗**

Monday, 9/14, 9:30–11:30am (DU Campus) &

Wednesday, 9/16, 9:30–11:30am (Offsite)

Facilitator: Jared Del Rosso **Member Price:** \$30

Each autumn, four hummingbird species migrate through Colorado, feeding at flowers and feeders before heading further south. Join birder and nature writer Jared Del Rosso for a lecture and field session covering these avian jewels. The classroom session introduces Colorado's migratory hummingbirds: Calliope Hummingbirds, the smallest bird in the U.S., and the strikingly colored Rufous Hummingbird. You'll also meet Colorado's two breeding species: Broad-tailed and Black-chinned Hummingbirds. Jared will cover the lives of these species and share tips on finding and identifying them. We'll also investigate hummingbird-friendly plants as well as the dos and don'ts of hummingbird feeders. The session will be followed by a weekend trip to the Denver Audubon Kingery Nature Center at Chatfield State Park to look for hummingbirds and other migrating birds. A state park or a daily park pass will be required for all vehicles.

Required Reading: *How the Tiny Hummingbird Changed the World* (<https://lonesomewhippoorwill.com/2025/04/09/how-to-think-like-a-hummingbird-flowers-feeders-more/>)

Suggested Materials: Students will enjoy the field trip more if they have binoculars.





I Am Not a Robot: An All-New AI Speaker Series

In Person

Wednesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Jan Friedlander/Pat Smith

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$70

All-new speakers. All-new topics. All-new AI.

Artificial intelligence is transforming nearly every aspect of our lives, from healthcare, education, and transportation to business, aerospace, and personal technology. Through a series of engaging presentations and discussions, participants will explore how AI is being used today, how it is shaping the future, and what opportunities and challenges it presents for society.

Industry leaders and subject-matter experts will share real-world examples of AI in action. Speakers from organizations such as Lockheed Martin, CareerWise, and other innovative institutions will discuss topics ranging from aerospace design, military preparedness, healthcare advances, workforce development, and education. Field trips: Arapahoe Community College's Anatomage anatomy lab and possibly the CSU Spur innovation campus will provide firsthand exposure to cutting-edge applications of AI and technology.

No technical background required—just curiosity about possibly the most influential developments of our time.

Not Dead Yet: Exploring AI in Life's Wide Afternoon

In Person

Wednesday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/14–11/4 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Ken Chomic

Location: Broomfield Community Center **Member Price:** \$50

This four-week course is for people who suspect that curiosity does not retire. We'll explore artificial intelligence slowly and thoughtfully—not as technicians, but as human beings navigating a profound cultural shift. Practical questions and bigger ones are both welcome. Retirement was supposed to be the quiet part. Then humanity invented machines that can converse, explain, summarize, brainstorm, argue, and occasionally sound wiser than your cousin Larry. Bring basic copy-and-paste skills and a willingness to wonder. WiFi tablet or laptop helpful but not mandatory.

The class on 10/21 will be online.

"Studies Show..." (Or Do They?): Under the Hood of a Scientific Study

Osher Online

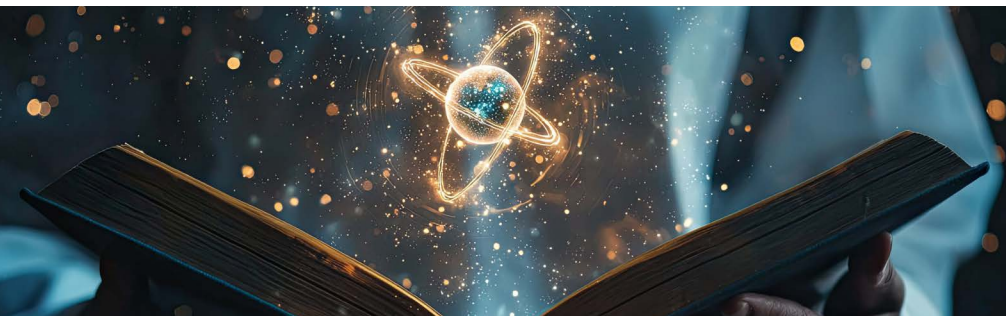
Thursday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 10/1–11/5 **Time:** 1:00–2:30pm**Facilitator:** John Hendrickson**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$60

What really changes when we read beyond the abstract? In this interactive course, we will open real research papers (many in health and nutrition) and explore what scientists actually look for. We will explore how small design choices can dramatically shape a study's meaning, and why headlines rarely tell the full story. No technical background is required – just curiosity. By the end of the course, we will never read "studies show..." the same way again.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.



The History of Quantum Mechanics

In Person

Tuesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/22–10/27 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm**Facilitator:** Edward Friedman**Location:** DU Campus **Member Price:** \$60

This is a new version of the quantum physics class Dr. Ed Friedman has been teaching at DU for years. The redesign emphasizes the history and personalities behind quantum physics - arguably the most important science ever developed. We use in-class demonstrations and realistic simulations of key experiments to build intuitive understanding of quantum science, despite its many mysterious properties. This is a no-math class. A comprehensive companion book complements the class meetings.



Tracing Our Roots: DNA, Family History, and the Politics of Identity

Osher Online

Wednesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/30–11/4 **Time:** 5:00–6:30pm

Facilitator: Angel Cervantes

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

How does DNA reshape our understanding of ancestry and identity in the Americas? In this course, we will explore genetic genealogy through early contact between European and Indigenous peoples, using the New Mexico DNA Project as a case study. We will examine Y-DNA, mitochondrial DNA, Indigenous haplogroups, and the Spanish castas system. We will consider the ethical and political implications of DNA testing and the limits of what genetic evidence can, and cannot, tell us about race and belonging.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

Your Front-Row Seat to the Universe

In Person

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/22–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Charles Holt

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$65

From galaxy chains stretching billions of light-years to black holes of unimaginable mass, our universe is a place of breathtaking grandeur. Thanks to the brilliance of scientists, engineers, and mathematicians, powerful telescopes and spacecraft have unlocked cosmic secrets that previous generations could only dream of knowing. In this course, you'll discover how we determined the universe's age, traced its remarkable history, and mapped the full scope of everything it contains—all presented in a way that is engaging, accessible, and deeply rewarding. We are living in a golden age of cosmology. There has never been a better time to look up, ask the big questions, and marvel at the incredible universe above.

A Day at the Opera

Online

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–10/21 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Jan Friedlander/Neil Adelman

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

Mark Twain on opera: "I enjoyed it in spite of the singing." Join this lively class and discover the universal appeal of opera—no musical background required. Through engaging stories, videos, and guided listening, we will explore operas from the 18th to the 21st centuries that can be seen locally during this term or shortly thereafter, helping participants deepen their understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of this remarkable art form. Learn how music, staging, and voice combine to create powerful theatrical experiences while uncovering the history, culture, and humanity that give these works their timeless resonance. Each session offers behind-the-curtain insights that make opera approachable, entertaining, and meaningful. Whether you are a first-time attendee or a seasoned opera enthusiast, this class welcomes you. See the syllabus for a list of this term's operas.

Against the Odds: Stories of Survival on Film

Online

Thursday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 1:00–3:30pm

Facilitator: John Lungerhausen/Dixie Vice

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

This film series explores human survival in many forms: against nature, against circumstance, and sometimes against oneself. Consider the deadly heights of Mount Everest in *Everest* (2015), to the devastating tsunami at the center of *The Impossible* (2012), to the solitary search for meaning in *Into the Wild* (2007), and the struggle of a woman and her child during a years-long secret captivity in *Room* (2015).

These films—and more—place ordinary and extraordinary people in situations where survival becomes both physical and emotional tests. Along the way, we will explore the deeper questions these films raise about courage, isolation, hope, community and the human instinct to persevere. Join us for a cinematic journey into some of the most compelling stories of endurance ever brought to the screen.

All films will be shown in their entirety with English captions/subtitles.



Amazing Artistry: Partnering in Ballet

In Person

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–10/6 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Jeffrey Engel/Joy Engel

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$50

Have you ever wondered how ballet dancers learn to dance with a partner? The simple answer is years of training and practice. This four-week course, offered by former professional dancers, explores how skilled ballet partners develop. By using curated videos, we will observe young ballet students in class as they learn the basic techniques of working with a partner. Then we'll see professional dancers in rehearsals as they practice intricate moves building trust and teamwork for their performances on stage. Each class culminates with video performances of professionals partnering in pas de deux from famous and lesser-known ballets. We encourage discussion, so after each video there will be time for comments and questions, and we will provide the list of videos.

Art Detectives: Forgery, Provenance, and the Science of Authentication

Osher Online

Monday AM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/28-11/2 **Time:** 11:00am–12:30pm

Facilitator: Christine Maasdam

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

The art world may appear glamorous, but deception often lies beneath the surface. After weapons and drugs, art is the third most lucrative illicit trade, with reports suggesting that more than half of artworks are fake or misattributed. In this course, we will ask: When is a copy simply a copy, and when is it a forgery? What techniques do master forgers use? What can science tell us about art authenticity? We will uncover riveting stories of criminal art activity and master forgeries.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

Artrageous: From Impressionism to Surrealism

In Person

Wednesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–10/21 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Lance La Certe

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$60

Art isn't something that happens to other people—it's a living conversation across centuries, and you're invited to join in. Artrageous wants to shock and amuse you, to understand, enjoy, and even make modern art—without the stuffiness. We will journey from the radical rule-breakers of late 19th-century Paris all the way to the dreamers and provocateurs of the Surrealist movement, stopping at every wild detour in between. This is not a lecture course. Each class blends rich visual presentations of landmark works with short film clips, participatory games, and creative exercises drawn directly from the art movements themselves. No prior knowledge of art history is required. What is **required:** an open mind, a willingness to be surprised, and a sense of humor.

August Wilson and His American Cycle— The First Five: 1904-1957

Osher Online

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 10/7–11/11 **Time:** 3:00–4:30pm

Facilitator: Ladrica Menson-Furr

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

August Wilson was the first African American playwright to have a Broadway theater bear his name, honoring his powerful portrayal of African American culture. In this course, we will read, watch, and examine plays from Wilson's American Cycle, which represents each decade of the 20th century. We will explore his life and influences while focusing on *Gem of the Ocean*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, and *Seven Guitars*, tracing his interpretation and celebration of African American culture.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.



Black Music, U.S.A.—A Soulful Journey Through Eight Cities

[In Person](#)[Wednesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Jeff (Duke) Weiss

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

Climb aboard a fun musical train trip, making whistling stops in Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Oakland, Memphis, Houston, Cincinnati, and Jackson, Mississippi. Stops will feature music from the 1930s to the 1970s, presented chronologically, including soul, funk, blues, and gospel. Come discover America's national musical gems - mostly obscure, many never heard on radio - culled from over 50 years of research and personal vinyl digging. There will be opportunities to dance, as music from each city will be featured along with a weekly train song. The format resembles a live radio show or DJ session, with 85% of the time dedicated to listening. You'll also participate in discussions and provide feedback on tracks and videos. Join us on a one-of-a-kind aural adventure - without leaving your seat, that is, if you can stay seated! All aboard!

Eight Classic Films

[In Person](#)[Wednesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 12:45–3:00pm

Facilitator: Richard Reinish

Location: First Universalist Church **Member Price:** \$70

Class members should expect to see one of the facilitator's favorite films and be expected to take part in the discussion at the conclusion of the film. Films will likely include (based on availability) *They Shoot Horses Don't They*, *Elmer Gantry*, *On The Beach*, along with five other films. Class will start at 12:45pm and may extend a few minutes past 3pm.

Got Comedy?

In Person

Tuesday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Jim Sieke

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$70

Need a break from the stress of the election? Then consider joining us for a weekly presentation of many of the classic and current stand-up comedians who have entertained us so hilariously over the years. We will cover male, female, ethnic, religious, global, and even political stand-up comedy, as well as touching on late-night comedy and sketch comedy. Background information will be provided on the performers. We will have plenty of time for questions and comments. Sid Caesar once said, "The best thing about humor is that it reminds people they are not alone", so let's get together and have some laughs with these amazing entertainers.

Gustav Mahler: Difficult Genius, Tough Climb

In Person

Monday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/12–11/2 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Avi Isseroff

Location: Broomfield Community Center **Member Price:** \$50

This course will cover the great Austro-Bohemian composer-conductor Gustav Mahler's childhood, when his musical gifts emerged, and will end with his appointment as Music Director of the Vienna Opera. We will:

learn how his narcissism, grandiosity, authoritarian tendencies, compulsive perfectionism, and musical genius allowed him to persevere and succeed, despite facing many obstacles, personal losses, and tragic love affairs.

- cover his time at the Vienna Conservatory, his truancy, the effect of his traits upon friendships, and the major influence of Richard Wagner upon him, as well as his rise from modest positions to prominent ones following graduation at nineteen.
- learn the details of his radically innovative conducting techniques and how they were both applauded and reviled by musicians subjected to his maniacal rehearsals.
- learn how his doomed romantic entanglements stimulated his composing.

Throughout the course, we will listen to musical excerpts illustrating how thoroughly autobiographical his music was. Reading materials will be sent to participants.



Matinee at the Bijou—Blake Edwards and Friends

[Online](#)[Monday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/14–11/2 **Time:** 12:30–3:00pm

Facilitator: Mac McHugh

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$70

Blake Edwards — the name brings up memories of famous comedies, but he is also known for Academy Award–nominated dramas. We start with his only pairing with Cary Grant in a WWII comedy. We move on to a crime drama and then two Hollywood greats: *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *Days of Wine and Roses*. We then have Edwards's breakout movie, *The Pink Panther*, followed by other great Edwards comedies about an around-the-world car race, a composer obsessed with a beautiful woman, and finally a musical comedy about a female impersonator (or is she?).

Again, we will have a short discussion before and after each movie to discuss the stars, the plot, and why the movie was successful. Due to the length of the movies, the class will start at 12:30 p.m. except week 6, which will start at 12:20 p.m.

Meet the Brass—The Musicians, the Instruments, the Music!

[In Person](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/13–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Hille Dais

Location: Jefferson Unitarian Church **Member Price:** \$50

This course shines the spotlight on brass instruments in the context of classical music—the trumpet, trombone, tuba, and horn. Highly accomplished musicians will visit us with their instruments, talk about their musical journeys, and play for us. Along the way, we will explore the history of these instruments, the composers they inspired, and the ways our musical world combines them to delight audiences. We will learn a bit about how they are built, how they work, and why they have become such mainstays of the concert world. The musicians plan to perform a brass quintet during one of the sessions.

Music of the Movies

[Online](#)[Monday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/5–10/26 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Lee Kaufman

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$50

Classical music goes back several centuries. During the modern era, however, there was a dichotomy in which many classical composers launched into contemporary styles — also known as abstract or atonal music — while others developed skills in writing movie scores. Many European classical composers, such as Max Steiner, Maurice Jarre, Miklós Rózsa, and Franz Waxman, made the move to California and created what is now recognized as the traditional film score. Filmmakers immediately saw the value of having these scores accompany the action and dialogue. The focus here is on dramatic film music and the various terms and styles that have developed. You will learn about many famous composers and the film scores they are known for. Please note that this does not include scores created for Hollywood musicals, which I have covered in several previous courses.

Sacred Mountains of the World

[Osher Online](#)[Monday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/5–11/9 **Time:** 1:00–2:30pm

Facilitator: Jonathan Duncan

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$60

Across cultures and throughout history, mountains have held powerful symbolic meaning. In this course, we will explore how the Buddhists of the Himalayas, the Inca of the Andes, the Inuit of the far north, and European Romantics understood and approached these landscapes. Through an interdisciplinary lens, we will examine the beliefs, traditions, and mythologies inspired by the world's mountains, using illustrated lectures, short readings, and discussion to deepen our connection to these high and wild places.

This Osher Online course, offered through the Osher National Resource Center, lets you learn with fellow lifelong learners nationwide, guided by a world-class expert. OSHER ONLINE COURSES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.



Science Fiction in the Movies

[Online](#)[Wednesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/23–10/28 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm**Facilitator:** Tom Grant**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$60

At the heart of science fiction are big questions. Are we in control of the science and technology we create? What is the next step in human evolution? Are we alone in the universe, and what would happen if we made first contact with other intelligences? Science fiction is also a way of creating profound allegories about the societies we live in and the ones we hope or fear we will create. These are movies that make you think. In this class, we'll explore these questions and more through the medium of science fiction film. Aside from watching and discussing individual movies, the facilitator will provide background on each film and on science fiction in general.

Science Fiction Movies

[Online](#)[Tuesday PM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 1:00–3:30pm**Facilitator:** Greg Petty/Larry Matten**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$70

Let's go to the movies and see some Science Fiction classics. We will expose class members to many of the basic themes within the science fiction genre. Each week we will view a film and discuss various aspects of science and the story. Because of the varying length of the movies, we will start the class (and films) at 1:00 pm and end between 3:30 and 4. We will take a short break at the end of the film and then launch into our discussion.

Some of the varied movies we will show are the ground breaking first *Star Wars IV* movie, the adventure comedy *Galaxy Quest*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, the terrific 2009 reboot of the *Star Trek* series, and *The Martian* with Matt Damon.

Tango! The Dance and Music of Love

In Person

Thursday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Ann Dobyns

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

This class will be a study of Argentine tango. We will learn about how the integration of cultures in Argentina led to and developed this complex and fascinating dance and music. We will also learn the basics of the dance. Neither age nor physical disabilities are impediments to basic dancing. Indeed, tango has been recognized as one of the most effective physical therapies for many disabilities, such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. No partner is necessary.

That Wascally Wabbit—The History and Cultural Impact of *Looney Tunes*!

In Person

Tuesday AM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/3 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am

Facilitator: Gregory Moody

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$70

A deep dive into a shallow pond - Wham! - to explore the creation of the greatest cartoon characters in American history (Pow!). Not even Mickey Mouse could hold a candle to the loud, rough, rude, scattershot, machine-gun humor of Bugs, Daffy, Elmer, Porky, Taz, Yosemite Sam, Road Runner, Coyote, Tweety, Sylvester, Speedy, Witch Hazel, Foghorn Leghorn, and more. The most extraordinary talents in the business - Chuck Jones, Friz Freleng, Tex Avery, Bob Clampett, Frank Tashlin, all certifiably mad as hatters - developed the most fantastic characters in animation. They changed the very face of American comedy from vaudeville patter to rapid-fire wisecracks, biting sarcasm, and outrageous fun! Join the Wascally Wabbit on an eight-week wild ride!

Readings: *Of Mice and Magic* by Leonard Maltin; *Chuck Amuck* by Chuck Jones; *Tex Avery: King of Cartoons* by Joe Adamson



The Art of Making Movies

[Online](#)[Thursday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 9/17–11/5 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Robert Magnani**Location:** Online **Member Price:** \$70

Movies are magic — entertaining, emotionally moving, sometimes with awesome effects; they create and spread unifying visions of our world. But they don't just "happen." Join us as we step behind the camera and take a journey through the eyes of the movie's creators: studio executives, producers, casting directors, actors, writers, cinematographers, editors, composers, technicians, and directors. You will understand what it takes to create the story, finance it, assemble the team, and produce the movies we all enjoy in this most collaborative of all arts. This course combines informative videos and group discussion and is appropriate for all levels of film fans.

The Origin and Evolution of Country and Bluegrass Music in the United States, 1860-1960

[In Person](#)[Wednesday AM](#)[Register ↗](#)**Dates:** 10/7–10/28 **Time:** 9:30–11:30am**Facilitator:** Jeff Jenson**Location:** DU Campus **Member Price:** \$50

This course examines the history of country and bluegrass music in the United States. We will learn that traditional ballads migrated from the British Isles to Appalachia between the mid-1800's and early 1900's. We will identify Scottish and Irish songs that became widely played in Appalachia in the early 1900's. By examining the early recordings of country artists such as the Carter Family, Ernest Stoneman, and Jimmie Rogers, we will discover how musicians adapted songs originating in the British Isles. As we move to the 1930's, we will learn about the impact of the Great Depression on country music and examine the origin of bluegrass music through pioneers like Bill Monroe and the Stanley Brothers. We will trace how early recordings influenced developments in country and bluegrass music up until 1960. Recorded songs, videos, and live music will help us understand and enliven the history of country and bluegrass music.

Recommended Reading: *Wayfaring Strangers: The Musical Voyage from Scotland and Ulster to Appalachia* (2nd ed.) by Fiona Ritchie and Doug Orr (The University of North Carolina Press, 2021, or an equivalent edition).

Through the Lens of History: Photos that Tell a Story

In Person

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 9/16–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Sue Bramley/Natalie Conklin

Location: Columbine United Church **Member Price:** \$70

This 8-week class focuses on some of the most powerful, important photographs in history, the stories behind them, and the photographers who captured them. Remember *Migrant Mother*, symbol of the Great Depression? Flag raising at Iwo Jima? Rosa Parks on the bus? Apollo 11 moon landing? Tiananmen Square *Tank Man*? V-J Day kiss in Times Square? Marilyn Monroe on a NYC subway grate? *Afghan Girl*? Photography impacts journalism, art, and sometimes history itself and how we see the world. It documents social and cultural conditions and sometimes entertains. Photographs show things not seen through words alone. They preserve family history and evoke personal memories and reflection. Come share thoughts about memorable and important photos of our and your times.



Unforgettable: The Legacies of Nimoy, Rickman, and Kahn

Online

Wednesday PM

Register ↗

Dates: 10/21–11/4 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: Susan Peters

Location: Online **Member Price:** \$40

This course covers the biographies of Leonard Nimoy, Alan Rickman, and Madeline Kahn, along with lesser-known information about each—including high-interest trivia, such as Leonard Nimoy, who once drove a taxi for Senator Jack Kennedy. Nimoy drove at night, so that he could audition during the day. Additionally, videos of their work will be shown, followed by discussion.



Wow! What Was That?

In Person

Thursday PM

[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/17–10/15 **Time:** 1:00–3:00pm

Facilitator: John Parfrey

Location: DU Campus **Member Price:** \$55

Have you ever had a 'driveway moment' where music you never heard before left you so deeply moved that you just had to wait in your car until it was over to learn what you just heard? The plan for this class will be to bring you one driveway moment after another - introducing you to brilliant, fascinating, and inspiring music that you very likely have never heard. The facilitator has spent a lifetime uncovering these gems, and he looks forward to sharing what he's found.

If you are unfamiliar with Walton's *Façade* or his *First Symphony*, Vaughan Williams' *Oxford Elegy*, Britten's *War Requiem*, Gliere's *Third Symphony*, Delius' *Mass of Life*, or the music of Atterberg, for example, get ready for some seriously great listening. Obscure masterpieces from the Middle Ages until today will be explored. And along the way expect to learn about the composers and gain insights into this amazing music.



Meditation in Motion: The Art and Science of Tai Chi

Online

Mondays

Register ↗

Dates: 9/14–11/02 **Time:** 8–9am

Facilitator: Joseph Brady/Jacqui Shumway

Cost: FREE for OLLI at DU Members

Experience for yourself the accumulated wisdom of centuries with the timeless exercise of T'ai Chi. According to the Harvard Medical Health Publication "Tai Chi is often described as meditation in motion, but it might well be called medication in motion". Designed to be a hands-on learning experience, this class will explore the principles and basic exercises in T'ai chi and the growing body of evidence of it's value in treating or preventing many health problems. This introduction to T'ai Chi Ch'uan is both practical and participative, the course introduces you to the basics of T'ai Chi Ch'uan, the skills and principles involved. These exercises can be a powerful complement to medical intervention. Modern studies have reported positive effects of Tai Chi on balance and falls reduction, hypertension, diabetes, arthritis, osteoporosis, cancer, COPD, heart disease, depression and even schizophrenia. Many more studies are underway to explore the medical benefits of this mind/body exercise. Topics for discussion will include the global health care implications of Tai Chi as well as applications in daily life.

Gentle Hatha Yoga

Online

Tuesdays

Register ↗

Dates: 9/15–11/03 **Time:** 8–9am

Facilitator: Lisa Theis

Cost: FREE for OLLI at DU Members

This movement oriented class will combine seated, standing & kneeling postures. Modifications will be given for most postures - the point of this hour is more about giving yourself time to breathe and move with your body than it is about doing a posture in a particular way. We will combine dynamic & static movements, simple mobility exercises with postures that help to build strength & stability. Props are highly encouraged - blocks, blankets, chairs, & straps, in addition to mats will help give you great success if you find you have limits in a posture. Instruction on how to use these props will also be provided, so you can get comfortable enough to focus on your breath, the most powerful part of practice. Join us for a beautiful session connecting body, mind & spirit.



Medical Qi-Gong: Healing Exercises from China

[Online](#)[Wednesdays](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/16–11/04 **Time:** 8–9am

Facilitator: Joseph Brady/Jacqui Shumway

Cost: FREE for OLLI at DU Members

In traditional Chinese medicine, the patient is expected to be an active participant in their own healing, and not just a victim of their disease. Strong believers in the idea that exercise is medicine, Qi-gong evolved over centuries to become the primary form of exercise therapy used in traditional Chinese medicine. Medical Qi-gong exercises are considered superior to herbal medicine and acupuncture because patients learn to keep themselves healthy by using exercises designed to cultivate a strong mind and a strong body. With over 3600 psychophysiological exercises developed over centuries, medical Qi-gong provides the tools for everyone to become an active participant in their own health. This course will give students an introduction to a variety of the most popular sets of exercises in a safe and progressive way. Qi-gong exercise modalities include therapeutic gymnastics, equipment, massage, nature's treatment and recreational exercise. Learn from two of the top professors of traditional Chinese medicine here at the University of Denver and at the Colorado School of Traditional Chinese Medicine. This class will discuss a wide range of evidence-based therapeutic exercises that you can use in your own life.

Reading: *Chinese Medical Qigong* Paperback – May 28, 2013 by Tianjun Liu (Editor), Xiao Mei Qiang (Editor)

Breath, Meditation, and Community

[Online](#)[Thursdays](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 9/17–11/05 **Time:** 8–9am

Facilitator: Lisa Theis

Cost: FREE for OLLI at DU Members

Something magical happens when we harness the power of our breath. The mind slows, the body relaxes & we remember that we are part of something so much greater. This class will serve as a way to remember, as we combine these 3 powerful aspects of life - breath, meditation, & community. Each class will begin with a breathing exercise connected to simple seated movements to prepare the body & the mind for a guided meditation practice. Meditation will last about 20-25 minutes, after which, we will have time to share our experience with one another in breakout rooms. Sharing is an important part of the process, for meditation is different for everyone & no one experience is the same, nor is there a right or wrong way to meditate. This class offers a unique way to connect to your fellow human, realizing we all share much more in common than we think.

Orbital Data Centers: AI in Orbit, Data Centers on the Moon, and the Race to Move the Cloud Off the Planet

Online

Friday

Register ↗

Dates: 9/18/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Mike Kaplan

Cost: FREE for Members

AI's appetite for power is colliding with Earth's grid – and the response is moving compute into orbit. So far SpaceX, Blue Origin, Google's Project Suncatcher, Starcloud, Sophia Space, Ramon.Space, Axiom, Lonestar are racing to deploy orbital – and even lunar – data centers powered by abundant sunlight and cooled by the vacuum of space. Backed by Nvidia hardware and billions in new capital, these constellations could reshape AI, national security, and sustainability. Mike Kaplan will unpack the physics, economics, key players, and the deeper story of how space and Earth infrastructure are merging into one global system.

The Perfection Trap: Why We Confuse Feeling Safe With Being Safe

Online

Friday

Register ↗

Dates: 9/25/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Jonathan Slotkin

Cost: FREE for Members

We demand perfection from new technology while tolerating catastrophe from the status quo. A self-driving car stalls in wet cement, and it makes national news; that same day, roughly 115 Americans die in human-caused crashes and almost no one notices. Neurosurgeon Jonathan Slotkin argues that being safe and feeling safe are different problems that require different solutions. Drawing on thirty years of hard lessons from healthcare and new data on autonomous vehicles, he explores why objective safety and perceived safety diverge, why that gap can stall lifesaving innovation, and what it will take to close it.

Recommended Reading:

Jonathan Slotkin, *The Data on Self-Driving Cars Is Clear. We Have to Change Course.* The New York Times, December 2, 2025. <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/02/opinion/self-driving-cars.html>

Jonathan Slotkin, MD and Eric Topol, MD, *An Open Letter from the Medical Community on America's Road Deaths*, Opmed.doximity.com, May 14, 2026, <https://opmed.doximity.com/articles/an-open-letter-from-the-medical-community-on-america-s-road-deaths>



Critical Thinking as Civic Infrastructure: Lessons from The Institute for Science & Policy

[Online](#)[Friday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/2/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Kristan Uhlenbrock

Cost: FREE for Members

Healthy democracies require an appetite for critical thinking and a willingness to examine assumptions, embrace uncertainty, and find common ground. Kristan Uhlenbrock, Executive Director of the Institute for Science & Policy at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, shares how the Institute approaches wicked problems at the intersection of science, policy, and human nature, from wolves and water to coal communities and pandemic response. She'll discuss what makes the Institute distinctive, how it measures impact, and what it means to engage in a more thoughtful, pluralistic civic conversation.

How Our Words Reflect Who We Are: Psychology, Language, and AI

[Online](#)[Friday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/9/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Jamie Pennebaker

Cost: FREE for Members

The words we use in our everyday lives can reveal our thoughts, feelings, and personality. Through the analysis of text, I'll describe some of the ways we can tell if people are being authentic or deceptive, happy or depressed, and connected or disengaged with others. Recent breakthroughs in AI and big data methods are beginning to change the ways we do business, teach and learn new skills, and assess our psychological and physical health. It is a potentially threatening time but also very exciting.

Recommended Reading: *The Secret Life of Pronouns* by James W. Pennebaker (Bloomsbury, 2011); additional information is available at <https://liberalarts.utexas.edu/psychology/faculty/pennebak>.

Education in the AI Era

[Online](#)[Friday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/16/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Jennie Magiera

Cost: FREE for Members

Jennie Magiera, Global Head of Education Impact at Google, will present key insights from her team's global work with educators and leaders on using AI to transform teaching and learning. She will detail Google's intentional approach to developing Gemini for Education, emphasizing collaboration and support for K12 teachers, Higher Ed faculty, and education leaders to ensure the impactful use of these new technologies.

Exploring the Mysteries of the Deep Sea

[Online](#)[Friday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/23/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Jim Hekkers

Cost: FREE for Members

The ocean covers 70% of our planet, and the deep sea makes up about 90% of the ocean, making this the largest living space on Earth. Despite darkness, intense pressure, and extreme cold, countless species of fishes, squids, corals, octopuses, sponges, jellies, and microbes thrive in the midwaters and deep sea. Scientists deploy a remarkable array of underwater tools to make discoveries, find new species, and learn more about the enormous impact of this remote habitat on the health and well-being of our planet. This webinar reveals what scientists are learning about this mysterious and important underwater realm.



Parkinson's and Other Preventable Brain Diseases

[Online](#)[Friday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 10/30/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Ray Dorsey

Cost: FREE for Members

What if many brain diseases are not inevitable consequences of aging, but the likely result of decades of accumulated environmental exposure, and therefore preventable? In this interview-format webinar with audience Q&A, neurologist Dr. Ray Dorsey, co-author of *The Parkinson's Plan*, will discuss the likely environmental causes of Parkinson's and other brain diseases such as intellectual disabilities, ALS, dementia with Lewy bodies, and Alzheimer's. Participants will hear what the current evidence shows, what remains uncertain, and what practical steps individuals and communities can take to reduce risk.

Recommended Reading: *The Parkinson's Plan* and *Ending Parkinson's Disease*

From Wildfire Crisis to Real-Time Coordination: How Technology is Transforming Emergency Response

[Online](#)[Friday](#)[Register ↗](#)

Dates: 11/6/2026 **Time:** 10–11:30am

Facilitator: Ben Miller

Cost: FREE for Members

As wildfire behavior becomes increasingly complex and unpredictable, emergency response organizations must evolve beyond systems designed for a different era. This presentation explores how Colorado is leveraging emerging technologies—including real-time geospatial awareness platforms, unmanned aircraft systems, and data-driven decision support tools—to improve responder safety, coordination, and operational effectiveness. Drawing from the Colorado Team Awareness Kit (COTAK) program and the work of the Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting, attendees will gain insight into how innovation, technology, and organizational change are reshaping public safety and disaster response.

OLLI Facilitators

Neil Adelman | Neil Adelman is a retired attorney, originally from the Chicago area. Since joining DU's OLLI program he has facilitated courses on opera and famous trials. He was previously an active member of Northwestern University's OLLI program for many years where he facilitated courses on history, law, bible, film, and opera. Neil is also an experienced opera lecturer, having been a member of Lyric Opera of Chicago's volunteer lecture corps for 11 years. He has also lectured on opera and other subjects in Naples Florida where he and his wife spend the winter.

Lauren Anderson (Osher Online Facilitator) | Lauren Andersen is the director of the Utah Judicial Institute. Andersen practiced appellate law in the state of California and presented arguments to the California Supreme Court and the US Supreme Court. During this time, Andersen closely studied the Roberts Court. She has lectured about the Supreme Court and the death penalty. Her opinions were quoted by The New York Times and the ABA Journal. She was previously the director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Utah.

Maria Arapakis | Diamond Facilitator Maria Arapakis is a psychologist, international trainer, speaker, and author with 45+ years of experience training people around the world. For the past 16 years, she has helped seniors use the remarkable powers of Apple technologies. More recently, she has focused on sharing what 50+ years of research on Near-Death Experiences (NDEs) tell us about human consciousness, what awaits us when we die, and what matters most in life! Maria has always been a teacher at heart and loves teaching what can help and support others.

Don Batt | Don and Gracie Batt, retired high school English and theatre teachers in the Cherry Creek Schools, have facilitated courses on Irish literature and literature of the American West with OLLI at DU for several years.

Gracie Batt | Don and Gracie Batt, retired high school English and theatre teachers in the Cherry Creek Schools, have facilitated courses on Irish literature and literature of the American West with OLLI for several years.

Arthur (Buck) Benedict (Osher Online Facilitator) | Buck Benedict is a former lecturer at Wharton and the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania, where he taught public speaking for 16 years. He also created and taught speechwriting classes. He was awarded the first Excellence in Teaching Award at the Fels Institute and was nominated for the university-wide Provost Award for non-standing faculty.

Neil Bergstrom | Neil Bergstrom has a BA in Physics from The Colorado College in Colorado Springs and a PE in Petroleum. In addition to his expertise in well construction and fracking Neil has a depth of knowledge in the economics and geopolitics of the energy, minerals, and environmental industries and has traveled and worked worldwide including the Middle East, Africa, and Europe as well as North America. His wife grew up in Sweden and is a naturalized US Citizen. Their three adult children are dual citizens of the USA and Sweden

Raj Bhargava | Raj Bhargava teaches Design Your Next Life Chapter at Stanford Continuing Studies, OLLI and Public Libraries. Raj launched his own career pivot as a Fellow in the inaugural cohort of the Stanford Distinguished Careers Institute. He is the founder of Jaspersoft, CEO at Trade Inc, and executive at Oracle and Hewlett Packard. Raj holds an MBA from the University of Michigan and an MS from Penn State.

Joseph Brady (OLLI Fit Facilitator) | Joseph Brady MSTCM, L. Ac. Dipl. O.M. RAND REACH Scholar and nationally board certified practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Joe taught on healthy aging issues and coordinated the Gerontology program at the University of Denver for twenty years. He also taught classes in Tai Chi, Qigong, and Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and he currently teaches Tai Chi and Qigong at the Colorado School of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Joe wrote many articles on healthy aging for the Rocky Mountain News, and has presented at many scientific conferences, and has lectured and presented research at Harvard Medical School's Osher Institute for Integrative Medicine and at the Oxford Union Debating Hall and Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, U.K.

Sue Bramley | Photography always fascinates Sue because it combines storytelling, creativity, communication, and wonderful memories. With a degree in photojournalism from Univ of Missouri, Sue developed a strong foundation in capturing authentic moments and meaningful narratives. Sue's experience spans corporate communications, newsletters, and business publications, where she used photography to inform, engage and connect audiences. For Sue, it's about visual stories, which she works into all her OLLI classes.

Dennis Brovarone | Dennis has been practicing business law in Colorado for almost 40 years. He graduated from CU with a degree in Political Science in 1978 and DU Law in 1986. He raised three Millennials and still enjoys age-appropriate cycling, hiking, skiing, and horseback riding.

Facilitators/Instructors

Terry Casey | Terry holds a BA from Saint Anselm College (Manchester, NH), an MA in History from UConn, and a Master's in Urban Affairs and Policy Analysis from The New School for Social Research (New York City). He served as a County Administrator in New Hampshire and, from 1986, as a Managing Director in the Capital Markets office of Dain Bosworth, which became RBC Capital Markets in the early 2000s. His clients over the years included the states of Colorado and Wyoming, many of the major K-12 school districts in Colorado, Colorado Springs Memorial Hospital, Wyoming Medical Center (Casper), Cheyenne Memorial Hospital, Aspen Hospital, and the Wyoming Student Loan Corporation. He retired from RBC in 2011.

Angel Cervantes (Osher Online Facilitator) | Angelo Cervantes is an anthropological genetic genealogist and history researcher who has conducted archival work in Mexico and Spain. Cervantes teaches at the University of New Mexico and founded the Iberian Peninsula DNA Institute, offering DNA consulting and courses in anthropological genetics. He pioneered anthropological genetic genealogy through the creation of the New Mexico DNA Project, now a major Hispanic DNA database. He has appeared on PBS and frequently lectures on genetic genealogy in the US and Mexico.

Ken Chomic | Ken Chomic is a retired software engineer and enthusiastic explorer of how technology can enlarge the wide afternoon of retired life. His current interest is not AI as a productivity machine, but AI as a companion for curiosity: a tool for learning, creativity, travel planning, writing, problem-solving, and staying intellectually alive.

Anne Marshall Christner | Anne Christner, Platinum Facilitator, has been enthralled by archaeology since fifth grade. She and her family visited Mesa Verde National Park soon after, and that sealed the deal. Anne has had the privilege of doing volunteer archaeology at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center near Cortez, CO, and keeps up with developments in the larger field; she brings both experiences to this course.

Natalie Conklin | Natalie enjoys taking and facilitating classes at OLLI since retiring from a career in education. She has facilitated courses in visual and performing arts and in history and literature. She is fascinated by the dynamic relationships between photography and social, economic, and cultural events and wonders how these affect our daily lives. She enjoys sharing with OLLI participants what she has learned through her research on photography.

Hille Dais | Hille Dais grew up in Hamburg, Germany, and has lived in the United States since the late 1960s. She retired from public administration positions with the State of Colorado in 2003. Hille is an amateur pianist and enjoys live symphony and chamber concerts. She has facilitated many courses for OLLI focusing on music, history, and the intersection of these topics, and has invited musicians to share about their lives and instruments—most recently, artists playing wind instruments.

Peter Dedek (Osher Online Facilitator) | Peter B. Dedek, PhD, is a professor of American history at Texas State University whose work explores the cultural history of the built environment and the stories embedded in historic places. Dedek brings together cultural, design, and social history to illuminate how people shape, and are shaped by the spaces they inhabit. He is the author of *Hip to the Trip: Route 66 Centennial Edition* and *The Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Cultural History*, and wrote *Historic Preservation for Designers*, a guide integrating preservation with design.

Jared Del Rosso | Jared Del Rosso is a sociologist, birder, and native wildflower gardener. He writes about birds for the Denver Field Ornithologists' quarterly magazine, *The Lark Bunting*, and has published essays with Audubon, Humans and Nature Digital Press, and *The Conversation*. His forthcoming book, tentatively titled *The Lonesome Whip-poor-will: A Cultural History of America's Most Iconic Bird*, will be published by NYU Press in Spring 2027.

Ann Dobyns | Ann Dobyns has been teaching tango for 17 years: from 2008 to 2015 at the University of Denver and since then in Cleveland, Ohio. A professor of rhetoric, pedagogy, and medieval literature in the English Department, she taught a first-year seminar and a third-year advanced seminar in the general education curriculum. In both, she taught the fundamentals of the dance as well as its history and culture. During that time, she also served as advisor for the university tango club. She has studied extensively with world-famous tango dancers in Buenos Aires as well as in the U.S. In 2025, she completed a two-year seminar on teaching tango with the Argentine dancer and teacher Corina de la Rosa, one of the renowned tango dancers who began dancing during the tango revival in Buenos Aires in the 1990s.

Ray Dorsey (Webinar Speaker) | Dr. Ray Dorsey is the Director of the Center for the Brain & the environment at Atria Health and Research Institute. The center's mission is to identify the root causes of brain diseases from autism to Alzheimer's so that we can prevent them. With his colleagues, he wrote *Ending Parkinson's Disease* and *The Parkinson's Plan*, which details a new path to preventing and treating this terrible disease.

Boris Draznin | Dr. Boris Draznin is currently a Professor of Medicine at the Anschutz Campus of the University of Colorado. He is an internationally renowned leader in endocrinology with a special emphasis on diabetes research and clinical practice. Dr. Draznin has been a diligent student of Jewish history for decades. He has written and published two books on various aspects of Jewish history (Stepchildren of Mother Russia, 2000; and How History and Genetics Define Jewish Diversity and Identity, 2023), while his third book describing the malevolent deeds of Jewish apostates is coming out later this year. He has been lecturing about Jewish history and the branching of Christianity from Judaism at numerous Denver-area synagogues and churches, attracting a great number of followers and widespread interest. He also lectured nationally on both the history and genetics of Jewish people.

Jonathan Duncan (Osher Online Facilitator) | Jonathan Duncan is a photojournalist, writer, teacher, and public speaker with more than 25 years of experience. His work has been published in National Geographic, The Himalayan Journal, Sailing, Rock and Ice, and by the University of Utah Press. He has taught at the Art Institute of Portland, Western Washington University, and Westminster University. His work explores humanity's complex relationship with the natural world, often in remote landscapes and cultures.

Rhonda Eaker | Rhonda Eaker recently retired after a lifelong career as a university administrator and college instructor. She started her career in college admissions and financial aid in California. After moving to Denver, she worked in executive education as the Director of Education for a professional association. She spent several years teaching while earning a PhD in Organizational Performance and Change from CSU. After almost 13 years as the Director of the Applied Learning Center at MSU Denver, she finished her career managing a PhD program in religion for DU/Iliff. In retirement she is keeping busy with travel, photography, home improvement projects, reading, and taking OLLI classes. She has professional interests in organizational development and structure, cognitive development, and education. Personal passions include history, literature, and culture.

Lori Eastman | Gloria (Lori) Eastman enjoys bringing the historical and cultural backgrounds of classic literature to life and making the readings relevant to 21st-century lives. She particularly delights in encouraging the varied responses of participants as they explore the readings together. She taught high school English and journalism for 26 years in the Jefferson County Public Schools while also earning her PhD in 19th-century British literature from CU Boulder. Recently retired, she is Professor Emerita at Metropolitan State University, where she taught British literature and English education.

Jeffrey Engel | Former professional dancers Joy and Jeffrey Engel trained for many years in Russian classical ballet, met in a ballet studio in New York City, and honeymooned on an Equity summer stock tour of Carousel. Their performing careers included dancing and touring in the United States, Canada, and Europe. They have also choreographed productions and taught dance in various studios, schools, and colleges. They shared their experiences and insights into the world of ballet for 15 years with a lifelong learning program at the University of South Carolina, and this past fall began doing the same in Denver. They always invite and appreciate comments and questions from those attending the classes.

Joy Engel | Former professional dancers Joy and Jeffrey Engel trained for many years in Russian classical ballet, met in a studio in New York City, and honeymooned on an Equity summer stock tour of Carousel. Their performing careers included dancing and touring in the United States, Canada, and Europe. They have also choreographed productions and taught dance in various studios, schools, and colleges. They shared their experiences and insights into the world of ballet for 14 years with a lifelong learning program at the University of South Carolina in Aiken, and they look forward to doing the same in Denver. They always invite and appreciate comments and questions from those attending the classes.

Kent Epperson | Kent Epperson is a graduate of Denver East High School and the University of Colorado Boulder. He worked at all levels of public education and in three Denver-area school districts. He maintains an interest in history and current events. Kent strives to facilitate courses rather than lecture. Classes are structured to promote a respectful exchange of ideas.

Dave Erickson | Dave Erickson volunteers at the Colorado Railroad Museum, where he provides guided tours and assists with the maintenance and repair of railroad track. Museum tours cover a variety of subjects, including locomotives, dining on the rails, railroad-related machines, and Colorado railroad history. He is a retired environmental scientist, current birder, and volunteer for Jefferson County Open Space.

Alan Folkestad | A student of history for nearly his entire life, Alan Folkestad is keen on delving into the unintended consequences of historical events. Alan has lived abroad in three different countries and has always found the culture and history fascinating. He received a BA from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree from Texas Christian University.

Facilitators/Instructors

Eddy Friedfeld (Osher Online Facilitator) | Eddy Friedfeld is a film and entertainment journalist and historian. Friedfeld co-authored *Caesar's Hours* with Sid Caesar, Directed by James Burrows with James Burrows, and worked with Mel Brooks on *All About Me*. He was senior consultant for the Emmy-nominated *Make 'Em Laugh* and a consulting producer on *Funny You Never Knew*. He has produced tributes to major entertainers including George Carlin, Paul Newman, Dick Van Dyke, among others. He teaches at Yale, NYU, and the Tisch School of the Arts.

Jan Friedlander | Jan's classes are filled with expertise, well-researched content, and contagious enthusiasm, all presented in a fun and welcoming atmosphere. Her musical journey started at age eight with trumpet lessons, and in her junior year of high school, she was invited to audition for a scholarship at Juilliard. Although she chose not to pursue the audition and got degrees in other disciplines, she continued performing throughout college, concentrating on classical music, including opera. When you join one of Jan's classes, you'll benefit from another of her great passions and talents—teaching!

Edward Friedman | Dr. Ed Friedman holds a Ph.D. in physics and is an active lecturer on topics in physics and cosmology. He worked in for-profit and nonprofit science organizations that focused on astrophysics and space science, consulted with NASA and the National Academy of Sciences, and authored four optical engineering books and 79 professional journal articles. He was successful in guiding the work of two aerospace engineering PhD candidates. He lectures on science to adult education students at two universities, on cruise ships, and to community groups. He has extensive experience in the Osher program, including frequently teaching cosmology at the University of Denver.

Richard Gabriel | Richard Gabriel is a Justice on the Colorado Supreme Court and is the long-time chair of *Our Courts Colorado*, a nationally recognized, nonpartisan program dedicated to increasing public understanding of Colorado's state and federal court systems. Justice Gabriel, along with fellow Colorado justices and judges, will present an engaging five-part series for OLLI members exploring the structure, function, and real-world impact of the courts and the justice system.

Stuart Gentry | Stuart Gentry spent the first 20 years of his professional career in the chemical industry. He then became a professor of chemistry at La Salle University in Philadelphia for 10 years. Since his retirement, he has pursued his interests in science, technology, and the historical development of society and cultures.

Beverly George | Beverly George, also a volunteer member of the Jeffco League, moved to Colorado with her husband Tom in 2022 from Naperville, Illinois, where she taught AP Chemistry and Physics at the high-school level. A graduate of Duke University (AB) and Northern Illinois University (MS Ed), Beverly is passionate about news sources delivering hard facts and informed voters being the key to securing American democracy for future generations.

Linda Gordon | Linda Gordon is a retired principal of schools for both Denver Public Schools and Adams County School Districts. She was a principal for 16 years, and before that, she was a dean, coach, and Biology teacher. The reason she speaks Spanish is that she lived in Mexico City for ten years. Linda taught science at the American School and ESL at various locations in the city. She married a pro soccer player, had two kids, and got robbed four times. After the fourth time, she decided it was time to move back to the US with her kids. She left that husband behind!

Tom Grant | Tom Grant is a retired technology professional and lifelong film buff. Growing up in Southern California, he eagerly consumed and studied a wide array of movie genres from all eras and countries. Film noir has always been a favorite for its impact on American culture, its significance to the film industry, its reflection of the tensions in American society, and its roots in Los Angeles — the quintessential setting for noir. Tom has also been a blogger and podcaster about popular culture and politics. You can't expect to watch a movie with Tom without talking about it afterward.

Jim Hekkers (Webinar Speaker) | A Colorado native, with degrees from Colorado State University and Regis University, Jim Hekkers is not a scientist but has worked with and learned from scientists throughout his career. He served in executive positions at three large aquariums in the United States, including 15 years as managing director of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, which is perched on the shores of a deep-sea canyon off the California coast. The Aquarium pioneered the first exhibits of living deep-sea animals and for years shared live, interactive presentations from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute's deep-sea vehicles. Now retired, Jim lives in Broomfield with his wife, Nora, who shares his love of science and nature and whose career also focused on communicating about the ocean and marine life.

John Hendrickson (Osher Online Facilitator) | Johnnie Hendrickson, PhD, is a Teaching Professor in the School of Molecular Sciences at Arizona State University. He holds a PhD in chemistry and is the author of the textbook *Chemistry in the World*. His academic work centers on science communication and the reciprocal relationship between science and society.

Shellie Hochstadt | Shellie Hochstadt graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a degree in history and a minor in political science. She was a divisional merchandise manager for a department store until 1994, when she returned to her core interest and passion for world history. She taught AP World History, AP Government, and economics until her retirement in 2010. She combines her interests in history, travel, and reading into her teaching, where she endeavors to bring a thoughtful global perspective.

Michael Holmes | Dr. Michael Holmes worked in public education for 37 years. He has taught the game of bridge for over 20 years and holds certifications as an ACBL Online Bridge Teacher, an Audrey Grant Bridge Teacher, a Gold Life Master, an ACBL Certified Club Director, and an ACBL Certified Tournament Assistant Director. He is also a board member of the American Bridge Teachers Association (ABTA).

Charles Holt | Charlie Holt is a Platinum Facilitator with more than 35 years of career experience as an engineer in R&D and R&D management. He has a strong interest in science and technology as well as history and diplomacy, with a focus on key personalities shaping science and history. He holds a PhD in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and both an MS and a BS in Aeronautical Engineering. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Ralph Hughes | Ralph Hughes is a Stanford-trained economist, a retired business analytics consultant, and the author of three nonfiction books. He is the host of the monthly Post-Partisan Forum at the Secular Hub and has facilitated OLLI discussion classes on political economy for over eight years.

Avi Isseroff | Avi Isseroff is a retired psychiatrist who has facilitated courses at OLLI D.U. and previously at the University of Connecticut. Most recently he has written screenplays; several have been finalists in screenplay competitions. His latest screenplay is a mini-series on the life of Gustav Mahler and will be entered into screenplay competitions late this summer.

Jeff Jenson | Jeff Jenson, PhD, is the Philip and Eleanor Winn Endowed Professor Emeritus at the Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver. His academic career focused on applying a public health approach to preventing childhood behavioral health problems and on evaluating preventive interventions aimed at promoting healthy youth development. Dr. Jenson has published nine books and numerous articles and chapters on child and adolescent development and prevention science. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Career Achievement Award and the Aaron Rosen Award from the Society for Social Work and Research, and the Distinguished Scholar and University Lecturer awards from the University of Denver. Dr. Jenson is a Fellow of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare and the Society for Social Work and Research. His interests in retirement include the history and evolution of folk, country, and Americana music.

Warren Johnson | Warren Johnson, a 76-year-old physician and adventurer, has nurtured a lifelong fascination with shipwrecks, natural disasters, human-caused catastrophes, global exploration, and survivalism. He has practiced family medicine primarily on Colorado's Eastern Plains and has also practiced medicine and traveled extensively throughout Mexico and Central America. Although an average amateur triathlete, Warren loves to work alongside elite athletes as a physician for ocean sailing regattas, bicycle races, amateur boxing, Ironman Triathlons, ski events, and high school sports teams. He spent his teenage years as a lifeguard on the beaches of Long Island, New York, and has served as a rescuer in several natural and human-made disasters.

Arthur Jones | Arthur C. Jones is Professor Emeritus of Music, Culture and Psychology at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music. He received a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Iowa in 1974. He is currently a licensed psychologist in Colorado and previously held licenses in Illinois and Ohio. At the University of Denver, he has held a variety of teaching and administrative positions since 1991, in a year as Interim Vice Chancellor culminating for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion before his formal retirement in 2020. Over the years, Dr. Jones has been the recipient of numerous local and national awards for his work as a clinical practitioner, teacher, scholar, and community advocate, including his consistent work on culture and social justice. In the early 1990s, His expertise in African American and multicultural psychology merged with a revival of his childhood love of singing, led to sustained efforts to help revitalize the music and wise teachings of the songs called spirituals, created and first sung by African peoples enslaved in America in the 18th and 19th centuries. He is the founder of the award-winning Spirituals Project, which is now an official program of DU's Lamont School of Music. Dr. Jones' groundbreaking book, *Wade in the Water: The Wisdom of the Spirituals*, was released in a revised 30th anniversary edition in June 2023.

Sheila Jones | Sheila Jones, Senior Facilitator, brings a passion for literature and communications to her OLLI courses, engaging members in thoughtful discussions about meaning in literature and modern media. This will be the third in her series of "Know Before You Go" courses on Shakespeare performances at the DCPA. A retired secondary English and journalism teacher with a master's degree in Communications/Journalism, Sheila has mentored high school journalism advisers and presented OLLI workshops and webinars. She continues to love the classroom, where learning helps us understand the past, navigate the present, and imagine the future.

Scott Jones (Osher Online Facilitator) | Scott Jones brings a unique perspective to his lectures, combining 30 years of naval command, diplomatic service, and executive leadership in defense and maritime industries. Jones is a docent at the J. Paul Getty Museum, leading architecture and gallery tours. A retired Navy captain, he commanded three warships and a squadron, with assignments at the Pentagon and State Department. He later served as a senior executive for a defense corporation, a maritime shipping company, and ran his own consulting business.

Leander Kahney (Osher Online Facilitator) | Leander Kahney is a veteran technology reporter who has covered Apple for more than 30 years. He has written six books about the company, including two New York Times bestsellers. He is the editor and publisher of Cult of Mac, a long-running Apple blog, and was previously news editor at Wired.com.

Mike Kaplan (Webinar Speaker) | Mike Kaplan is a thought leader across multiple space domains, with experience spanning Government (NRL, NASA HQ) and Industry (Ball Aerospace, Boeing, SSL/MDA, Raytheon Technologies, LeoStella, and D-Orbit USA). He has directed teams developing scientific payloads, spacecraft, planetary landers, and robotic satellite servicers from LEO to deep space, creating and winning more than \$15 billion in space business at a win rate above 70%, including first prime wins for three major aerospace companies. He led the creation of transformational missions, including the James Webb Space Telescope, the Spitzer Space Telescope, the Space Interferometry Mission, and SOFIA. Recently his focus has been proliferated LEO constellations, in-space servicing and logistics, and orbital edge computing and data centers. Mike earned a BSE at Princeton and an MS in Electrophysics at George Washington University. He is Adjunct Faculty at Embry-Riddle, an AIAA Associate Fellow, and an IEEE Senior Member. He lives in Boulder, CO, with his wife, Karen Miller, and their Goldendoodle, Luke Skywalker.

Lee Kaufman | Lee Kaufman has taught music courses in continuing education for 24 years, including classical music listening courses at the Parkway School District, St. Louis Community College, and the Chautauqua Institute. Film score composers have been featured in his Music of the Movies course, as well as in separate courses on Broadway and Hollywood songwriters. He was the founder and secretary of the North American Chapter of the Elgar Society and co-produced three plays with music with Hershey Felder: George Gershwin Alone, Monsieur Chopin, and Beethoven as I Knew Him. He ran his own flooring contracting company for 33 years and holds bachelor's and master's degrees in business. He lives in St. Louis, where he is married with two daughters and five granddaughters.

Ben Kempinen | Ben Kempinen taught at the University of Wisconsin Law School for more than four decades until his retirement in 2018. His focus was criminal law and professional responsibility. His teaching included both traditional classroom

teaching and experiential learning, where law students gained experience by working on actual cases under the supervision of faculty. While at the Law School, he was a member of several legislative committees and a frequent speaker at continuing education conferences. Since 2018 he has served on the Wisconsin State Bar's Standing Committee on Professional Ethics as a regular member and chair. He is a member of Midvale Community Lutheran Church and is active in the church's Social Ministry Committee, Racial Justice Group and coordinating voter outreach efforts by church members. Ben holds a BA degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Wisconsin and a JD from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

Tyson Kennedy | Tyson Kennedy has spent more than 20 years helping people better understand themselves and the relationships that shape their lives. Using personality profiling techniques, she teaches individuals how to recognize different personality types and communicate more effectively with family, friends, spouses, co-workers, and children. Her work is based on a long-standing profiling system centered around seven core personality types, with each person carrying a blend of three of the seven. Tyson has used this approach for decades with remarkable success in helping people reduce conflict, improve communication, and build healthier, more respectful relationships. She is passionate about this work because participants often experience immediate insight and practical change beginning with the very first class. Her classes are interactive, approachable, and focused on giving people tools they can apply right away in everyday life.

Bobbie Kite | Dr. Bobbie Kite is Dean of the College of Professional Studies at the University of Denver, where Dr. Kite's work sits at the intersection of adult learning, meaning-making, and transformative experience. Holding a PhD in Public Health, a Master of Theological Studies focused on secular pilgrimage, a Master of Health Science, and a Bachelor's in History, Dr. Kite brings rare interdisciplinary depth to today's session. A practicing secular chaplain and researcher, Dr. Kite has completed over 350 pilgrimages to NPS sites, visited all 63 major national parks, and explored 250 of the official 433. The passport stamps speak for themselves.

Thomas Kleinschmidt | Tom Kleinschmidt has been interested in the study of history, especially American history in the 18th and 19th centuries, for his entire life. He has read extensively on this period and visited many of the historical locations. He has a bachelor's degree from Kearney State College (now University of Nebraska-Kearney) and an MBA from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. After a career financing equipment and power generation projects, both domestically and internationally, Tom retired in 2015. Since retiring, he has facilitated OLLI classes in both Albuquerque and Denver.

Facilitators/Instructors

Barbara Kreisman | Barbara Kreisman, PhD, former associate dean of the Daniels College of Business Executive MBA program, and Jack Kronser, a seasoned educator and musician, grew up with American Bandstand and now share its cultural impact through a modern elder's lens. Together they bring expertise in business, education and music to this nostalgic exploration.

Jack Kronser | Jack is a lifelong K-12 educator and has served as an adjunct instructor for several universities. The majority of his work has been in K-12 school district Human Resources. He saw the Beatles in concert in 1965 and decided he wanted to join a band. He has played in a number of bands, and music has been an important part of his life. Though classic rock is his primary interest, he has a love and respect for all true artists.

James Kunkel | James R. (Jim) Kunkel, Ph.D., P.E. is a retired engineer with 59 years of domestic and international experience in hydrology and water resources. He has worked on water resources projects in 32 states and 22 foreign countries. He has lived in Mexico, Peru, Colombia, and Chile during his career. His academic experience includes 17 years as an adjunct associate professor at Colorado School of Mines (CSM), where he taught graduate hydrologic engineering courses in the Department of Geological Engineering. Dr. Kunkel is the co-author of the university textbook *Unsaturated Zone Hydrology for Scientists and Engineers* published by Prentice Hall. He has given presentations, professional technical lectures, and short courses to news media, government agencies, and professional societies in the U.S., Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Mexico. Dr. Kunkel has given lectures and courses previously at OLLI East, Central, West, Online, On-the-Move, and OLLI Webinars.

Lance La Certe | Lance La Certe is a retired clinical psychologist who earned his Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Denver. Growing up in Santa Monica, California, his parents instilled in him a love of education, travel, art, and music. An avid scuba diver, motorcyclist, skier, and devotee of jazz and ska, his favorite mantra is: "The more I know, the more I know what I don't know." This fuels his ever-curious mind across a multitude of subjects.

Linda Lange | A voracious reader of mystery and science fiction and an enthusiastic gardener, Linda Lange is retired from teaching finance and accounting at Regis University. She created the first Mysterious Places class in 2019 to enthusiastic response and has built the series since, choosing different themes for each term and occasionally revisiting a popular theme to update author choices.

Robert Larson | Bob Larson has been researching genealogy for over 25 years, serving as the education chair for 15 years, class instructor for 18 years, webmaster for a decade, and past president for four years of the Larimer County Genealogical

Society. At the state level, Bob is the current webinar chair and a past president of the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies and was an accredited instructor at Motorola. He is the author of his 210-page family history book, a current Zoom specialist, and video producer for multiple non-profit groups. He holds degrees in electronics engineering, marketing, and an Executive MBA, as well having taught over 20 specialized business and international classes at Motorola University in Chicago.

Susan Lauscher | Sue Lauscher is a retired lawyer who has been interested in politics and world affairs since she helped organize grape boycotts in her home town in the 1960s. She's also an amateur cellist and most recently taught a class at the Broomfield Community Center on the violin family. She participated in the Great Decisions class and then facilitated it in 2020.

Michael Levin | Michael Levin is a Denver native with a BA from Grinnell College and an MA from the University of Colorado, both in math. He retired from Raytheon in 2006 as a Senior Principal Systems Engineer. Michael has been engaged in Great Books and adult Jewish education since the mid 1980's. He inherited leadership of a southeast Denver Great Books group in 2008. Michael has facilitated OLLI short story and Jewish text discussions. His most recent class was The Hebrew Bible: A Literary and Academic View. Michael was a past president of the Denver Institute for Jewish Studies. DIJS operated from 1963 through 2003 offering eight week evening classes twice a year.

Rick Levinson | Rick Levinson graduated from Carleton College with a BA and then earned a JD from the University of Florida in 1971. He has been licensed to practice law in both Florida and Colorado (since 1993). He served twice as a public defender, working as a trial attorney and at one point heading the death penalty division of the Hillsborough County (Tampa, Florida) Public Defender's Office. Mr. Levinson's practice in both Florida and Colorado has focused primarily on the defense of persons accused of crime. He has also served as Alternate Defense Counsel in Colorado, tried numerous cases in state and federal courts, and previously facilitated law courses at OLLI at DU.

David Lippman | David Lippman spent most of his career in educational publishing, where he held several positions, including editor-in-chief and publisher. He directed the development of texts in many subjects, including history, government, science, mathematics, and literature. David earned degrees in the social sciences from the University of Southern California and the University of Chicago, and began his career doing social science research in legal areas for the American Bar Foundation. David is a long-time history facilitator for OLLI.

Nova Loverro | Nova grew up outside of New York City. At age five she became mesmerized by a performance of Swan Lake and went on to become a professional modern dancer in Manhattan. At age twenty-nine, she married and moved to Glenwood Springs. There she raised a daughter, taught dance, and founded several non-profit arts organizations. In 1999 she closed her organizations and began a serious deep dive into yoga, meditation, and the related sciences, while maintaining a grant writing career. She has taught retreats, workshops, and teacher training locally, nationally, and internationally for twenty-five years. Now retired, she has devoted herself to writing and bringing the deeper dimensions of yoga to a larger community. She has lived in Denver since 2012, and recently discovered the exciting classes at OLLI.

John Lungerhausen | John Lungerhausen, Master Facilitator, joined OLLI soon after he retired from CenturyLink in 2016, where he enjoyed a 17-year career as a software developer, Team Lead, and Development Manager. John and his longtime partner, Dixie Vice, have lived in Golden since 1987. They have collaborated in developing film classes for OLLI since 2016 due to their deep enjoyment of great films. John received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Michigan.

Christine Maasdam (Osher Online Facilitator) | Christine Maasdam holds a master's in humanities and a bachelor's in cultural geography. Maasdam studied art at The Courtauld Institute, the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center, and the University of Glasgow. She trained in art crime investigation and is a member of the International Foundation for Cultural Property Protection. She holds Sotheby's certifications in art law and appraisal, serves as a museum education docent, and has volunteered on archaeological projects in Israel.

Michael Mackey | Michael is a passionate scholar of religion, history, and culture. He holds a BA and MA in English from Colorado State University and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Although trained for the ministry, he has spent his career in higher education, teaching English, literature, humanities, history, and world religions at the college level.

Jennie Magiera (Webinar Speaker) | Jennie Magiera is the Global Head of Education Impact at Google, bestselling author of *Courageous Edventures*, and the founder of the non-profit Our Voice Alliance whose mission is to elevate marginalized voices and perspectives to improve equity and empathy in education. She also serves on the board of Saga Education. Previously, she was the Chief Innovation Officer for the Des Plaines School District, the Digital Learning Coordinator at AUSL, a Chicago Public Schools teacher and a research assistant in Carol Dweck's Columbia University lab. A White House Champion for Change,

ISTE Impact Award Winner, SheRunsIt Working Mothers of the Year, and TEDx Speaker, Jennie works to improve education globally. She has served on the TWG for the US Department of Education's National EdTech Plan, NAEP Delivery and Technology Panel, TeachAI Advisory Committee, and has been featured on NBC's Education Nation, C-SPAN's Reimagining Education, TEDx, and NPR. Her proudest achievement: daughters Lucy & Nora. You can follow Jennie on Twitter at @MsMagiera and learn more about her work and her book at bit.ly/edventuresbook.

Robert Magnani | Bob Magnani has attended over 130 OLLI courses and facilitated 55 classes both online and at 4 Colorado locations. His courses include Movies and Movie Making, Acting, Comedy, and Chess. He has Arts and Engineering degrees from Columbia; PhD work at NYU; telecommunications design and management at Bell Laboratories and US West Advanced Technologies; and Product Management at AT&T. Bob has seen several thousand U.S. and foreign films in his lifetime, loves theater, chess (was a member of the Manhattan Chess Club) and acting. He is delighted to be able to pursue these interests at OLLI. Bob is a Platinum Facilitator and has been an OLLI member since 2010.

Jack Maher | Jack Maher is a fifth-generation Colorado native and still-wet-behind-the-ears book writer. Maher is the author of "You Were Chosen, Just Like Mary: A True Story of Love and Faith," and "Poppy: A Novel About A Colorful Colorado Life." His long career as a storyteller includes 34 years as a Multimedia Journalist and Executive Producer at Denver's KUSA-TV, where he earned four Emmy awards and multiple honors from the Colorado Broadcasters Association and the Associated Press. Maher currently serves as President of the Colorado Authors League, a non-profit formed in 1931 to support and promote its community of published writers while connecting with and adding value to the reading world.

Larry Matten | Larry Matten, Botanist, Paleobotanist, Elder Law Attorney, Spellbinder, Rotarian, OLLI Platinum Facilitator, has been doing movie courses since 2014. He has facilitated 24 movie courses over the years. Larry has also facilitated courses in science fiction literature, dinosaurs, human evolution, mass extinctions, evolution, fossil stories, Darwin, Fitzroy, baseball, and botany. While at The Academy, he also did courses in Estate Planning and chess. Music is one of Larry's true loves and he hopes to share it with others. Larry and his wife, Susan, enjoy traveling and visiting with their 6 children, 14 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.

Mac McHugh | Mac McHugh, Platinum Facilitator, joined OLLI Denver in 2011. Mac spent 38 years with the Department of Defense in the areas of accounting, auditing, and systems development. He is a lifelong movie buff and World War II history buff and has facilitated numerous courses on technology, film, and history at OLLI.

Larry Meckel (Webinar Speaker) | Larry has a BA from Rice University and a PhD from Johns Hopkins University. He has been in oil and gas exploration most of his career, first with Shell Oil and Development Companies and then as an exploration consultant for 50 years working worldwide. He was an Adjunct Professor at the Colorado School of Mines from 2004-16 where he taught various graduate level courses in Geology. In those capacities, he has taught several hundred courses for the oil industry, university students, professional societies, and now adults via continuing education programs at the University of Denver and the Wright Opera House in Ouray. In 2011 he was awarded the Distinguished Educator Award by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists for teaching excellence and then in 2017 their highest professional award, the Sydney Power Memorial Award, for his contributions to petroleum geology. He is retired now and lives with his wife Barbara and dog Jill in Ouray and winters in Grand Junction.

Kimberly Melgoza | Kimberly Melgoza grew up in Los Angeles, CA. She then graduated with a B.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Southern California in 2021. Melgoza received a M.A. in Religion at Yale Divinity School in 2023 where she emphasized in Latinx and Latin American Christianity. Fall 2023 will be the beginning of Melgoza's PhD in Religion at the University of Denver, in which she is doing a Joint Doctoral Program with Iliff School of Theology. Melgoza's research focuses on indigenous communities in Mexico, specifically those that use hallucinogenic mushrooms religiously. More recently her research has navigated into studying mushroom churches in the United States.

Herzl Melmed | Dr. Melmed is a retired Obstetrician and Gynecologist who trained and practiced in South Africa, Israel, the UK, and Colorado. He retired in 2020. His passion has been the history of Israel and the conflict with the Arab world. He lived in Israel from 1966 to 1976 and experienced the 6-Day War in 1967 and the Yom Kippur War in 1973. He has often debated with Palestinian representatives and conducted a dialogue for 2 years with representatives of the local Colorado Muslim and Jewish communities. He has chaired a Middle East Study Group for 37 years. His objective has always been to help clarify the issues that drive the intense feelings behind the Middle East conflicts, aware that the picture of events derived from the news media is usually superficial, sometimes sensationalized, and often devoid of context. He is a frequent lecturer on the Middle East conflicts.

Ladrica Menson-Furr (Osher Online Facilitator) | Ladrica Menson-Furr, PhD, is assistant dean of undergraduate programs and associate professor of African American literature. Menson-Furr is the author of August Wilson's Fences and August Wilson's Joe Turner's Come and Gone, and has published on Zora Neale Hurston and Pearl Cleage. She has led academic programs in African American studies and served as a Provost's Fellow and a Tennessee Board of Regents' Maxine Smith Fellow.

Ben Miller (Webinar Speaker) | Director Ben Miller serves as Director of the Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting (CoE) within the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC), where he leads statewide initiatives focused on public safety technology, interoperability, aerial systems, and operational modernization. Previously serving with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office, Director Miller founded the first operational law enforcement drone program in the United States. He has accumulated more than 500 drone flight hours and over 1,000 operational deployments supporting search and rescue, wildfire response, tactical operations, and disaster management missions. Under his leadership, the CoE developed and operates COTAK™ (Colorado Team Awareness Kit), Colorado's statewide real-time situational awareness platform provided free to public safety agencies across the state. Director Miller is widely recognized for his work in uncrewed aerial systems, artificial intelligence, and emerging emergency response technologies. His work has been featured by National Geographic, TIME Magazine, and Smithsonian Air & Space Magazine, and he has testified before Congress on the future of drone and emergency response systems.

Gregory Moody | For the past 50 years, Greg Moody has been a media reporter, critic, and historian in news radio, newspapers, online media, and television. He has covered film, Hollywood history, Broadway theater, music, books, television, and news media extensively. He is the author of five novels, all available on Amazon, as well as two produced plays. He is a 1974 graduate of Western Michigan University in Theater and English. Moody is an eight-year United States Naval Reserve veteran and a former stand-up comedian. While those two career paths seem to have very little in common, he has made a number of admirals laugh at Navy dinners.

Hal Morris | Since taking an undergraduate seminar on William Faulkner, Hal Morris has had an abiding interest in his fiction. He has been reading about Faulkner and his works ever since, taking graduate coursework and twice attending the annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference in Oxford, MS. Happily retired from the practice of natural resources and bankruptcy law, Hal has been an OLLI enthusiast since 2018. He grew up in Evergreen and holds degrees from Rice University and the University of Colorado.

Sydney Myers | Sydney Myers, OLLI Platinum Facilitator, is a former retail executive who lived in Mexico for seven years. She returned to Denver in 2006.

Facilitators/Instructors

Arianna Nowakowski | Dr. Arianna Nowakowski is an academic leader with over a decade of experience in higher education administration, experiential learning, and community partnership development. Currently serving as Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for the College of Professional Studies at the University of Denver, she previously directed the University's graduate-level Global Community Engagement Program, where she created innovative, student-centered pedagogy and built collaborative partnerships across university and civic sectors. Holding a Ph.D. in International Studies from the University of Denver's Josef Korbel School of International Studies, she brings a strategic, equity-driven approach to academic leadership rooted in global citizenship and community impact.

Raymond Laureano Ortiz | Dr. Raymond Laureano-Ortiz is a Puerto Rico-based historian, engineer, and management consultant whose research focuses on Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, covering economic development, international relations, scientific and technological innovation, and issues of diversity and inclusiveness — work that has been published in academic outlets across Puerto Rico, Haiti, Cuba, Martinique, France, Germany, and Argentina. His PhD dissertation on Puerto Rico's paradiplomacy received an Honorable Mention for the Caribbean Studies Association's Best Dissertation Award in 2018, and he is affiliated as a researcher with the Latin America Center at the University of Denver's Josef Korbel School of International Studies and the Jesús T. Piñero Library & Social Research Center at Puerto Rico's Ana G. Méndez University, while also contributing to CLACSO- and EU Horizon 2020-sponsored projects, including the ConneCCaribbean initiative.

Terry Ortlieb | Terry Ortlieb started in technology by putting engineering changes on IBM computers in high school. After attaining his degrees in Philosophy, he moved on to start his own process and systems engineering company, which he built and then sold. Now he is combining his two interests into facilitating classes that integrate technology and philosophy. This will be his 26th class on Harari's thoughts, and he feels that this course brings almost all of the ideas together.

John Parfrey | John Parfrey has been a musician all his life. He grew up in a musical family and was an accomplished oboist and English horn player, performing in orchestras in the early part of his career. At the University of Wisconsin, he presented his senior recital on English horn featuring two commissioned premieres. Parfrey served on the music faculty of Concordia University-Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He founded and served as music director of the Concord Chamber Orchestra in Milwaukee, which is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. Later in his musical career, he developed an interest in music and affect based on the work of pioneering music therapist Dr. Helen Lindquist Bonny, and he presented his work at various universities and music therapy conventions. He holds two degrees in music, one of them in conducting. Long retired from performing, Parfrey now enjoys concertgoing and score study among his many other interests.

Patricia Paul | Patricia Paul is a Gold Facilitator and retired educator who taught students from sixth grade through the master's level. Her OLLI courses explore the intersections of history, culture, and literature, with a particular interest in how those forces shape individuals' stories and how individual stories, in turn, illuminate the societies that shaped them. Pat lived in Germany, Scotland, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Kazakhstan. She brings an international perspective to her classes and enjoys learning alongside fellow OLLI participants.

Jamie Pennebaker (Webinar Speaker) | Jamie Pennebaker is professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Texas at Austin. His research is among the most cited in the social sciences and is influencing research in education, medicine, business, law enforcement, and government. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and has won numerous research and teaching awards.

Susan Peters | Susan Peters spent her career in IT. With a master's degree in telecommunications, she became a telecommunications consultant, working for Big Five consulting firms before going independent. Literature has been a lifelong passion, and Susan enjoys facilitating classes featuring notable books. Another passion has been fostering dogs, including newborn litters. She and her husband, Dave, have taken in nearly 200 dogs, mainly retrievers.

Greg Petty | Greg Petty is a Diamond Facilitator and has offered OLLI baseball and movie courses for the past 10 years. He has co-facilitated 20 movie courses with Larry Matten on 16 different topics. His career was primarily in administrative positions in colleges and universities in Illinois and Colorado, and as Executive Director of a not-for-profit serving blind/vision impaired and deaf/hearing impaired people. He is a Board member of Rocky Mountain SABR (Society for American Baseball Research) and is a founding Board member of his home town Mt Carroll (IL) Community Foundation. His passions are family, ancient and new friends, baseball, bridge, and mental health/suicide issues.

Leanne Puglielli | Leanne Puglielli is a retired Professional and Organizational Design and Development expert who consulted for state agencies. She taught in Schools of Management at Edgewood College, Capital University, and the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University, in addition to serving as regular faculty for the Ohio and Nevada Certified Public Manager Programs and the MAPS program at Ohio State. She was selected to serve on the board of examiners for the Ohio Award for Excellence and the Wisconsin Forward Award. Leanne is an active member of the Episcopal Church. Her focus on living the baptismal covenant — to love her neighbor as herself, search for justice and truth, and respect the dignity of every human being — has centered on racism. She developed this course in 2015 in response to the shooting of an unarmed Black man in Madison. Dr. Puglielli has a B.A. from Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa; an M.A. from Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts; and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Facilitators/Instructors

Dan Putman | Dan Putman is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy. He received his BA from Marquette University, his MA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and his PhD from the University of Southern California. Dan taught philosophy for 37 years at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley, a freshman-sophomore branch of the UW. (Since his retirement in 2011, UW-Fox Valley has become part of UW-Oshkosh.) Dan has published over 40 articles in philosophy. He and his wife, Elaine, have two children, one in New York City and the other in Boulder. Dan started teaching OLLI courses in winter 2013 for OLLI-UA in Green Valley, Arizona. In 2014, he and Elaine moved from Wisconsin to Colorado to be near the grandchildren. He has facilitated courses for OLLI at DU since 2015.

Richard Reinish | Dick Reinish, OLLI Platinum Facilitator, is a retired antitrust lawyer - which required that he learn about various industries from nuclear power to cat litter. Dick has given several classes on both documentary and foreign films, as well as current events, with an abundance of positive comments about both his film selections and his current events discussions.

Myra Rich | Myra Rich grew up in Detroit, received her B.A. from Radcliffe College and PhD in History from Yale University. She taught initially at Hunter College and, after moving to Denver, at the University of Colorado-Denver. Her primary interest is American history from the Colonial period to the Civil War, but she also teaches the history of women in America and the history of immigration to the United States.

John Rough | John Rough is a graduate of American University and in his professional career he worked in journalism, manufacturing and distribution operations and information technology. John has facilitated numerous courses for OLLI and is on the Finance Committee and the Executive Advisory Council.

Leonard Sahling | Leonard Sahling earned a PhD in Economics from the University of Michigan. His first position was as a macroeconomist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, followed by a role as macroeconomist at Fannie Mae in Washington, D.C. He then reinvented himself as a real estate economist and REIT analyst, launching a real estate research group at Merrill Lynch in New York City. After 9/11, Leonard joined ProLogis, an industrial Real Estate Investment Trust based in Denver, where he started and led a real estate research operation. When ProLogis was acquired by another REIT, he reinvented himself once again as an agricultural economist, accepting a position at CoBank, where he built and managed a research group. He is now retired and, among other pursuits, enjoys teaching an OLLI class on economic issues.

David Savitz | David B. Savitz is an attorney who earned his BA in Psychology in 1965 from Penn State and his Juris Doctor in 1968 from the University of Colorado. He was admitted to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court on February 21, 1978. During his fifty-plus-year career as a trial lawyer, David specialized in criminal

defense. He has lectured and published regionally and nationally on trial practice, childhood trauma, wiretapping, and terrorism. He is the author of a true-crime book, *Just in the Nick of Time*, and has taught two OLLI On-the-Move courses on the Trump indictments. He has been featured in the television programs *Hard Copy* and *Larry King Live*, and in several true-crime podcasts. His professional awards include Super Lawyers of Colorado, Top 100 Trial Lawyers in the Nation, and Nation's Top One Percent of Distinguished Counsel. Besides Colorado, he has litigated cases in Florida, California, Hawaii, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Washington, D.C., and internationally in Canada, Japan, and Kazakhstan. He is currently retired and devoting his time to writing and teaching. He presented a preview of this course at an OLLI event on October 8, 2024.

Rabbi Joel Schwartzman | Rabbi Schwartzman is a Reform rabbi, ordained at the Hebrew Union College, where he received his Bachelor of Hebrew Letters, Master of Hebrew Letters, and Doctor of Divinity (honoris causa). He served for over twenty-three years as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force, retiring at the rank of colonel. He is a graduate of both the Air Command and Staff College and Air Force War College courses. After leaving the Air Force, he led congregations in Denver and Summit County, Colorado. He served as president of Housing Justice!, an affordable housing advocacy organization, and Dean of the Denver Institute for Jewish Studies. Rabbi Schwartzman has published articles in numerous magazines and newspapers. As an avocation, he is currently editing a third book. Rabbi Schwartzman has two grown children, Dr. Micah and Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman, and four grandchildren. Rabbi Schwartzman enjoys reading, teaching, hiking, fishing, and skiing.

Jacqui Shumway (OLLI Fit Facilitator) | Jacqui Shumway, M.A. Therapeutic Kinesiologist/Living Younger Longer Institute Having researched and taught T'ai Chi Chuan and Medical Qigong for over 25 years, Jacqui is dedicated to the joy of active living. She combines western therapeutic kinesiology (preventive physical therapy) with Medical Qigong healing exercises from China and the meditational martial art of T'ai Chi. An old Chinese saying is that "The greatest healer is a teacher" and Jacqui is a master teacher... who also loves to have fun! Dedicated to providing students with compelling information on health issues coupled with ancient wisdom, Jacqui inspires students to have fun taking control of their own health through her compassionate attention to mindful healing through physical movement.

Jim Sieke | Jim Sieke grew up in the suburbs of Philadelphia and graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Speech-Communication and a minor in Broadcasting. After spending 3 years working in television advertising in New York and Chicago, he came to KMGH-TV Channel 7 in Denver where he worked for 34 years in sales and sales management. Jim joined OLLI after retiring and has facilitated Comedy Appreciation numerous times as well as classes on The Great Silent Film Comedians and Great Sitcoms in the Denver-Boulder area.

Facilitators/Instructors

Bruce Silmon | Bruce has dedicated over five decades to the rigorous study and exploration of metaphysics and esoteric traditions. Through extensive independent research, practice, and teaching, he has cultivated a deep understanding of spiritual philosophy, consciousness, and the hidden dimensions of human experience. His work bridges ancient wisdom with modern perspectives, offering insights that can empower individuals to expand their awareness and live with greater purpose. Bruce's lifelong commitment to these fields reflects not only his passion for knowledge but also his role as a guide for those seeking clarity on the mysteries of existence both here and beyond this mortal life.

Jonathan Slotkin (Webinar Speaker) | Jonathan R. Slotkin, MD, is a neurosurgeon and health system executive at Geisinger in Pennsylvania, where he serves as Chief Medical Officer for Strategy and Growth and continues to practice spine surgery. His work sits at the intersection of clinical medicine, health system strategy, and innovation. He helped build Geisinger's nationally recognized Walmart Centers of Excellence spine surgery program, the subject of a Harvard Business Review case study, and co-founded Contigo Health. He is also co-founder and general partner of Scrub Capital, a clinician-led venture firm investing in health care startups. A widely read essayist, Slotkin published a December 2025 guest essay in The New York Times arguing that autonomous vehicles should be treated as a public health breakthrough. The piece reached national audiences through NPR, NBC News, and the Congressional Record. He also was coleader of "An Open Letter from the Medical Community on America's Road Deaths". His writing focuses on how data, safety, and human perception collide in medicine and technology.

Pat Smith | Pat Smith was a former Chief Information Officer at a global pharmaceutical company and received a Computerworld Honors award for innovative practices in Information Technology. Pat has an MLS from the University of Maryland, and a BA from the University of Missouri. She has previously facilitated courses at OLLI in Robotics and Artificial Intelligence and served for several years as Co-Chair of the OLLI South Curriculum Committee.

Timothy Steele | Dr. Steele's career encompasses 59 years in water-quality hydrology and regional assessments of water resources. During 40 years as a consultant, he has managed many multidisciplinary projects and has directed hydrologic baseline and modeling studies for water-resources planning and management studies, as well as coal mining, oil-and-gas properties, minerals mining, and several oil-shale projects. He has consulted on numerous projects dealing with groundwater contamination, aquifer and lake/reservoir restoration, tailings disposal, hazardous waste management, design and evaluation of hydrologic monitoring networks, pollution-control plans, water-quality stream standards and total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) assessments, and regional/international groundwater planning and integrated water-resources management

(IWRM). His professional career has included overseas experience in 13 foreign countries. Over a recent period (2000-2006), Dr. Steele conducted block (short) courses dealing with concepts of integrated watershed approaches, global water issues, and climate change at two German universities and through OLLI in Denver and Ann Arbor.

Mitchell Stewart | Mitchell Stewart received his BA in International Studies from The American University and his master's in Public Administration from Harvard University. He spent 16 years with the State Department and then 21 years with the Bureau of Reclamation (Interior Department) before retiring. He began taking OLLI courses in 2010 in lieu of returning to graduate school and started facilitating in 2014, leading seminars in political and moral philosophy with occasional side trips into political theory and intellectual history. In addition to taking OLLI courses, he sits in on political theory courses at DU's Korbel School of International Studies and philosophy courses at DU's Philosophy Department. He is a member of the Hunting Working Airedales, Inc., though he does not hunt, and his Airedale does not work.

Mia Sundstrom | Mia Sundstrom is the CEO of the National Institute for Play and the granddaughter of NIFPlay founder and play expert, Dr. Stuart Brown. Mia also works as a consultant for the Office of the Chancellor at the University of Denver to infuse play and character development in the student experience.

Dean Tebbe | Dean Tebbe studied computer science and film at the University of Colorado Denver while building a 35-year career in network engineering and management. He is an avid reader with a wide range of interests, including geopolitics, human ecology, climate, and science fiction. Dean currently spends his time volunteering and permaculture gardening.

Lisa Theis (OLLI Fit Facilitator) | Lisa has been a student of yoga since 2000 and has been teaching yoga in the Denver area since 2008. She has taught in numerous studio settings as well as corporate offices, gyms, and fitness centers. She owns and operates Third Eye Yoga in Littleton, CO and leads trainings, retreats, and workshops domestically and internationally. Her classes are a beautiful combination of appropriate body alignment in asana (postures) and the deeper wisdom of yogic thought she has learned from her studies with myriad master teachers. She encourages everyone to find their own unique way to practice, as yoga is meant to be an exploration of the body, mind, and spirit. She is most influenced by the teachings of Para Yoga and the Sri Vidya tradition. Lisa's most heartfelt intention is to use the teaching of yoga to help point you back to your inner light and wisdom, which is the source of all understanding and knowing.

Facilitators/Instructors

Laura Thomas | Longtime local news anchor in several midsize to larger markets. An internship led to an weeknight anchor job while still an undergrad- and the youngest news anchor in the country for a time. Supporter of wordsmiths and storytellers, Master of Arts, University of Denver, 2014. Childhood highlight; state qualifier and finalist, Scripps spelling bee, Denver, Colorado.

Alec Tsoucatos | Alec Tsoucatos, PhD, was born to Greek parents in Alexandria, Egypt, the day before Pearl Harbor in 1941. He attended a primary British school in Alexandria and finished junior and senior high school in Athens, Greece. Alec has lived in Egypt, Greece, England, and America. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from UC Berkeley and his PhD from CU Boulder under the tutelage of Kenneth Boulding. Alec's main interests are in new economics, progressive politics, integrative medicine, positive psychology, and mystical Christianity.

Kristan Uhlenbrock (Webinar Speaker) | Kristan Uhlenbrock is the Executive Director of the Institute for Science & Policy at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, where she works to ensure science has a respected role in public discourse and policymaking. She is motivated by interesting people, places, problems, and the potential for advancing our understanding of the world and the solutions we need to sustain it. For the past two decades, she's worked at the intersection of science, policy, community engagement, and communication for organizations like the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, the American Geophysical Union, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the White House. In 2023, she received the National Academies Eric & Wendy Schmidt Excellence in Science Communication Award. Kristan values giving back through leadership and volunteer roles, including serving on boards and committees for the American Meteorological Society, the Association of Science & Technology Centers, the AAAS Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion, the Climate Democracy Initiative, among others. She holds an M.S. in Marine Science and M.A. in Science Writing.

Peter Van Arsdale | Peter Van Arsdale, PhD, is an applied anthropologist who has worked for over 40 years in various teaching and research positions at the University of Denver, including as co-founder of African Initiatives. He has also consulted in a number of other capacities. He retired from DU five years ago and now serves as an Affiliate Faculty Member (pro bono) at Regis University. Throughout his career, his focus has been on human rights, community development—including water resources—and humanitarian programming through NGOs. He is the author, co-author, or editor of 10 books, the most recent being *Encounters: 50 Fascinating Strangers from My Life on the Road*.

Dixie Vice | Dixie Vice, Master Facilitator, retired in 2015 from state and federal government, where she worked as a computer programmer and analyst. She has been taking OLLI classes ever since. Dixie has a degree in anthropology from CU with an effective minor in film studies. Her interest in foreign films began at age 16, when she was finally old enough to be admitted to the art film theatres in Indianapolis.

Sally Walling | A longtime middle school and high school English instructor, Sally Walling has a lifelong passion for diversity in art in all its forms—whether painting, film, or literature. By studying the greats of the past and present alongside others, she hopes to find the paths that can guide us toward living more peacefully together.

Marvin Weinbaum | Marvin Weinbaum is a personal coach and columnist. His column, "Coach's Corner," is published monthly in Colorado's Prime Time News and other independent, senior news outlets throughout the county. Marvin is the retired Dean of Online Learning at Golden Gate University (San Francisco) having spent a 40-year career at the intersection of Counseling, Education, Technology and Administration. He holds a Masters degree in Education from The City College of New York (CUNY).

Jeff (Duke) Weiss | Duke Weiss masterfully blends two great American traditions: Black music and poker. A dedicated recording researcher, he spun records as a live and radio DJ throughout Southern California, sharing soul, blues, and gospel music. His musical expertise includes Jamaican, Latin (Cuban and Boogaloo), West African and Bluegrass. He holds an MA from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Duke also shuffles cards with professional flair. He learned poker at age four from his Golden Nugget dealer uncle and has spent decades teaching friends the game. Now, he wants to share his skills with OLLI students who have always wanted to learn. Duke is a charismatic wild card, guaranteeing you a "pot" of fun!

Vincent Wincelowicz | Dr. Vincent C. Wincelowicz served as Chief of Undercover and Sensitive Operations at FBI Headquarters from 1991 to 1998, bringing over 30 years of law enforcement experience at local, state, and federal levels. He directed the FBI's Covert Operations School and authored key Bureau publications on undercover operations. He worked undercover for approximately 10 years in Organized Crime, White Collar Crime, and Public Corruption. He holds a Doctorate in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.

Peggy Winn | Peggy brings the true beginner perspective to this class — because she really is one. While her co-instructor, Duke, knows poker strategy, odds, and tells (whatever that means), Peggy specializes in asking the exact questions everyone else is afraid to ask. She will also contribute moral support, enthusiastic confusion, snack suggestions, and occasional reminders about what beats what. If you've ever wondered whether you're "too new" for poker, Peggy is proof that you are not.

Rebecca Winning | Rebecca Winning is a professional writer and communicator and an avid volunteer with the League of Women Voters of Jefferson County, where she currently serves as co-chair of the Voter Service Team. Prior to joining the League, she spent 30 years leading Investor Relations for large public companies, including Coors, US West, MediaOne, AT&T and a number of smaller software start-ups. For the last 10 years of her career, she led strategy and community engagement for Jefferson County Public Library. She has received Bachelor degrees in English (DePauw University, 1974) and Finance (Regis University, 1989) and a Master's degree in Creative Writing (University of Denver, 1979). Now retired, she spends her time advocating for voting rights, an informed citizenry and fair and balanced elections.

Gary Wyngarden | Gary Wyngarden has a BA from the University of Illinois and an MBA from Loyola University. His career was spent in the health care industry and included tenure as CEO of a \$2 billion company. He is a Diamond Facilitator with OLLI. Gary has a strong interest in the effects history plays in current-day crises which manifested in his series of courses on Palestine and will again with the China classes.

Jon Young | Jon Young is retired, with 42 years experience in the design and commercialization of emerging technologies initially in healthcare (funded under the Visiting Scientist program of the Weizmann Institute) and then in broadcast technologies. His volunteer work includes; Chair of STEM Curriculum Committee at OLLI Central, Organizing OLLI's Friday STEM Webinars, President of the Aging Services Foundation of Boulder County, board member of the Radio Reading Service of the Rockies, serving the visually impaired of Colorado, where he also produced a weekly science news show.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO

OLLI at DU is strengthened by the committee volunteers who generously share their time, expertise, and experience to guide our organization. Your dedication makes a meaningful difference. Thank you.

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