

OLLI

COURSE CATALOG

Winter 2024

December 11
Registration Begins

January 10-11
Migrating Monarchs and Frolicking Otters
Two-day Road Trip

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January 31
Cities of Vesuvius

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UC DAVIS

BECOME A MEMBER OF

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE (OLLI)

Courses and Events for Seniors

OLLI Membership Fees

SEMI-ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

(Remaining Academic Year)

January 10, 2024 – June 30, 2024 **\$50**

QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP

January 10, 2024 – March 31, 2024 **\$25**

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

To Enroll

By Phone (530) 757-8777

Online 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.



*A vista of Naples reaching out to Mount Vesuvius in the distance.
See page 12*

Class Locations

Courses will be offered in person, via Zoom or **hybrid**, to allow participation in either format. In-person and hybrid classes will be held at Watermelon Music, 1970 Lake Blvd. Suite 1, Davis. Locations are subject to change based on public health COVID guidelines. Maps and directions are available on our website.

Please check the OLLI UC Davis website for details and updates on class locations or contact our staff at olli@ucdavis.edu.

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 membership fee.

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.










OLLI scholarships are available for those in need of financial assistance. Contact the OLLI office to enroll.

COURSES AND EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Exploring new horizons for lifelong learning with new categories and subject matter that speaks to the continuum of life experiences and a greater diversity of interests.

Winter 2024 – Online registration begins December 11

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
Community					
SPECIAL INTERESTS _____					
Avoiding Scams 	1	Feb. 21	233SNR202	FREE!	5
Family Stories Writing Workshop 	4	Feb. 8	233SNR201	\$60	5
Memoirs: A Writing Workshop 	8	Jan. 23	233SNR205	\$80	5
OLLI Reads: A Book Discussion Group 	3	Jan. 19	233SNR200	FREE!	6
Wine, Whine and Chat 	9	Jan. 26	233SNR210	FREE!	6
TRAVEL _____					
Early Birds: Tundra Swans and the Delta	1	Feb. 5	233SNR303	\$275	7
Hiking the John Muir Trail 	1	March 7	233SNR305	\$25	7
Migrating Monarchs and Frolicking Otters	2	Jan. 10	233SNR301	\$615 / \$565	8
Presenting the Enchanting Destinations of Southern Portugal and Spain	1	Jan. 25	233SNR300	\$25	8
UC Reserve Wildflower Interpretive Hike	1	March 19	233SNR302	\$35	9
Discovery					
ART, MUSIC AND THEATER _____					
Anatomy of a Musical: Part 1	4	Jan. 24	233SNR306	\$60	9
From Molière to M*A*S*H: How the 17th Century Shaped Modern Comedy 	4	Feb. 1	233SNR310	\$60	10
Hidden in Plain Sight: Bands You May Not Know 	2	Feb. 20	233SNR309	\$40	10
John Lee Hooker Senior and Junior: Blues, Addiction, Prison, Redemption 	2	March 5	233SNR307	\$40	10
FILM STUDY _____					
Double Take: Part 1	4	Feb. 6	233SNR323	\$60	11
Warner Bros., Busby Berkeley and Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal	4	Feb. 28	233SNR320	\$60	11







HISTORY

Cities of Vesuvius 	4	Jan. 31	233SNR330	\$60	12
Gunfighters and Notorious Women of the Old West 	4	Feb. 8	233SNR337	\$60	12
Moments in the History of the British Empire	4	Jan. 23	233SNR333	\$60	12

LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY

The Book of Psalms	2	Jan. 23	233SNR345	\$40	13
Chaucer's Carnival – The Pilgrims in Society: Part 2 	4	Feb. 26	233SNR342	\$60	13
Colson Whitehead: <i>The Nickel Boys</i>	1	Jan. 29	233SNR340	\$25	13

POLITICS AND CURRENT EVENTS

Civic Rights Actions: Absolute Official Immunity 	1	March 21	233SNR360	\$25	14
The Great Flip: The Shifting Views of Liberals and Conservatives on Active Government – Part 1 	2	March 5	233SNR363	\$40	14
In Other News 	8	Jan. 22	233SNR369	\$80	14
Middle East Conflicts and Geopolitical Shifts 	1	Jan. 24	233SNR362	\$25	15
Reading <i>The New Yorker</i> 	8	Feb. 9	233SNR365	\$80	15
Ukraine In Depth: The War and its Global Consequences 	2	Jan. 25	233SNR367	\$40	15

SCIENCE

Black Holes Can Dance 	1	March 6	233SNR380	\$25	16
The Earth BioGenome Project: Progress on Biology's Moonshot 	1	March 7	233SNR385	\$25	16
Lahaina: Almost Everything that Could Go Wrong Did Go Wrong 	1	Feb. 28	233SNR387	\$25	17
Nuclear Physics: The Whole Enchilada 	2	March 14	233SNR383	\$40	17

Longevity

WELLNESS

Ancestral Actions for Healthy Aging 	2	March 19	233SNR404	\$40	18
Living Lightly Strategies for Everyone 	1	March 13	233SNR400	FREE!	19
Mindfulness: Making Peace with Yourself 	4	Jan. 22	233SNR402	\$60	19

 = **Hybrid** (classroom and Zoom)

 = **Zoom Only**

SCHEDULE OF COURSES AND EVENTS

Winter 2024 Enroll early! Classes begin Wednesday, January 10

Community



SPECIAL INTERESTS

Avoiding Scams

Phishing scams. Online romance scams. Medicare scams. Software scams. Frauds aimed at older adults are becoming more creative. Scammers stay on top of whatever is popular and then move fast to create ploys that fit the moment. How can you protect yourself? Becoming aware of the top scams targeting Americans is the first step to avoid falling prey to them. This discussion will talk about current scams, steps you can take to avoid them and online tools that can help you stay safe from fraud. OLLI membership is not required to attend.

Instructor: Matthew Crider has been a lawyer for more than 26 years and owns Crider Law Group in Davis. He provides a wide range of estate planning and elder law services, advising individuals and families on how to protect themselves, their loved ones and their assets.

1 Wednesday Feb. 21 10-11:30 a.m.
233SNR202 FREE! Zoom

Family Stories Writing Workshop

Continue your family-stories exploration in a weekly writing workshop with a supportive writing community. Students produce up to 700 words a week, then read and comment on each other's stories. Note: Students in the writing workshop must have completed the introductory Family Stories class or have permission from the instructor. Permission can be obtained by writing to olli@ucdavis.edu.

Instructor: Robbie Fanning taught upper division nonfiction writing at San Jose State University and worked in publishing, editing 121 books and writing 12. She has a degree in writing/publishing, a master's in instructional design and a teaching certificate in teaching English as a second language. She loves to write and to teach writing.

4 Thursdays Feb. 8-29 1-3:30 p.m.
233SNR201 \$60 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 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. You will also have the opportunity to read two or more of your stories to the class for a more in-depth critiquing session. Join us on the memoirists' journey where we make meaning, and art, of our life experience.

Instructor: Kit Kirkpatrick is certified as a memoirist by 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 Jan. 23-March 12 12:30-3:30 p.m.
233SNR205 \$80 Zoom

OLLI Reads: A Book Discussion

Group

“Books can be dangerous. The best ones should be labelled ‘this could change your life.’” - Helen Exley.

We all have preconceived ideas about how the world works. This quarter’s books will encourage you to explore new ways to view race and human relations, gender and sex roles, and even the foundations of life itself. In *Born a Crime*, Trevor Noah, former host of *The Daily Show*, comedian and political commentator, discusses the injustices he faced being half black and half white growing up in South Africa during apartheid. GoodReads calls Lucy Cooke’s book *Bitch: On the Female of the Species*, “A fierce, funny, and revolutionary look at the queens of the animal kingdom.” *The Possibility of Life*, by Jaime Green, is a “spellbinding exploration of alien life and the cosmos, examining how the possibility of life on other planets shapes our understanding of humanity,” according to Barnes and Noble.

Note: OLLI membership required.

Instructor: Mike Elfant has more interests than time to delve into them all. Besides a career promoting health and good food, he has taught ESL in the U.S. and Thailand, led adult education and reading programs at a homeless shelter, and loves to compose and perform spoof songs.

3 Fridays	Jan. 19, Feb. 16	2-3:30 p.m.
	March 15	
233SNR200	FREE!	Zoom

Wine, Whine and Chat

Join OLLI members online for Friday afternoons with an hour of stimulating discussion and laughter. Come share your thoughts and recommended readings of articles, books or podcasts—a great way to stay connected and end your week with OLLI friends. Bring your favorite beverage, kick back and enjoy the camaraderie. Rules are few: be respectful, be kind and agree to disagree with others. These make for a rich conversation. Our goal is to gather, have a lively discussion and close out the week with fellow thinkers!

Note: OLLI membership required.

Instructors: Brenda Turner served many terms as chair of the OLLI Curriculum Committee. She was a speech pathologist and special education teacher for the Yolo County Office of Education for 27 years and has a passion for discussion of U.S. and world politics. Brenda holds degrees in linguistics from UC Davis and speech pathology from CSU Sacramento.

Rick Becker specialized in Latin-American and Eastern-European affairs during a 30-year diplomatic career with the U.S. State Department. He served as chief of mission in Panama and as foreign affairs advisor to the chief of staff of the U.S. Army. He has received numerous awards and commendations and has held several university faculty positions.

9 Fridays	Jan. 26-March 22	4-5 p.m.
233SNR210	FREE!	Zoom

Early Birds: Tundra Swans and the Delta

Set sail with OLLI from the Antioch Marina for a unique boat cruise through an important wintering area for waterfowl along the Pacific Flyway. Winter brings huge rafts of waterfowl, including migrating tundra swans and snow, Canada and greater white-fronted geese. Ducks, as well as numerous other groups including gulls, terns, bitterns, passerines and woodpeckers, call this area home in the cold season. We may also see hawks, falcons, great-horned owls, shorebirds and possibly some sandhill cranes. Our river guide will share facts about the Delta itself, including what it is, how it got here, changes it has seen and what might be in store for the future.

Note: Boat capacity is strictly limited to 25 passengers. Be prepared for inclement weather and a seven-hour voyage with a choice of enclosed or outdoor seating (on the upper deck, accessible only by stairway.) Non-refundable fee covers bus, breakfast items on bus and boat transport and guide's commentary. **Please pack your own lunch and snacks.** Beverages and bathrooms are available on board. Parking and bus pick up location will be emailed one week in advance of trip. In the event of serious weather changes, our group may be rescheduled to the following week at the discretion of the captain. Keep dates February 5 and 12 open on your calendar as no refunds will be given due to postponement for weather.

1 Monday	Feb. 5	7 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
233SNR303	\$275	Bus/Boat Trip

Hiking the John Muir Trail

A little bit of history, a little bit of geography and a whole lot of wilderness adventure! The John Muir Trail winds for 200 miles through the heart of our very own Sierra Nevada, from Yosemite in the north to Mt. Whitney in the south. Come along and virtually hike “the most beautiful long-distance trail in the world” with an OLLI instructor who has been there, via photos, maps and stories.

Suggested Reading: *Force of Nature: Three Women Tackle the John Muir Trail*, Joan Griffin, Black Rose Writing

Instructor: Joan Griffin earned a BA from UCLA and an MEd from Naropa University. After her retirement from public education, Joan couldn't resist turning her passion for teaching toward OLLI. Joan's adventure memoir, *Force of Nature*, which chronicles her backpacking trek along the John Muir Trail, was published in September 2023.

1 Thursday	March 7	10:30 a.m.-noon
233SNR305	\$25	Hybrid



Course leader Joan Griffin stops to enjoy a waterfall on the John Muir Trail – image courtesy Joan Griffin

Migrating Monarchs and Frolicking Otters

Join OLLI on our first overnight trip to Pacific Grove, California! Day one will include a motor coach ride to the coast and lunch, followed by an afternoon visit to the monarch butterfly sanctuary, an outdoor reserve where monarchs overwinter in notable clusters. Local docents will assist visitors in locating butterfly clusters amongst the groves of eucalyptus, pine and cypress trees. We'll also visit the nearby Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History and its deeply diverse collection of the Central Coast's flora, fauna and historical artifacts. We'll check in at our hotel and participants will have personal time for a no-host dinner. On day two, after a continental breakfast at the hotel, we'll travel to Moss Landing for an excursion led by Monterey Bay Eco-Tours. We'll board an electric-powered catamaran for a narrated cruise with a naturalist along the Elkhorn Slough, a vibrant and lively wetland and one of the state's largest tidal waterways. The slough is particularly notable for its population of Pacific Sea Otters. The otters of the Elkhorn Slough have pups year-round, so there's an excellent chance to see a mom playing with her pup. After a stop for a no-host lunch, our motor coach will make the return trip to Davis and West Sacramento.

Note: This is a non-refundable excursion. Bus will pick up participants at the UC Davis International Center. Overnight parking plans are the responsibility of each participant. Mildly wet weather and winds are to be expected for the duration of the journey. In the event the Elkhorn Slough tour is cancelled due to *extreme* inclement weather, a partial refund will be returned to participants. Departure times and details will be provided via email.

7:30 a.m. Wed., Jan. 10 to 5:30 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 11

\$615/pp single room or \$565/pp double room*

233SNR301 Bus/Boat Trip

**Participants who wish to book a double occupancy room should make arrangements in advance to share their room with a friend, partner or spouse. OLLI staff are unable to make room assignments for shared rooms.*

Presenting the Enchanting Destinations of Southern Portugal and Spain

Embark on a virtual journey through the captivating countries of Spain and Portugal as we explore the must-visit destinations that showcase the rich history, vibrant culture and breathtaking landscapes of the Iberian Peninsula. This course will take you on an immersive photographic tour, highlighting remarkable cities, towns and landmarks, revealing the hidden gems and iconic sites that make Spain and Portugal such sought-after travel destinations.

Suggested Reading: *Traveler's History of Portugal*, Ian Robertson, Interlink Books, New York, Northampton. *Spain: The Root and The Flower*, John A. Crow, University of California Press, Berkeley

Instructor: Rob Floerke is a long-time Davis resident and past president of the Photography Club of Davis. He began taking photographs during his teenage years and continues to do so, specializing in landscape, wildlife and travel photography. He retired from the California Department of Fish and Game after 35 years of service in 2007 and supports conservation education as a volunteer docent at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, where he leads public tours of the area. Rob and his wife, Dale Hoffman-Floerke, have been frequent presenters for OLLI, sharing their many international adventures in photography.

1 Thursday	Jan. 25	10 a.m.-noon
233SNR300	\$25	Watermelon Music

UC Reserve Wildflower Interpretive Hike

The hiking trails at Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve are a wildflower treasure-trove in early spring, from the humble nightshade to the seductive twining snake lily! Join us for an artist's hike surveying local flora with SCCR docent naturalist Kate Mawdsley and ecologic artist Robin Carlson. Bring your sketchbook, camera or even watercolors along for periodic stops to sit as a group and record your experience as blooming inspiration allows!

Note: Participants must provide their own transportation to Stebbins Cold Canyon. A map will be sent before class. Be prepared to walk unassisted on steep, uneven ground and stop periodically during the hike to work with your own art supplies or camera. Please bring sufficient water and snacks. Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes and dress in layers to your comfort level for the climate.

Instructors: Kate Mawdsley is a former UC Davis librarian and a lifetime lover of all things botanic. While still working, she began volunteering for the Davis Botanical Society. She also puts her botanical knowledge to use as a volunteer coordinator at Jepson Prairie Natural Reserve in Solano County. During the spring when vernal pools of flowers fill the prairie, she leads tours at Jepson and the UC Reserve.

Robin Carlson is an artist who blooms where she has been planted – at the intersection of art and science, using both to grapple with the consequences of climate change. Her close study of Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve after wildfires and regular monthly observations over six years culminated in the publication of her book, *The Cold Canyon Fire Journals*.

1 Tuesday March 19 9:30 a.m.-noon
233SNR302 \$35 Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve, Winters

Discovery



ART, MUSIC AND THEATER

Anatomy of a Musical: Part 1

The Broadway musical is one of the few indigenous American art forms. Come explore a diverse collection of productions, as we survey videos taken from actual stage performances. Discussions of the performances will be conducted after each viewing. In session one, we'll examine the history and basic structure of the musical, followed by a viewing of *I Do, I Do* with class commentary and discussion. In session two, we'll view the London production of *Barnum* with discussion after. Session three will include a concert version of *Company* with Neil Patrick Harris. We will see the 2022 production of *Anything Goes* with Sutton Foster in session four.

Instructor: Roy Engoron, BA and MA from UC Davis, has taught all aspects of theatre for the better part of his teaching career. He has been in over 100 productions and directed about 80 from the ancient Greeks to modern Broadway fare, working in educational, community theatres and summer stock. Roy has been teaching to OLLI audiences for over 14 years. He has also served as a volunteer at the Davis Police Department for 16 years.

4 Wednesdays Jan. 24-Feb. 14 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
233SNR306 \$60 Watermelon Music

From Molière to M*A*S*H: How the 17th Century Shaped Modern Comedy

Explore the rich history of comedic satire through the centuries in this dynamic four-week course. Delve into the transformative power of satire as a tool to critique society, challenge norms and entertain audiences. Through a comprehensive examination of influential comedic works from the 17th century to the present day, this course offers an engaging journey into the evolution of satire on stage. Through lively discussions, close readings and multimedia presentations, our aim will be to deepen each participant's appreciation for the profound impact of satire on comedic storytelling throughout history, fostering a nuanced understanding of its role in shaping society and inspiring change.

Instructor: Peter Davis is a theatre professor who retired after 40 years serving on the faculties at the University of Oregon, Tufts University and the University of Illinois. He is also a professional actor, director and dramaturg who spent over 20 years working with some of the top theatres in Chicago.

4 Thursdays **Feb. 1-22** **10:30-noon**
233SNR310 **\$60** **Hybrid**

Hidden in Plain Sight: Bands You May Not Know

Listening to music, many of us find ourselves attracted to certain artists and not others. This class will focus on artists who may have a limited following, thereby providing the potential experience of suddenly discovering some great music. In session one, we'll be exploring the music of two bands that have been successful for decades, and yet remain unknown to many. We'll listen to and discuss several songs from *Crowded House*, a rock band with roots in New Zealand and Australia. Then we'll listen to songs from *Dispatch*, a band based in Boston. Both have been critically acclaimed. In session two, we'll survey single songs of undiscovered artists. Class participation is encouraged. Discussing what attracts us to music may help all of us discover new and emotionally touching songs.

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.

Dennis Pendleton has focused much of his career on community engagement and outreach at UC Davis over the past 40+ years. He retired after serving 14 years as dean of UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education. He is an avid fan of all types of music.

2 Tuesdays **Feb. 20 & 27** **10 a.m.-noon**
233SNR309 **\$40** **Zoom**



Neil Finn and Mark Hart of Crowded House, Amsterdam 1996 – image courtesy of Wikipedia

John Lee Hooker Senior and Junior: Blues, Addiction, Prison, Redemption

Born and raised in the Mississippi Delta, John Lee Hooker, Sr., eventually went to Detroit. Because of bad record contracts, he made little money from hits like “Boogie Chillen” and “Boom, Boom,” forcing him to tour. Success and fame came later in life, including work with Van Morrison, Carlos Santana and Bonnie Raitt, not to mention covers of his songs. John Lee Hooker, Jr., his eldest son, struggled with drug addiction and a life in and out of prison. A blues singer, he opened for his father on numerous tours. He also had a successful blues career of his own after leaving prison. Hooker, Jr., found religion in prison, eventually becoming a chaplain. He now ministers in the same prisons in which he was an inmate.

Instructor: Julia Simon is a cultural historian who works on the blues. Her most recent book, *Debt and Redemption in the Blues: The Call for Justice*, was published by Penn State University Press in 2023. She is currently working with John Lee Hooker, Jr., on his autobiography.

2 Tuesdays **March 5 & 12** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR307 **\$40** **Hybrid**

Double Take: Part 1

Many films showcase the complexities and mutual fascination of Franco-American relationships. We continue this study by uncovering parallels in two legal dramas and two immigrant stories, one each from France and the U.S. In the American movie, *Dark Waters* (2019), a tenacious attorney takes on a global corporation. *Saint Omer* (2022) from France presents a case of infanticide which questions our capacity for judgment. *The Good Lie* (2014), a U.S. film, depicts the challenges faced by Sudanese “lost boys” emigrating to the U.S. assisted by an employment agent (Reese Witherspoon), while *A Season in France* (2017) explores the difficulties encountered by an asylum-seeking Central African teacher and his two children. Join us as we delve into the world of French and American cinematic representations.

Instructors: Kevin Elstob is a professor of French and president of the Sacramento French Film Festival whose appreciation of movies blends pedagogy and social interaction. Through film’s virtual window, we all see something different and that is the beauty of cinema.

Rene Viargues taught a variety of classes (Art of the Cinema, English, government and history) at the California Maritime Academy from 1974-2004. He received master’s degrees from UC Berkeley (political science) and the University of Pennsylvania, where he completed post-MA studies in the American Studies Program.

4 Tuesdays Feb. 6-27 1-4 p.m.
233SNR323 \$60 Watermelon Music

Warner Bros., Busby Berkeley and Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal

Journey back to the early days of the Great Depression, Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal and the Warner Bros.’ support of FDR by examining three films which reflect that support: Lloyd Bacon’s *42nd Street* (1933); *Gold Diggers of 1933*, directed by Mervyn LeRoy; and *Footlight Parade* (1933) also directed by Bacon. Each production showcases the elaborate staging of musical numbers by co-director Busby Berkeley, providing Depression-era audiences with an escape into a wondrous dreamscape. These films reflect the times in which they were made, in pre-code (censorship) Hollywood, including aspects not politically correct today. They provide a window into a time where daily life was grim, and Hollywood and the promise of the New Deal helped audiences persevere.

Instructors: Don Peri has a BA in English and political science from UC Davis and has completed extensive coursework on a second bachelor’s degree in film and television. He has written three books and is completing a fourth book on Walt Disney Studios. Don has taught several OLLI classes in the past and is looking forward to returning to the OLLI faculty.

Mike Troyan has a master’s degree in library science from CSU San Jose and a bachelor’s degree in media communication from CSU Sacramento. He has been an archivist for Walt Disney Studios and Warner Bros. He has contributed to and written a number of books, including *A Rose For Mrs. Miniver: The Life of Greer Garson* and *MGM: Hollywood’s Greatest Back Lot*.

4 Wednesdays Feb. 28-March 20 1-4 p.m.
233SNR320 \$60 Watermelon Music



A scene from *42nd Street* shown in a theatre lobby card, promoting the film – public domain

HISTORY

Cities of Vesuvius

The excavation of the thriving settlements around the Bay of Naples, which were buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 CE, provides us with a wealth of information about life in the ancient Roman world. Focusing on Pompeii and other neighboring communities, we'll explore the public and private worlds of the region's residents, rich and poor. We will look at how cities managed political administration, the economy, public entertainments and religious practices. We will pay special attention to private houses and the information they provide about Roman family life, social relations and artistic taste. Finally, we will review the evidence for the eruption itself, the Roman response to it and the rediscovery of the cities of Vesuvius in the 18th century.

Instructor: Lynn Roller is professor emerita of Art History and Classics at UC Davis, where her teaching focused on the ancient Near East, Greece and Rome. An archaeologist with special interest in the monuments of ancient Greece and Rome, she has travelled extensively in Rome, Naples and the region around Mount Vesuvius.

4 Wednesdays **Jan. 31-Feb. 21** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR330 **\$60** **Hybrid**

Gunfighters and Notorious Women of the Old West

The American West of the late-19th century has become a type of American mythology. Like many myths and legends, the tales of the American West are based partly on the facts of life on a nearly lawless and often hostile frontier. It is also a story that has been greatly enhanced over time by novels, movies and television. The gunfighter, in particular, was the central character in the Western saga, and often, there was a fine line separating those who upheld the law from those who broke it. Women also played significant roles in Western "mythology," adding flair and mystique to the legends of the frontier. In this class, you will meet these familiar and colorful men and women once again as we discuss their exploits, both real and imagined, and their contributions to the story of the West.

Instructor: Germaine Hupe is a long-standing OLLI instructor who has taught a wide array of popular courses. She is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of UC Davis and holds a master's degree from Claremont Graduate School. Teaching at Winters High School for many years, she introduced courses in British and world literature, Shakespeare and mythology. In 2019, she was inducted into the Winters Joint Unified School District Hall of Fame.

4 Thursdays **Feb. 8-29** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR337 **\$60** **Hybrid**



Known as the "Fort Worth Five" photo, this image depicts Butch Cassidy and cohorts: Front row, left to right: Harry Longabaugh, alias the Sundance Kid; Ben Kilpatrick, alias the Tall Texan; Robert Leroy Parker, alias Butch Cassidy. Standing: Will Carver and Harvey Logan, alias Kid Curry; Fort Worth, Texas, 1900. – public domain

Moments in the History of the British Empire

The history of the British Empire is far too large to cover in four sessions. We'll pick and choose from some prominent moments, allowing questions by class participants to guide our discussions. We'll begin with the subject of the Caribbean: sugar, slavery and its impact on the American colonies and the British Empire, too. We'll also consider South Africa and the struggle of the Boers/Afrikaners—the various native peoples and the British—as well as the push to evangelize and explore. Next, we will examine the matter of India, the "Jewel in the Crown." Provided there is time, let's not forget the Empire and its record in the Middle East.

Instructor: Chuck Cooper holds an M.A. in history with an emphasis on the British Empire. Over the past 50 years he has continued to read extensively on the subject and held numerous discussions with experts and others interested in the field. As a graduate student, Cooper also taught history courses on the British Empire, England and early western civilization.

4 Tuesdays **Jan. 23-Feb. 13** **10-11:30 a.m.**
233SNR333 **\$60** **Watermelon Music**

LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY _____

The Book of Psalms

In this course, we'll examine the Book of Psalms in the Bible as a work of literature. In particular, we will consider the book of Psalms as the Hymnal of the Second Temple. We will give particular attention to various individual psalms from 1,000 to 400 BCE, from the time that David's army captured Jerusalem to the building of the Second Temple.

Suggested Reading: Psalms 1, 2, 8, 19, 22, 23, 24, 29, 35, 53, 59, 66, 74, 110, 126, 137. Any translation of the Bible is acceptable. Read a few additional psalms of your choice—psalms that capture your attention.

Instructor: David Robertson received his Ph.D. in religious studies from Yale University. He is a retired professor of English at UC Davis, where he taught courses in Biblical literature from 1971 to 2003.

2 Tuesdays **Jan. 23 & 30** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR345 **\$40** **Watermelon Music**

Chaucer's Carnival – The Pilgrims in Society: Part 2

While the previous chapter of this class emphasized the individual characteristics of the 31 pilgrims on their way to Canterbury, this second part delves into their interaction, and especially their features as elements in Chaucer's medieval world view. This includes an introduction to the tales each tells, often a reflection of the teller's aspirations rather than a true indication of who they are, and, in certain cases, an attempt to deceive the other pilgrims about who they really are.

Suggested Reading: Free version online at: chaucer.fas.harvard.edu/pages/general-prologue-0

Instructor: Kevin Roddy has been teaching medieval English Literature for 50 years at Loyola, New Orleans, UNC Chapel Hill, UC Davis and, best of all, OLLI here in Davis. He has published on the *Man of Law's Tale* and given papers on the *Nuns' Priest's Tale*. He loves instructing at OLLI because of the enthusiasm of his students.

4 Mondays **Feb. 26-March 18** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR342 **\$60** **Zoom**

Colson Whitehead: *The Nickel Boys*

Simply one of the best American writers today, Colson Whitehead has produced a body of work covering a number of genres and historical periods, largely focused on the fertile grounds of Black culture. Each work packs a punch, lyrically expressed and dramatically unfolded. We will begin with a consideration of his total output to date, followed by a thorough discussion of his novel, *The Nickel Boys* (2019), set in a Jim Crow-era reform school and based on real situations. Whether as an introduction to the author or an avid fan's revisit, we will be in the good company of an important voice in the American literary canon, despite recent book-banning in other states.

Suggested Reading: Colson Whitehead, *The Nickel Boys*, Doubleday

Instructor: Rene Viargues. See page 11.

1 Monday **Jan. 29** **2-4 p.m.**
233SNR340 **\$25** **Watermelon Music**

Civic Rights Actions: Absolute Official Immunity

Under federal law, when a government official violates a person’s constitutional rights, the injured person can bring a civil action for money damages. However, certain officials are protected by absolute immunity even where they acted intentionally, maliciously or corruptly. Most importantly, prosecutors enjoy absolute immunity. As a result, hundreds of innocent people have been wrongfully prosecuted, convicted and incarcerated. This class examines this doctrine.

Instructor: Margaret Z. Johns attended UC Davis School of Law and graduated with honors in 1976. She taught at UC Davis School of Law for 38 years where she established the Civil Rights Clinic. She received the Distinguished Teaching Award, the Distinguished Public Service Award and the Alumna of the Year Award during her tenure.

1 Thursday **March 21** **10:30 a.m.-noon**
233SNR360 **\$25** **Hybrid**

The Great Flip: The Shifting Views of Liberals and Conservatives on Active Government – Part 1

This course will analyze how liberals and conservatives gradually flipped positions on the role of using active government in American life. From the colonial era through the Great Depression, you’ll be introduced to some of the key players in the history of the United States and how they impacted the nature of governance in America. Over time, liberals went from supporting limited government to advocating for an active government, and conservatives, who initially supported active government, flipped their position to one of limited government.

Suggested Reading: *The Great Flip: The Shifting Views of Liberals and Conservatives on Active Government*, Donald J. Fraser, Fraser & Associates

Instructor: Don Fraser is an American historian who has published articles and two books on early American history. He has spent a lifetime working in a variety of capacities in government, including direct experience in the management of local government organizations and specialized assistance as a consultant. Fraser has a bachelor’s degree in political science from UCLA and a master’s degree in public policy and administration from CSU Long Beach. He has taught numerous classes for OLLI in the past, largely around the themes from his books.

2 Tuesdays **March 5 & 12** **10:30 a.m.-noon**
233SNR363 **\$40** **Hybrid**

In Other News

The firehose of news and information is overwhelming—how are we to make sense of it? Class members will sift through a few readings each week to help understand a specific topic, event or trend. Then, guided by the class discussion leaders, participants will share their thoughts, impressions, knowledge and conclusions with each other. Each week’s subject will be drawn from the headlines. Together, we will drill deeper so the session ends with everyone better informed.

Note: No session on February 19

Instructors: Richard Zeiger spent the first half of his life as a journalist. 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.

Jim Bettinger is director emeritus of the John S. Knight Journalism Fellowships at Stanford. He retired in 2016, after 16 years as director and 11 years as deputy director. He worked for daily newspapers in California for 20 years as a reporter, editorial writer and editor at the Riverside *Press-Enterprise* and the *San Jose Mercury News*.

8 Mondays **Jan. 22-March 18** **10-11:30 a.m.**
233SNR369 **\$80** **Zoom**

Middle East Conflicts and Geopolitical Shifts

Together, we will trace the main axes of conflict in the Middle East, noting their historical, religious, ethnic and geopolitical causes, and their current consequences. The lecture then acknowledges that the region is changing. Why? How? And will the changes be for the better or worse? The talk will be illustrated with multiple slides, and questions and comments will be welcome.

Instructor: Stephen Hoadley, Ph.D., is a veteran academic, textbook author, media commentator and public speaker. He has contributed popular OLLI talks for many years by Zoom from his home base in New Zealand where he was a professor of politics and international relations at the University of Auckland.

1 Wednesday **Jan. 24** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR362 **\$25** **Zoom**

Reading *The New Yorker*

This course is an ongoing participation-discussion seminar based on current events in the news and weekly selections from *The New Yorker* magazine. **Limited enrollment.**

Instructor: Michael Pach retired from a lengthy career in information system security validation and verification. He and his wife live in Davis, endlessly catching up with all of the things he postponed while working and raising a family.

8 Fridays **Feb. 9-March 29** **10 a.m.-noon**
233SNR365 **\$80** **Zoom**

Ukraine In Depth: The War and its Global Consequences

Join your OLLI classmates and a former State Department staffer to examine some of the latest battlefield and diplomatic developments related to the war in Ukraine and its global consequences. From Sweden abandoning 200 years of neutrality, to a food crisis in East Africa and the Middle East, to India's strategic thinking—the war in Ukraine has changed the world in significant and unexpected ways. This will be a discussion-based class, encouraging questions, participation and digressions.

Suggested Reading: *Not One Inch* by M.E. Sarotte, Yale University Press

Instructor: Antonio De Loera-Brust served as special assistant to Secretary of State Antony Blinken from May 2021 through July 2022, during the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Previously he worked as a staffer in the U.S. House of Representatives and policy advisor on presidential campaigns for Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Secretary Julian Castro.

2 Thursdays **Jan. 25-Feb. 1** **2-3:30 p.m.**
233SNR367 **\$40** **Hybrid**



Russian expats protest the war on Ukraine – courtesy Silar via Wikimedia

Black Holes Can Dance

Black holes are fascinating celestial objects. They are both simple and complex. A deep understanding of their properties requires knowledge of the general theory of relativity by Einstein. We will not go there. Instead, we will consider their basic properties and examples. Starting with the simple definitions, we will progress to black holes that dance about each other.

Suggested Reading: “Black Holes Can Dance,” *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences*, vol. 97, p.1 2011, by Sethanne Howard. This is available online, no subscription necessary.

Instructor: Sethanne Howard has a Ph.D. in astrophysics. She worked as an oceanographer, meteorologist, database manager, astronomer and chief of the Nautical Almanac Office. She was the program manager for Extragalactic Astronomy and Cosmology at the National Science Foundation. Now retired, her avocation is the history of women in science and technology. She continues to engage in education and public outreach.

1 Wednesday	March 6	10-11:30 a.m.
233SNR380	\$25	Zoom

The Earth BioGenome Project: Progress on Biology’s Moonshot

Earth is in the midst of a global biodiversity crisis, with species loss at 100 to 1,000-fold above the background extinction rate. Loss of biodiversity threatens vital ecosystems on which humans depend. In response to this crisis, the Earth BioGenome Project (EBP) was launched in 2018. The EBP aims to sequence, catalog and characterize the genomes of all of Earth’s known plant, animal and microbial eukaryotic biodiversity—approximately 1.8 million species. The ultimate aims of the EBP are to create a foundation for revealing the “rules of life” and delineate the mechanisms of how biological systems evolve under changing environmental conditions. This lecture will present recent progress made by the EBP and the challenges faced in reaching the project’s goals.

Instructor: Harris Lewin is distinguished professor emeritus of evolution and ecology at UC Davis. He served for more than five years as vice chancellor for research at UC Davis after a 27-year career as a faculty member and institute director at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research interests have ranged from host genetic control of resistance to infectious diseases to comparative and evolutionary analysis of mammalian genomes. He is co-founder of the Earth BioGenome Project and chairs its executive committee. Harris was awarded the Wolf Prize in Agriculture in 2011 and is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

1 Thursday	March 7	2-4 p.m.
233SNR385	\$25	Hybrid



A bioinformatician analyzes DNA integration data – courtesy of Unsplash

Lahaina: Almost Everything that Could Go Wrong Did Go Wrong

The disaster that was Lahaina resulted from a perfect storm of cascading natural events followed by a perfect storm of human failures. A series of natural phenomenon—a hurricane well south of Hawaii, strong winds generated by corresponding high pressure north of Hawaii, unusually dry conditions (likely caused by global climate change), and unfavorable topography—combined to produce, in what is normally a wet, tropical paradise, one of the fastest moving wildfires ever recorded anywhere. In addition, virtually every aspect of the human response turned out to be inadequate, inoperative, non-functional or simply bungled. Clearly, Hawaii did not learn the lessons that it should have learned from California over the years. The question now is whether and what can California learn from Hawaii.

Instructor: Ken Verosub is distinguished professor emeritus in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at UC Davis. His interests range from understanding the behavior of the Earth’s magnetic field to deciphering the Earth’s climate. For many years, he has also been studying the interface between geologic processes and human activity.

1 Wednesday Feb. 28 10:30a.m.-noon
233SNR387 \$25 Hybrid

Nuclear Physics: The Whole Enchilada

This course will be a broad generalist’s presentation of many issues and technological potentials that confront humanity during the nuclear age that began in earnest on August 6, 1945. Like many of the powerful technologies that have emerged in the past century, our knowledge of nuclear physics presents us with yet another double-edged sword. We will begin with some history leading up to the nuclear age and basic physical principles by which Mother Nature operates. An introduction to some of the challenges, concerns and promise involved in nuclear energy and power, weaponry, medicine, astrophysics and geophysics will be discussed over these two sessions. Wise utilization of the Earth’s resources is an undercurrent to much that will be considered in these presentations.

Instructor: Scott Perry was raised in Chico and served in the U.S. Navy. He obtained a bachelor’s degree in physics at CSUC, did graduate research at Crocker Nuclear Lab and earned an MA in physics from UC Davis. After 30 years of teaching at American River College he taught another 15 years for OLLI in Chico.

2 Thursdays March 14 & 21 2-3:30 p.m.
233SNR383 \$40 Hybrid



Boats in Lahaina harbor, 2016 – courtesy of Unsplash

Longevity



WELLNESS

Ancestral Actions for Healthy Aging

This course begins with the premise of how evolutionary logic can help explain why living a healthy lifestyle is so difficult (in our sedentary culture) and what actions we can take to make improvements. The first session will include a lecture focusing on the barriers of living a healthy lifestyle and the motivational actions we can take to overcome them. The second session will focus on ancestral actions for healthy aging (e.g., sleep, healthy eating, social connection, physical activity and getting outdoors). Session two will also involve a demonstration of functional movement and how it relates to making daily life activities easier and improving the quality of life as we age.

Suggested Reading: *The Story of The Human Body: Evolution, Health and Disease*, Daniel Lieberman, Pantheon Books

Instructor: Steve Bonnel is the creator of the Be Resilient Project, a non-profit with a mission to promote healthy aging in our communities through inclusive fitness classes, creditable wellness information and a supportive social network. Learn more about the Be Resilient Project online.

2 Tuesdays March 19 & 26 2-3:30 p.m.
233SNR404 \$40 Hybrid

WHY I GIVE TO THE HEART OF OLLI



"I first learned about OLLI from an enthused faculty member and OLLI supporter. Her praises of the curriculum quality, caliber of the faculty and enjoyable social networking further persuaded me to join. Witnessing the hard work and dedication of OLLI staff and volunteers in organizing OLLI Road Trips inspired me to contribute more of my own time as a volunteer and donor. OLLI is a perfect fit for me as a retiree who values continuous learning." —Kathy Lawrence

Help OLLI by showing you share our vision for lifelong learning. Make a commitment to monthly giving (as simple as \$10 per month) through our fundraising website:
give.ucdavis.edu/go/HeartofOLLI

The Heart of OLLI fund is administered by The Regents of the University of California—a qualified charity that provides donors with tax benefits to the full extent of the law. Your gift qualifies for a tax-deduction in accordance with IRS regulations for the calendar year your gift is made. After making a gift, you will receive an email with information that can serve as a receipt. Consult your tax professional for more information.

Questions? Contact OLLI Director, Lisa Smith-Youngs at (530) 752-9695.

Living Lightly Strategies for Everyone

What motivates you to be more sustainability-minded? What gets in your way? In this interactive presentation from Cool Davis, learn the basics of climate change, including greenhouse gas emissions, climate impacts and the highest sources of emissions in our region. We'll explore what you can as a homeowner/renter to lower your household impact on the environment, from energy use to consumption and transportation. Other topics will include opportunities for advocacy and fiscal greening. We'll take barriers head-on and solve problems together. Celebrate what you've already achieved, accept where you're at on the path and take your next steps forward into a sustainable future.

Instructor: Leslie Crenna serves as both the communications manager and the household engagement campaign manager for Cool Davis. She majored in linguistics at UCSC and holds a teaching credential from SFSU. She is experienced in a wide range of "living lightly" strategies spanning the domains of energy, transportation and consumption, including greywater.

1 Wednesday March 13 10-11:30 a.m.
233SNR400 FREE! Zoom

Mindfulness: Making Peace with Yourself

How do we cultivate peace? Peace within ourselves, peace with others and peace with a world in crisis? This course will offer us ways to practice connecting with an inner refuge that is always available to us. Instructions will be scaffolded with lessons that gently develop a deepening of our understanding and experience of how mindfulness can support our experiences in our everyday lives with others and with ourselves.

Suggested Reading: *Meditation for Fidgety Skeptics*, Dan Harris and Jeff Warren, Harmony Books; *When Things Fall Apart*, Pema Chodrin, Shambhala Press; *The Little Book of Being*, Diana Winston, Sounds True, Inc. (See additional titles in the course description online.)

Instructor: Sue Banducci has been involved in education for over four decades. Sue is an artist, educator and Davis resident. She has been practicing mindfulness meditation for 16 years and is credentialed by the Awareness Training Institute and the Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley.

4 Mondays Jan. 22-Feb. 12 2-3:30 p.m.
233SNR402 \$60 Zoom

Important Reminders

Hybrid Classes

In-person and hybrid courses take place in our new classroom at Watermelon Music, 1970 Lake Blvd. Suite 1, Davis. A map is emailed to students in advance of each course.

- Class locations shown as **Hybrid** indicates the class will be offered in-person at the Watermelon Music classroom and simultaneously streamed via Zoom.
- Some instructors will only be available by Zoom. In these cases, the class location is listed as **Zoom** and will only be offered online.
- For in-person classes not included in our hybrid format this quarter, the class location is listed simply as **Watermelon Music**.

Changes in OLLI Class Times

In response to growing feedback from our members, length of most class sessions has been changed to 90 minutes. Some discussion groups and specialty classes may have a longer session length. Be sure to check listed class times to be certain what time to arrive at class.

Check Your Email Regularly for OLLI Updates

Now that OLLI staff work a hybrid schedule (some days at home/some days in the office), course updates, cancellations and location changes are all communicated via email. Class handouts are now only provided by email.

Emails from olli@ucdavis.edu or cpeinfo@ucdavis.edu provide important, timely information on your registrations, messages from instructors or updates from the OLLI office.

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