

# OLLI *News*

SERVING THE ACTIVE MIND

SPRING 2021

**MARCH 8**

REGISTRATION BEGINS

**APRIL 16**

THE SONG OF THE QUEEN

PAGE 20

A BRIGHT, NEW FUTURE FOR OLLI  
YOU WILL MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

PAGE 1



**UCDAVIS**

## BECOME A MEMBER OF

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE (OLLI)

*Courses and Events for Seniors*

## OLLI Quarterly Membership Fee

(You must be a current OLLI member to enroll in OLLI courses or events.)

**SPRING 2021** April 7 – June 30, 2021 **\$20**

If you are not sure you have a current membership, please call Student Services at (530) 757-8777.

### To Enroll

**By Phone** (530) 757-8777

**Online** [cpe.ucdavis.edu/olli](https://cpe.ucdavis.edu/olli)

Enrolling online requires an account. If you have questions, call Student Services.

**Need help enrolling?** Our Student Services team is available by phone to help! Call the number above and leave a message asking for a call back. Include your phone number and an email where you can be reached. Student Services office hours are: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Class Locations

**SPRING 2021 classes will be held via Zoom.**

Need a personal tutor to learn how to use Zoom? Many OLLI volunteers are ready to help you, step-by-step via phone, so you can stay engaged in OLLI courses online.

Email our office at [OLLI@ucdavis.edu](mailto:OLLI@ucdavis.edu) to arrange for a call with one of our tutors.

## Exclusive OLLI Membership Offer for Members of UC Davis Retirees' Association (UCDRA) and UC Davis Emeriti Association (UCDEA)

To help build a more sustainable OLLI and engage the many talented, energetic and experienced members of UCDRA and UCDEA, we are offering you a complimentary course credit equivalent to your paid OLLI quarterly membership (a \$20 value).

**To receive your course credit, please register for membership and courses by phone at (530) 757-8777 Ext. 1.** This offer requires validation of current UCDRA/UCDEA membership, which cannot be verified through our online registration system. For questions and further details, please contact the OLLI office at (530) 752-9695.

For others in need of financial assistance, OLLI scholarships are available. Contact the OLLI office to enroll.



*A humble bee begins it's daily search for pollen to take home to The Queen.*

# A BRIGHT, NEW FUTURE FOR OLLI YOU WILL MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!



**Lisa Smith-Youngs**, director, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

As this edition of our catalog goes to design, I'm looking at the beginning of a new year with optimism and the anticipation of a better 2021 for OLLI.

While we're all glad to put 2020 behind us, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to the extraordinary members and volunteers who pitched in to get our classes up and running online. I'm grateful to the OLLI instructors who faced the uncertainty of teaching via Zoom and took it in stride, as well as our members who dived into learning via the virtual classroom with a sense of adventure and spirit. You are all great role models for what lifelong learning is all about!

To those who donated to OLLI, your charitable partnership through rough times has meant more than ever to the program. Because of you, we were able to extend our contract staff assistant for the next several months! Leslie has been embraced by the OLLI family and her talents and warm personality are a gift to all who know her.

As I write this message, 2.4 million positive cases of COVID have been reported in California, with vaccinations just beginning. By the time you read this, I'm hopeful that most of the OLLI family will have been

vaccinated and that you are feeling more positive about your safety. Still that leaves us with some uncertainty...

We anticipate that classes will continue online for the spring, and we hope to return to traditional classrooms in the fall. ***That's where YOU come in!*** As OLLI prepares for the months ahead we need everyone's effort to secure our program's future. OLLI experienced heavy financial losses in 2020. While our administration resolutely supports our efforts, ***it's up to us*** to make sure the program performs strongly enough to sustain itself.

**Here's how you can help** (to see further details, flip to the inside back cover)

- Connect us with organizations you know and trust
- Recruit new members
- Enlist volunteers to serve as Zoom co-pilots
- Help us find an affordable, larger classroom
- Train to become an OLLI ambassador





## **GIVE TO THE HEART OF OLLI**

Your donations to The Heart of OLLI do good work. Donations fund updated equipment, support outreach, operations and special events and subsidize OLLI scholarships for seniors in need.

Now, it's easier than ever to show that you believe in the value of lifelong learning in your community! Make a commitment to monthly giving (as little as \$10 per month) through our new fundraising webpage: **[give.ucdavis.edu/go/HeartofOLLI](http://give.ucdavis.edu/go/HeartofOLLI)**

Questions? Contact Lisa Smith-Youngs, OLLI program director, at (530) 752-9695 for more details.

### **Other Gift Options**

The Office of University Development can help you create a gift plan that meets your personal goals. For more information about how a gift of appreciated securities, a life-income gift or a bequest can benefit you and OLLI, please contact Jane Fortner, associate director of Development at UC Davis, at (530) 601-3414 or **[jefortner@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jefortner@ucdavis.edu)**.

**Thank you for supporting  
lifelong learning in our community.**



## **Important Facts about Your Class Enrollments**

### **Your computer is a vital link to OLLI updates!**

It's more important than ever before that OLLI members check email for messages from **[cpeinfo@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cpeinfo@ucdavis.edu)** or **[OLLI@ucdavis.edu](mailto:OLLI@ucdavis.edu)**. The OLLI office must employ UC software resources to communicate quickly and efficiently with our members. Updates, assignments and cancellations of OLLI courses are sent via email. If you receive an email from **[cpeinfo@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cpeinfo@ucdavis.edu)** it is most likely an important message regarding a class for which you are registered.

- Call the Student Services staff at (530) 757-8777 to make sure your email address is up to date in our files.
- Check your computer, tablet and phone email settings to be sure messages from the email sources mentioned above aren't going to your spam folder.
- OLLI excursion course fees are no longer refundable once you have enrolled, unless your vacancy can be filled by our wait list. A \$20 service fee will apply. Please contact OLLI staff at (530) 752-9695 for details.
- There will be no service charge for withdrawal requests prior to the beginning of the quarter. Once the quarter begins, requests to withdraw from a class are subject to a \$20 processing fee, or the member may request a credit to their student account to be used before the end of the academic year. All fees being held at the conclusion of the academic year will be forfeited.
- Check the times of your classes. Some class times vary. Please be courteous to others by arriving on time. If you must leave early, leave during the break if at all possible.

# COURSES AND EVENTS AT A GLANCE

## SPRING 2021 online registration begins March 8.

As a helpful reminder, we suggest you circle or highlight the classes in which you have enrolled.

COURSE TITLE	#DAYS	START DATE	COURSE#	FEE	PG
<b>ART, MUSIC AND THEATER</b>					
Chicago Blues	1	April 27	204SNR101	\$25	5
French Modernism: Pablo Picasso	1	June 17	204SNR104	\$25	5
Historic Film Soundtracks and Modern Film Composers	2	June 9	204SNR106	\$40	6
Linda Ronstadt: My Job is to Make You Cry	4	April 15	204SNR105	\$60	6
Wrestling with God: Theology in the Music of Leonard Cohen	2	June 7	204SNR109	\$40	7
<b>FILM STUDY</b>					
International Film: Cinema and the City	4	April 30	204SNR102	\$60	7
Prison Bars and Hollywood Stars	4	April 15	204SNR100	\$60	8
<b>HISTORY</b>					
Castles of Medieval England	8	May 13	204SNR502	\$75	8
John Muir	1	April 23	204SNR500	\$25	9
No Ordinary Woman	2	April 7	204SNR505	\$40	9
Reconstruction: A Missed Opportunity	4	April 13	204SNR507	\$40	10
The Supreme Court and Court Packing	4	June 8	204SNR509	\$40	10
<b>LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY</b>					
<i>Blue Blood</i> —A Literary Discussion	2	June 1	204SNR403	\$40	11
Memoirs: A Writing Workshop	8	April 13	204SNR400	\$75	11
Playing with Poetry: Reading and Writing Poems for Fun	2	April 28	204SNR407	\$40	12
The Ramayana—Part 2	2	May 11	204SNR411	\$40	12

COURSE TITLE	#DAYS	START DATE	COURSE#	FEE	PG
<b>POLITICS AND CURRENT EVENTS</b>					
California Branches of Government	4	May 12	204SNR201	\$60	13
California Public Schools: More Complex than You Think	4	April 12	204SNR200	\$60	13
Crossroads America	8	April 14	204SNR209	\$75	14
Income Inequality in America	4	June 8	204SNR218	\$60	14
Putin's Russia: Difficult Neighbor or Potential Adversary?	1	June 21	204SNR211	\$25	15
Reading <i>The New Yorker</i> (Session 1)	8	April 30	204SNR205	\$75	15
Reading <i>The New Yorker</i> (Session 2)	8	June 25	204SNR206	\$75	15
Timely Topics	8	April 12	204SNR202	\$75	15
<b>SCIENCE</b>					
Arecibo Observatory: Its Ups, Downs, Ins and Outs	1	June 1	204SNR300	\$25	16
The Evolution of Sustainable Wine Growing in California	1	May 10	204SNR307	\$25	16
The Manhattan Project: 75 Years of the Atom Bomb	1	June 23	204SNR303	\$25	17
Patterns in Nature—Part 2: Crystals and Snowflakes!	1	June 9	202SNR311	\$25	17
Scent Sense: Olfactory Science in Working Dogs	1	May 17	204SNR305	\$25	18
A Tale of Two Tunnels: Traffic Related Air Pollution and Human Health	1	June 10	204SNR315	\$25	18
<b>SPECIALTIES</b>					
Appreciation of Beer	4	May 4	204SNR604	\$60	19
Art and Mindfulness	4	May 13	204SNR606	\$60	19
The Song of the Queen: Thrilling Tales of Honey Bee Mating Behavior	1	April 16	204SNR601	\$25	20



## Missed a class?

Watch select OLLI classes on Davis Media Access (channel 15) or visit the Yolo County Library in Davis and check out the Osher Lifelong Learning DVD collection.

Visit [cpe.ucdavis.edu/olli](http://cpe.ucdavis.edu/olli) for more info.

# SCHEDULE OF COURSES AND EVENTS

**Spring 2021** *Enroll early! Classes begin Wednesday, April 7, 2021*



## ART, MUSIC AND THEATER

### Chicago Blues

Musicians in Chicago in the 1940s created a new sound for the blues. Muddy Waters, Jimmy Rogers, Little Walter, Willie Dixon, Otis Span and Howlin' Wolf—among others—moved north from Mississippi and reinvented the blues in a new, urban environment. This class will explore the evolution of the Chicago blues out of the Delta blues, focusing not only on the musical evolution, but also on the social and cultural forces that shaped the development of the blues. We will analyze specific songs, as well as the urban context that shaped this iconic sound.

**Instructor:** Julia Simon is a cultural historian in the Department of French and Italian at UC Davis. She is also a working blues musician, gigging in bands for the last 19 years. Her most recent book, *Time in the Blues*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2017.

1 Tuesday	April 27	2-4 p.m.
204SNR101	\$25	Zoom

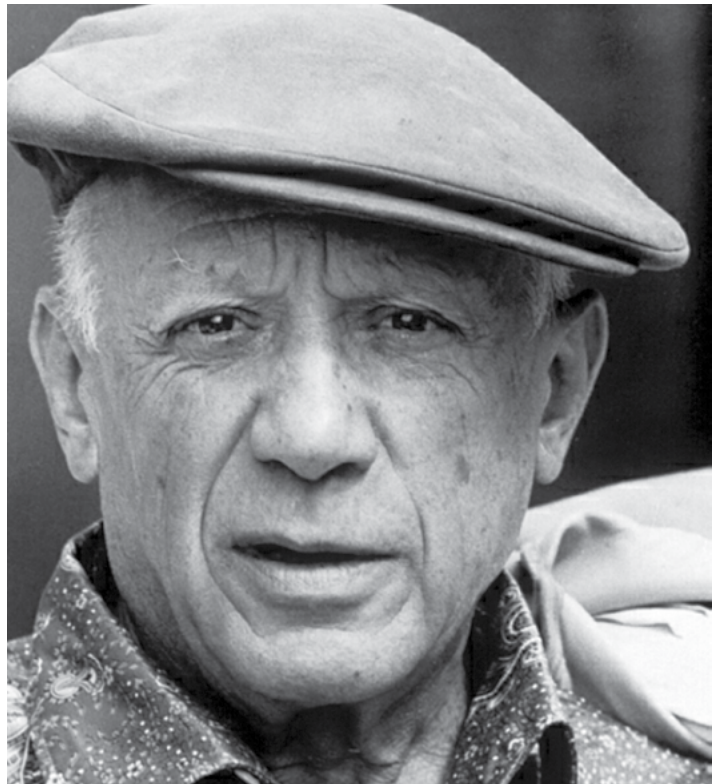
### French Modernism: Pablo Picasso

Pablo Picasso is one of the most important painters in history. Born in 1881, his works influenced the direction of fine art and notable artists throughout the 20th century. His art comprises more than 50,000 paintings, drawings, engravings, sculptures and ceramics produced over 80 years, in a series of overlapping periods. This interactive lecture will cover selected works in depth, as well as the autobiographical nature of his work and its impact on the art world.

**Note:** *Unlike the rest of our catalog, this class is presented in a one-hour session.*

**Instructor:** Jerry DeCamp is a retired teacher of art studio and art history with 30 years of experience. His bachelor's and master's degrees were both from UC Davis. He continues to teach part time, maintains a painting and sculpture studio, and exhibits in Paris.

1 Thursday	June 17	2-3 p.m.
204SNR104	\$25	Zoom



*Pablo Picasso, 1962*



## Historic Film Soundtracks and Modern Film Composers

Any casual film buff can bring to mind musical themes from iconic films such as the frantic cadence of Hitchcock's *Psycho* or the poignant balalaika melody from *Dr. Zhivago*. Sadly, despite the value they bring to cinema, film scores are often overlooked by the public. **If you love orchestral music, this is the class for you.** We'll hear the works of legendary composers such as Alfred Newman and Bernard Hermann. In session two, we'll consider how their work influenced the scores of modern-day composers, including Danny Elfman (*Dolores Claiborne*, *Good Will Hunting*), Thomas Newman (*Meet Joe Black*, *The Shawshank Redemption*), and Rachel Portman (*Emma*, *Chocolat*), the first woman to win an Academy Award for a film score. Together we will develop a new appreciation for the sounds behind the dialogue.

**Instructor:** Timothy Youngs teaches broadcast journalism and video production at Cosumnes Oaks High School in Elk Grove. His curriculum includes film appreciation, which allows students to explore technical production elements in creating exceptional media. He is a graduate of CSU Sacramento and holds degrees in history, music composition and voice, as well as teaching certificates in history, arts and media entertainment, computer programs and music.

2 Wednesdays    June 9 & 16    2-4 p.m.

204SNR106    \$40    Zoom



John Barry at the Royal Albert Hall, 2006 – courtesy of Geoff Leonard via Wikimedia

## Linda Ronstadt: My Job is to Make You Cry

Linda Ronstadt sang solo, in duets and trios, and in many different musical genres for nearly 50 years until Parkinson's disease ended her singing career in 2009. She is considered by many to have one of the best voices in music. She received many awards, including membership in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Kennedy Center Honors, as well as multiple hit songs, five platinum albums and ten Grammys. Her collaborations with other musicians are shining examples of her artistry. We will listen to and discuss her music, explore her influences, and track her impact on the lives of so many. As always, class participation is encouraged.

**Instructors:** Larry Lobre, M.P.A., worked for decades in social services and was the director of professional services at UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education's Human Services. His long-time interest in music includes singing and playing in various bands for many years. Lifelong learning is his passion.

Dennis Pendleton has focused much of his career on community engagement and outreach at UC Davis over the past 40 years. He is a member of the UC Davis Community Development Graduate Group and directed the Public Service Research Program for 10 years. He retired in 2015 after serving for 14 years as dean of UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education.

4 Thursdays    April 15-May 6    10a.m.-noon

204SNR105    \$60    Zoom



Linda Ronstadt in concert, 1981 – courtesy of Circacies



## Wrestling with God: Theology in the Music of Leonard Cohen

Leonard Cohen has always sprinkled his music with religious allusions. This course will review those, but will focus on Cohen's last album, *You Want It Darker*. Cohen was in his 80s when he recorded these songs and they represent his best attempt to explore the complicated relationship between God and humans.

**Suggested Listening:** *You Want It Darker*, full album recording by Leonard Cohen

**Instructor:** Richard Zeiger spent the first half of his life as a journalist. For most of the second half, he worked for the state legislature. During his last four years, he was chief deputy of the California Department of Education. As a writer, he has a profound interest in the lyrical content of Cohen's music.

2 Mondays	June 7 & 14	2-4 p.m.
204SNR109	\$40	Zoom



Leonard Cohen, on tour in Australia, 2009



## FILM STUDY

### International Film: Cinema and the City

Throughout the history of cinema, "the city" has fascinated filmmakers. Movies have reflected modern urban life, immersed us in brilliant metropolises and invited us to discover the intimate secrets of cities around the world. Featuring contemporary international films, this class will explore the ways in which cinema has engaged with the phenomenon of the city and the experience of urban life today.

**Note:** Participants must be able to rent or stream films to watch at home prior to each class. Film titles will be provided closer to the class date to assure availability to stream or rent.

**Instructor:** Kevin Elstob has taught classes at OLLI on film and French and Francophone culture for nearly five years. He is a professor at Sacramento State University and has led a number of post-film discussion sessions online and at the Crest and Tower movie houses. He has also presented at cinema and culture conferences and workshops in the United States, Canada and Europe.

4 Fridays	April 30-May 21	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR102	\$60	Zoom

## Prison Bars and Hollywood Stars

From Chaplin's *The Adventurer* to the chilling modern TV series *The Night Of*, prison/convict films have been one of the most enduring cinematic settings. The psychological and sociological complexities of incarceration capture our imagination. Loss of freedom as punishment seems a definition of living-hell. What would **you** do if cell doors roared shut behind you? We will examine and discuss four such possibilities, all offered on streaming home TV channels like *Netflix*: *Cool Hand Luke* (1967), *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994), *The Green Mile* (1999) and *The Experiment* (2010). The final film is based on the 1971 Stanford University experiment on prison behavior and was directed by Davis-raised Paul Scheuring.

**Instructor:** Rene Viargues completed degrees at both UC Davis and UC Berkeley in political science. He received a second M.A. at the University of Pennsylvania under its interdisciplinary American Studies program. Viargues taught a variety of government, history and English courses for more than 30 years at the California Maritime Academy, including over 15 years teaching an art-of-the-cinema course.

4 Thursdays	April 15-May 6	2-4 p.m.
204SNR100	\$60	Zoom



Rebel hero *Cool Hand Luke*, played by Paul Newman.



## HISTORY

### Castles of Medieval England

Northern England is especially fortunate to have preserved exceptional structures dating back 900 years. The class begins with an overview of a castle's central purpose (surprisingly, not defense). We will then explore Richmond Castle (the residence of John of Gaunt), Middleham (Richard III), Bolton (where Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned), and Durham (a strategic English bulwark against Scot invasions). We will also study Alnwick (Hotspur) and Warkworth, both homes to the rebellious Percies. And the Irish will receive their due at Carrickfergus Castle. We will also examine medieval life, culture, entertainment, daily routines and the role of heroic women—who often defended castles as their own.

**Instructor:** Kevin Roddy taught for 32 years in the Medieval Studies program at UC Davis until retiring in 2010. He taught on the nature of medieval social life, covering the roles of women and men within their cultural environment. He has taken student groups to Europe to study medieval architecture in Sweden, Britain, France and Italy. He has published in the areas of medieval literature, social life and religion.

8 Thursdays	May 13–July 1	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR502	\$75	Zoom

## John Muir

Join your OLLI classmates for a newly updated lecture with images offering a biographical portrait of legendary naturalist, John Muir. We will trace his evolution as a writer. We will also examine his success as a conservationist, as the central figure of an actor-network made of family, friends, colleagues and various institutions and entities, including the Sierra Nevada itself. The instructor will also discuss recent public controversy surrounding John Muir not provided in his last OLLI lecture. Come be immersed in the tale of this legendary American.

**Instructor:** Kim Stanley Robinson is an American science fiction writer who has lived in Davis for 40 years. Much of his leisure time has been spent in the Sierra Nevada. He visited Antarctica in 1995 and 2016 as part of the U.S. National Science Foundation's writer and media program. *Time* magazine declared him a "Hero of the Environment" in 2008 and he is an advisor to the Sierra Nevada Research Institute at UC Merced.

1 Friday	April 23	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR500	\$25	Zoom

## No Ordinary Woman

We are surrounded by extraordinary women, so why not talk about them? Delve into the lives of some of these women—not all of whom are famous to the general public. They include Maude Gonne, Emma Gatewood, Eleanor Walter (Rosie the Riveter), Rose Cleveland, Julia Sand, Maria Halpin, Alice Roosevelt, Princess Alice, Leona Hemsley, Alice Walton, Anna Sorokin, Ada Byron Lovelace, Shirley Chisholm, Sojourner Truth, Madame Walker, Virginia Apgar and more. Historically lightly humorous, this class promises to be fun.

**Instructor:** Pam Watson has a degree in communications and credentialed in English. She taught English and science in the public schools for 15 years. She has enjoyed multiple opportunities as a professional public speaker, including teaching public address skills to business professionals and lay lecturers and effective teaching practices to educators. She has been leading OLLI classes for over 10 years throughout California and Nevada and divides her time between Long Beach, California, and Reno, Nevada.

2 Wednesdays	April 7 & 14	2-4 p.m.
204SNR505	\$40	Zoom



*Suffragette Maude Gonne (far right) in 1922*

## Reconstruction: A Missed Opportunity

This course will explore the period known as Reconstruction, which took place from the end of the Civil War in 1865 through 1877. We will analyze the many changes made to the U.S. Constitution and how these changes created a “new” founding. We will look at why these changes failed and how newly freed slaves were denied their civil and political rights at the end of the period.

**Note:** *Unlike the rest of our catalog, this class is held in one-hour sessions.*

**Suggested Reading:** *The Second Founding*, Eric Foner, W.W. Norton & Company

**Instructor:** Don Fraser has taught numerous history courses for OLLI. He is the author of two books: *The Emergence of One American Nation* and *The Emergence of One American Nation: The Revolution, the Founders, and the Constitution*. He has a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s degree in public policy and administration.

4 Tuesdays	April 13-May 4	10-11 a.m.
204SNR507	\$40	Zoom

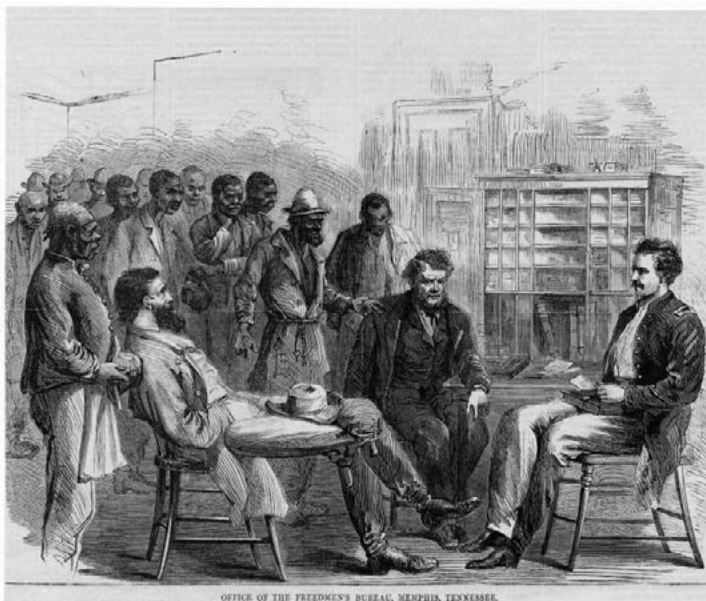
## The Supreme Court and Court Packing

This course will focus on the history of the Supreme Court and how the court went from a backwater to a co-equal branch early in our history. We will discuss various moments when the Supreme Court has been out of step with the times, and how presidents and Congress have dealt with those events, including prior attempts to “pack the court.”

**Note:** *Unlike the rest of our catalog, this class is held in one-hour sessions.*

**Instructor:** Don Fraser (see bio at left)

4 Tuesdays	June 8-29	10-11 a.m.
204SNR509	\$40	Zoom



*The Freedmen's Bureau was an important agency of early Reconstruction, assisting freedmen in the South. This illustration was featured in Harper's Weekly, A Journal of Civilization, which featured extensive coverage of domestic news both before and after the Civil War.*





# LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY

## ***Blue Blood*—A Literary Discussion**

The “cop on the beat” and a city’s police force have changed roles and techniques over the years, due in part to a reflection of modern technology and an expanding cultural diversity. Americans’ responses to their police officers are conscious and unconscious reactions to authority figures sworn to protect their citizenry. Both sides experience the same or similar attitudinal conflicts. With that in mind, we will read *Blue Blood*, the 2004 best-selling memoir by Edward Conlon, a fourth generation, Harvard-educated New York City police officer. We will discuss the ways his experiences reflect current policing and how they differ, in the hopes of gaining a clearer perspective on problems and possible solutions.

**Suggested Reading:** *Blue Blood*, Edward Conlon, Riverhead Books (Penguin Group)

**Instructor:** Rene Viargues (see bio on page 8)

2 Tuesdays	June 1 & 8	2-4 p.m.
2045NR403	\$40	Zoom

## **Memoirs: A Writing Workshop**

The legacy of your personal stories has great value to your family, of course, and to other people, too. Several memoirs and stand-alone memoir stories have been published out of this class, which operates like a writer’s workshop. Every week you will write a three- to four-page memoir piece or personal essay. Then you will receive feedback and ideas on grammar and punctuation, story structure and the use of literary technique. Everyone will have the opportunity to read two or more stories to the class for a more in-depth critiquing session. Please come join us on the memoirists’ journey where we make meaning, and art, of our life experience.

**Instructor:** Kit Kirkpatrick is a certified memoirist, having completed “Writing Down the Soul” at the Pacifica Graduate Institute in Santa Barbara. She holds a Life Teaching Credential from UC Davis and a master’s degree in communications from CSU Sacramento. She has been a publicist, owned a public relations agency and published a statewide magazine, *California Restaurateur*.

8 Tuesdays	April 13-June 1	12:30-3:30 p.m.
2045NR400	\$75	Zoom

Visit the  
OLLI blog!  
[cpe.ucdavis.edu/  
olli/blog](http://cpe.ucdavis.edu/olli/blog)



## Playing with Poetry: Reading and Writing Poems for Fun

Have fun with words through reading and writing poems. We will have a look at the words, images, themes and sounds of poems by Maya Angelou, William Butler Yeats, Emily Dickinson, Allen Ginsberg, William Shakespeare and others. Playing with the ideas and approaches of these poets, we will experiment with writing our own words, and if we feel like calling them poems, then that will be a bonus. (Poems will be distributed to students before the class.)

**Instructor:** Cynthia Kellogg has had fun with words for 40 years as an English professor at Woodland Community College and subsequently as an adjunct composition instructor for UC Davis students. She appreciates poetry but does not write poems. She does, however, like to think of the short stories she writes as poetic.

2 Wednesdays    April 28 & May 5    2-4 p.m.

204SNR407    \$40    Zoom



William Butler Yeats, 1911 – courtesy of National Portrait Gallery

## The Ramayana—Part 2

This discussion class is a follow up to the winter quarter presentation. Here we will explore the relevant themes of the epic—listening to one's conscience, drawing conclusions, making decisions, taking actions, assuming responsibility—and draw parallels to our own lives. The story shows us how our consciousness can be operated, conveys new ways of orienting to the world and mimics behavior we can recognize and talk about. The characters of Rama, Sita and Hanuman are such models of domestic virtues, royal courage and values, so true to nature that they appeal to us all. Their lives are not free from difficulties and pain, yet support often comes in unexpected form.

**Suggested Reading:** *Ramayana*, Kamala Subramaniam, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (in English)

**Instructor:** Grazia Jaroff has been a student of yoga for more than 20 years and is certified as a teacher by the Krishnamacharya Yoga Healing Foundation in Chennai, India. She has taught yoga at the Davis Art Center since 2007, at local businesses and at yoga study groups. She also taught Italian language and conversation at UC Davis International House for 12 years. Jaroff worked at UC Davis for 34 years in the library and as director of Systems Engineering in Telecommunications. Jaroff has an M.A. in public administration from UC Riverside.

2 Tuesdays    May 11 & 18    10 a.m.-noon

204SNR411    \$40    Zoom



# POLITICS AND CURRENT EVENTS

## California Branches of Government

Government is divided into three co-equal branches. That notion is usually foisted on an unsuspecting audience sometime around the third grade and remains unchallenged throughout all the other key milestones of life: first prom, first car, first election. *But are there three co-equal branches?* This course may re-define what it means to be a “branch of government” and explore the relationships among them to see if they are, in fact, “co-equal.” We’ll also look at media coverage of state government to understand how the public gets – or does not get – news about those branches.

**Instructor:** A.G. Block spent a quarter century observing and writing about California politics and government as editor of *California Journal* magazine. After leaving the *Journal* in 2005, he co-founded a public-affairs journalism program, partnering with the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, offering internships and coursework to undergraduate students throughout the UC system. He has lectured on California government and media at several campuses, including Davis, Santa Barbara, UCLA, Berkeley, Merced, Riverside and Sacramento State. Block began his journalism career in Ketchum, Idaho, where he also served as a member of the Ketchum City Council.

4 Wednesdays    May 12-June 2    2-4 p.m.  
2045NR201    \$60    Zoom

## California Public Schools: More Complex than You Think

How did California develop such a complicated public education system? We will start with an examination of how schools are organized in California, including the role of the state, counties and local school districts. Does the current structure aid, or retard, improving the quality of California schools? From there, we will move on to current issues in education, including financing, charter schools and educational equity. Notable guest speakers will be featured throughout.

**Instructor:** Richard Zeiger (see bio on page 7)

4 Mondays    April 12- May 3    2-4 p.m.  
2045NR200    \$60    Zoom



From 2019-2020 10,588 public schools hosted 6,163,001 California students – Photo credit: Centers for Disease Control

## Crossroads America

With a new administration in charge, our nation faces a multitude of challenges. We may always be at a crossroads in our country, whether over an election or any of the legislative issues our representatives face. This weekly discussion group will provide a safe forum for OLLI friends to review and discuss all political-related news. Our discussions will focus on our representatives' policies and character, as well as how they navigate the rapids of public perception, news media, polling, the impact of social media and potential political curve balls yet to be revealed.

**Instructors:** Bill Baxter is a retired deputy chief and served 38 years in fire and wildland management positions with both CAL FIRE and the U.S. Forest Service. Bill graduated from UC Berkeley in 1976 with a degree in forestry and resource management and has resided in Davis since 2013. Politics, history and issues of social justice are keen areas of personal interest for him.

Charlotte Lucero, M.S.W., has lived in Davis since 1966. She completed her degree at UC Davis in women's studies in 1997. She retired from the UC Davis School of Medicine in 2002, joined the Peace Corps and served in Ecuador. She received a master's degree in social work in 2010 at San Jose State University and serves as a volunteer in the Philippines for Faces of Tomorrow. Lucero is an adjunct professor/field instructor for CSU Sacramento's Department of Social Work.

8 Wednesdays	April 14-June 2	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR209	\$75	Zoom

## Income Inequality in America

In 2008, Barack Obama called income inequality “a dangerous and growing inequality—the defining challenge of our time.” In 2013, Charles Young, chancellor emeritus UCLA, called it the most important issue facing America today. Yet when Obama left office in January 2017, income inequality was higher than when he entered the White House. In September 2019, the Census Bureau reported that income inequality in the United States had reached its highest level in 50 years. The United States has the highest level of income inequality among G7 countries. What is it that makes income inequality such an intractable problem? In this class we will discuss when the current gap started, what made and sustains it, and what needs to happen to reverse the trend.

**Suggested Reading:** *The Price of Inequality* by Joseph Stiglitz

**Instructor:** Joe Schwartz's career was in the aerospace industry where he held positions in marketing and management. He previously taught OLLI classes on mass incarceration and income inequality.

4 Tuesdays	June 8-29	2-4 p.m.
204SNR218	\$60	Zoom





## Putin's Russia: Difficult Neighbor or Potential Adversary?

Russia has a uniquely conflictual history that has bequeathed it a skeptical view of the West. Putin's leadership model has amplified "making Russia great again" and this entails criticism of, and interference in, Western governments and institutions. As a result, Putin is popular at home, but foreign critics brand this policy syndrome as "national paranoia." This session will look at the world through Russian eyes and then speculate on how Western governments may respond to Putin's hostile initiatives.

**Instructor:** Stephen Hoadley is a veteran professor at the University of Auckland New Zealand, working primarily in the sub-discipline of foreign policy analysis. A graduate of UC Santa Barbara, he is also an academic author, media commentator and public speaker. He has been analyzing U.S. foreign affairs since the presidential election of 1964.

1 Monday	June 21	2-4 p.m.
204SNR211	\$25	Zoom

## Reading *The New Yorker* (Sessions 1 and 2)

This course is an ongoing participation-discussion seminar based on weekly selections from *The New Yorker* magazine. **Limited enrollment.**

**Instructor:** Michael Pach retired from a lengthy career in information system security validation and verification in both the public and private sectors. He and his wife live in Davis, endlessly catching up with all of the things he postponed while working and raising a family. These include guitar lessons, struggling to learn French, traveling, reading and enjoying time spent sharing ideas and thoughts with others in *Reading The New Yorker*.

### SESSION 1

8 Fridays	April 30-June 18	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR205	\$75	Zoom

### SESSION 2

8 Fridays	June 25 – Aug. 13	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR206	\$75	Zoom

## Timely Topics

Discuss current and timely events that affect our lives. The instructors provide weekly at-home assignments for each upcoming session. Reading materials for the class will be available via links on the internet sent to class participants by email. If, for example, a particularly interesting presenter from the World Affairs Council is obtainable only via audio over the internet, participants should have listened to the presentation so it can be discussed during the upcoming class. **No class on May 31. Limited enrollment.**

**Instructors:** Dan Buckley graduated from the University of San Francisco and has a master's degree in transportation management from the Florida Institute of Technology. He served in the U.S. Army for 27 years and was on the faculty of the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., focusing on strategy and operations for four of those years. Buckley is currently retired and enjoys civilian life in Davis.

Paul Tarczy has an MBA from Golden Gate University. He spent 30 years working in the midst of the transformation of computer technology from mainframes to personal computers and spent much of his career setting up and maintaining computer networks in both the private and public sectors.

8 Mondays	April 12-June 7	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR202	\$75	Zoom



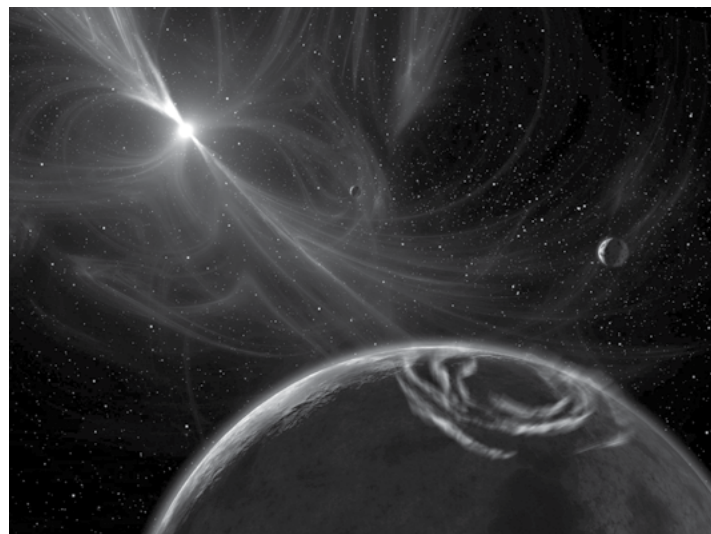
# SCIENCE

## Arecibo Observatory: Its Ups, Downs, Ins and Outs

Until the tragic collapse of its dish in August 2020, the Arecibo Observatory was the largest operational radio-radar telescope in the world. Conceived in the late 50s as a military communications experiment, the facility segued into becoming a planetary radar, a super sensitive radio telescope, an upper atmospheric probe and notoriously, a seeker of extra-terrestrial intelligent signals. Learn the history and some of the findings in those areas of research, which began in a sinkhole of rural Puerto Rico.

**Instructor:** Garred Giles received a master's degree in education from Central Washington State University in 1969. He taught industrial arts and history in public schools in Washington, New Mexico and Puerto Rico and was also a librarian. He served as scientific services director at Arecibo Observatory between 1977-1988. He served in the Peace Corps in 1963 and 2003 in Ecuador.

1 Tuesday	June 1	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR300	\$25	Zoom



Artist concept of Pulsar planet discovered using the Arecibo radio telescope in 1992 – Courtesy of NASA

## The Evolution of Sustainable Wine Growing in California

California winegrape growers were leaders in the adoption of sustainable farming and have embraced it on a broader scale than growers in any other cropping system. This course traces the evolution of sustainable winegrowing in California, how it influenced wine industries in other states, and why winegrape growers became leaders in sustainable farming. We will also explore the differences between sustainable, organic and biodynamic farming.

**Instructor:** Cliff Ohmart has a Ph.D. in entomology from UC Berkeley. He was principal research scientist for Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Australia for 13 years. In California, he's worked as an independent integrated pest management crop consultant, the sustainable winegrowing director for the Lodi Winegrape Commission and a senior scientist for a private ag consulting company.

1 Monday	May 10	2-4 p.m.
204SNR307	\$25	Zoom



A biodynamic vineyard at Grgich Hills estate – Wikimedia Commons

## The Manhattan Project: 75 Years of the Atom Bomb

On July 16, 1945 the first nuclear fission device, called the “Trinity” test, occurred in Alamogordo, N.M. The following month, the atomic bombs “Little Boy” and “Fat Man” were exploded over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, respectively, and led to the surrender of Japan and the end of World War II. This presentation summarizes how the Manhattan Engineer District designed, developed and produced these devices from theoretical concepts for the fission chain reaction in under three years. This vast and highly classified project involved tens of thousands of workers and the construction of major facilities in several locations involving numerous supporting organizations. Descriptions will be given of the science and engineering issues that were addressed for the two types of atomic bombs used in WW II.

**Suggested reading:** *The History and Science of the Manhattan Project*, Second Edition, Bruce C. Reed (Springer-Verlag GmbH, Germany, 2019)

**Instructor:** Bob Bowman, Ph.D., holds degrees in chemistry and was employed at the Mound Laboratory (1969-1984). He also worked at three aerospace organizations in Southern California and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Bowman is a board member of the Mound Science and Energy Museum Association and active in other historical societies.

1 Wednesday	June 23	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR303	\$25	Zoom

## Patterns in Nature—Part 2: Crystals and Snowflakes!

Escape the heat for a microscopic journey into the world of ice crystals and snowflakes with a chemical engineering professor who knows the landscape! We’ll begin by dispensing with the old adage, “*No two snowflakes are alike*,” and delve into the myriad conditions that conspire to create these wonders of nature. Depending on environmental factors, ice crystals can develop into numerous symmetric shapes, many sporting random ornate tree-like flakes. While viewing images of actual ice and snow crystals, we will explore the key steps nature uses to create them and the underlying concepts of tree-like growth patterns that lead to their mesmerizing designs.

**Instructor:** Brian Higgins is an emeritus chemical engineering professor at UC Davis. He received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1975 and continues to teach and consult at universities in Japan and Vietnam. He has taught numerous OLLI courses.

1 Wednesday	June 9	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR311	\$25	Zoom

# Scent Sense: Olfactory Science in Working Dogs

Explore the science behind a dog’s ability to conduct tasks such as tracking and trailing missing persons, locating explosives and narcotics, and detecting ovarian cancer. The use of detection dogs is well established as a rapid and mobile technology for the detection of odor from drugs, explosives and humans; however, the next frontier is harnessing their olfactory abilities for disease detection in order to address a global public health pandemic.

**Instructors:** Jenna Gadberry is a contract scientist at the U.S. Army Futures Command’s Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center supporting olfactory sciences. She earned her B.S. in biological sciences from UC Davis in 2003 and enjoyed a 12-year career at the Department of Defense’s Combating Terrorism Technical Support Office prior to her present posting.

Michele Maughan is a contract scientist supporting the U.S. Army’s Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center in the olfactory sciences group. She received a Ph.D. in microbial pathogenomics from the University of Delaware in 2012. She also has degrees in pre-veterinary medicine and molecular virology.

1 Monday	May 17	2-4 p.m.
204SNR305	\$25	Zoom



*Compared to humans, dogs possess up to 300 million olfactory receptors while humans have about 6 million*

# A Tale of Two Tunnels: Traffic Related Air Pollution and Human Health

Exposure dynamics—the study of pollutants and particulates and related health effects on humankind—has become a critical field of scientific study. Researchers at UC Davis have constructed a test facility known as TRAP, adjacent to a major freeway tunnel system to model exposure dynamics for people living, commuting and working in near-roadway environments. Emissions are drawn directly from the tunnel into an onsite vivarium housing exposure chambers to enable real-time chronic exposure studies on TRAP. Explore the design, construction and implementation of this facility, and several cutting-edge studies focused on neurodevelopmental disorders and Alzheimer’s disease.

**Instructor:** Dr. Keith Bein received B.S. degrees in physics and chemistry from CSU Chico and his Ph.D. in atmospheric sciences at UC Davis. He is currently an associate professional researcher at the Air Quality Research Center and a research professor at the Center for Health and the Environment at UC Davis.

1 Thursday	June 10	2-4 p.m.
204SNR315	\$25	Zoom





Beer has been at the heart of civilization as we know it, and it has even been argued to have “saved the world!” That is because the simple expedient of making beer purified drinking water for thousands of years. These days it is simply enjoyed as the world’s most popular adult beverage. Yet it is often maligned and treated with less respect than, say, wine. The reality is that it is altogether more complex and sophisticated. This class will address the history, politics and processes of brewing and, especially, the breadth of beer types, their quality and why beer truly can be good for you.

4 Tuesdays	May 4-25	2-4 p.m.
204SNR604	\$60	Zoom

Explore the basic principles of mindfulness, the neuroscience that supports the practice, meditation techniques and exploratory art practices. The first half of each class will begin with mindfulness instruction and meditation practice followed by art studio in the second half of class during which participants will use simple art materials to give expression to the lesson's mindfulness experience. The art practices will be accessible to art-makers from beginner to advanced. There will be no formal art instruction, but many examples and suggestions for ways to use materials based on participants' skill and comfort levels will be given. Materials may be as simple as paper and pencil, although markers, highlighters, crayons, paints, pastels, sketchbooks, etc. are also welcome.

4 Thursdays	May 13-June 3	2-4 p.m.
204\$NR606	\$60	Zoom

## The Song of the Queen: Thrilling Tales of Honey Bee Mating Behavior

The mating flight of a honey bee queen is orchestrated by events that occur days before she actually flies from her nest in pursuit of a gathering of drones, 20 or so of which will be lucky enough to mate with her. Her mating song begins within the nest with piping and tooting, sounds audible to her rival queens. The song changes pitch and intensity after she destroys her rivals and reaches a crescendo after she leaves the nest and finds a congregation of drones. Joined by the buzzing of wings, popping sounds of their genitalia and the beating drum, the drones find and mate with her, falling to the ground dead. The song ends when she returns to the nest, never to sing again.

**Suggested Reading:** *The Art of the Bee*, Chapter 9, Robert E. Page, Jr., Oxford University Press

**Instructor:** Robert E. Page, Jr. is chair and professor emeritus at UC Davis and holds the title of regents' professor emeritus and university provost emeritus at Arizona State University. He has published more than 230 research papers and three books on honey bee genetics and behavior.

1 Friday	April 16	10 a.m.-noon
204SNR601	\$25	Zoom



A honey bee queen, marked by the beekeeper, surrounded by her retinue – courtesy Eric Tournier



Gayle Flanders

### A Fond Remembrance of OLLI Member Gayle Flanders

By Ralph Hanson, former OLLI Board member and Communications Chair.

*Gayle Flanders*, a beloved member of OLLI's *New Yorker* class, passed away on Dec. 23, 2020, at age 101. She is survived by five children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As her OLLI friends will attest, she never hesitated to speak her mind—in pithy, homey expressions—to the delight of her classmates.

Born in North Dakota in a year that could have foretold her style—1919, the year women won the vote, she was 10 years old when the Great Depression started. The Dust Bowl that followed made for tough times on the prairie. She attributed her family's survival to frugality and her father's business skills.

Later in life, her husband John Flanders, a chemical engineer, was assigned to many posts in the U.S. and in worldwide. The couple moved many times, during which five children were born. During these years they visited Israel, Egypt, Singapore, and Indonesia. Her travels gave her the benefit of a cosmopolitan perspective to go along with her Midwestern common sense. She was a long-time member of OLLI and *will be missed!*

# A BRIGHT, NEW FUTURE FOR OLLI YOU WILL MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

*(continued from page 1)*



*Happy classmates promote OLLI in the 2019 Picnic Day Parade*

## You can help OLLI by:

**Connecting us with organizations you know and trust.** Let's build new bridges for OLLI. Do you know a service club, a business or other organization that would benefit by knowing about OLLI? Does your doctor, your optometrist or clergyman know about OLLI? Connect them with the OLLI board and staff, and help us spread awareness of OLLI.

**Recruiting new members.** As online classes continue, OLLI members can live anywhere! Encourage a friend or loved one to give OLLI a try! You know what fun we're all having, staying connected and making new discoveries together, share that joy with someone you know! If there's an OLLI closer to their home, let them know about that, too.

**Enlisting volunteers to serve as Zoom co-pilots!** Do you know someone with good computer skills who can volunteer just a few hours a week? They don't have to be a senior to help OLLI. You may know a college student, someone between jobs or even an Eagle Scout who would be a perfect fit to help us continue delivering courses online. And we provide free training and mentorship.

**Identifying an affordable, larger classroom.** When we do return to traditional classrooms, some of our members may still feel the need to be socially distant from others. We need a larger, affordable classroom with free parking to host two classes a day, five days a week. We still have Galileo, but as you know, it's not as big a room as we'd like. Contact the OLLI office if you have details on an affordable potential classroom space.

## Becoming an OLLI ambassador.

We have some exciting plans to recruit new members, and Membership Chair Dale Good is eager to build his committee! OLLI has bold new initiatives to increase our diversity and outreach throughout Yolo and Sacramento counties. Be a part of this exciting time and share the joy you've found in OLLI with others who have yet to discover its benefits.

While things are starting to look up, don't forget we're still all in this together. Let's make 2021 a banner year for lifelong learning. Your good ideas, energy and service are needed to make it a reality. Contact [olli@ucdavis.edu](mailto:olli@ucdavis.edu)

*With gratitude,*

**Lisa Smith-Youngs**

*Director, Osher Lifelong Learning  
Institute at UC Davis*



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