

Rethink
Learning
Discovery
Vitality
Camaraderie
Enrichment
Creativity



PHOTO: GENEVA NORMAN



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Northwestern University

2024 OLLI SPRING SEMESTER

MONDAY, MARCH 4–MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024



CONTENTS

3 From the Director

4 Spring 2024 Membership Options

5 Study Groups At-A-Glance

10 How to Register for a 7-Week Study Group; 7-Week Study Groups At-A-Glance

11 Study Group Descriptions

52 OLLI Partners with Goodman

53 Spring 2024 Member Events

56 How to Purchase a Membership and Register

58 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

59 Policies and Information

64 Logistics, Services, and Resources

KEY DATES:

Memberships are available for purchase now.

Monday, February 5 at 9 a.m.: Spring registration opens.

Monday, February 19 at 9 a.m.: Spring registration closes.

Monday, March 4: Spring sessions begin.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) is to enable the continuation of learning and intellectual pursuit for a community of mature adults. As a special program of Northwestern University's School of Professional Studies, OLLI offers a comprehensive curriculum of peer-led discussion groups covering topics in areas such as literature, history, politics, science, philosophy, current affairs, and the arts. OLLI welcomes diversity in its membership, and has no academic prerequisites or age restrictions.



FROM THE OLLI DIRECTOR,
KARI FAGIN

Do you know that feeling of when a song comes on the radio, and you can't keep still? The sound, the rhythm, and maybe even the memories it stirs, causes your toes to tap, your fingers to snap, your body to sway. This spring at OLLI feels very similar—as you read this spring's offerings, you won't be able to keep still.

Just as music can move and inspire us, the OLLI program can be a transformative experience, guiding us through the dance of intellectual exploration. Each study group is a unique choreography of ideas and insights set to the harmonious tunes of curiosity. Learning, like dance, has the power to stir our emotions, lift our spirits, and inspire us to move beyond our comfort zones.

From the contemporary dance of science to the graceful waltz of literature. From the rich ballet of history to the contemplative tango of philosophy. Our study groups promise a dynamic array of movements, ensuring that every step you take adds to your lifelong learning journey.

We anticipate a record number of new members joining OLLI this spring. Envision these new members as dance partners ready to join the intricate choreography of OLLI's peer-led, discussion-based learning. In our classrooms, every member brings their own steps and style, contributing to the richness of our discussions. I challenge you – every one of you – to make a new friend this term, furthering our reputation as a welcoming community.

So, don't stand still. Let the OLLI program move you. Dance your way into a spring term filled with exciting and diverse study group offerings. Your intellectual journey awaits. Now go dance like no one is watching!

Joy in Learning and Community,
Kari
Kari Fagin, Director of Northwestern OLLI

Action Items

RIGHT NOW:

1. Log into the OLLI Online Registration System (**northwesternolli.augusoft.net**) today.
   - This will ensure you know your username and password before registration day. By preparing early, our team will have the time to help you if you have any difficulty.
2. Purchase your OLLI membership (if you do not have a current membership.)
   - Buy your membership early. Then, when registration opens, all you will need to do is select your study groups and quickly check out.
3. Review the study group offerings and **begin thinking about your list of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices**. Many groups fill quickly, so be open to other options that expand your interests and your exposure to new friendships.

REGISTRATION DAY (Monday, February 5):

Online registration opens at 9 a.m.
Registration closes Monday, February 19 at 9 a.m.

If you need assistance, email olli@northwestern.edu. The first available staff member or OLLI VOLLI volunteer will call or email you to assist. This day is extremely busy, so we ask for your patience.

See page 56 and 57 for membership purchase and registration instructions.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2024 MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a current OLLI member, you may purchase one of the following membership types here.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Spring Memberships – Levels, Prices, and Benefits

Level	Price and Terms Included	Number of Study Groups per Term	Benefits Included with Membership:
HALF-YEAR **Prime**	**$380 Half Academic Year** (includes spring & summer)	**3 per term** for a total of 6	**Half-year members enjoy** access to Northwestern Library.
HALF-YEAR **Standard**	**$335 Half Academic Year** (includes spring & summer)	**2 per term** for a total of 4	
HALF-YEAR **Basic**	**$275 Half Academic Year** (includes spring & summer)	**1 per term** for a total of 2	

Spring Trial Membership – Rate and Benefits

Trial	**$225** (includes spring semester & summer session) Available only to new members and may be purchased only one time.	**1 per term** for a total of 2	**Trial members enjoy** access to Northwestern Library.

Beyond the Study Groups … All OLLI Members Enjoy

- A community of engaged and engaging peers
- Special lectures and noontime events
- Workshops to enhance the OLLI experience
- Special events and cultural opportunities
- Weekly eNotices about campus activities throughout the year
- The opportunity to participate in OLLI committee work

The academic year is divided into 4 terms:
Fall and Spring Semester = 14 weeks each **Winter (all virtual) and Summer Session** = 4 weeks each

A new OLLI academic calendar begins each fall semester. Therefore, full year memberships are only available in the fall. Memberships are valid for the terms purchased and are not transferable to another term or member.

Scholarships: OLLI offers partial scholarships during the fall and spring terms. A limited number of full scholarships may be available. Awards are strictly confidential. Apply online. Scholarships are supported by donations to the OLLI Member Fund.

OLLI SPRING 2024 SESSION • BEGINS MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

STUDY GROUPS AT-A-GLANCE

KEY

CI: Contemporary and Social Issues

CA: Creative Arts (Performing, Visual, and Literary Arts)

HIS/SS: History & Social Sciences (Government, Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, Economics)

LIT: Literature

STMH: Science, Technology, Medicine & Health

CHICAGO IN-PERSON STUDY GROUPS

Monday

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**CA**	Stories of the Second City—Twentieth Century Chicago
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	Early Influencers: Women Philosophers—Wollstonecraft to Addams
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	*The Blazing World: A New History of Revolutionary England, 1603-1689*
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	The History of the National Parks: America's Best Idea
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**LIT**	Great Short Stories
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CI**	*The New Yorker*
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CA**	Writing Life Stories (A)
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CA**	Writing Life Stories (C)
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**HIS/SS**	Chicago's Century of Progress—1933
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**HIS/SS**	The Making and Unmaking of Yugoslavia
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**STMH**	Fantastic Fungi!

Tuesday

	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**CA**	*Rolling Stones'* Top Rock and Roll Songs
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	*JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century*
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	The National Vietnam Memorial: From Dream to Reality
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**LIT**	Jewish Short Stories: Then and Now
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**LIT**	The Shock of the Old: Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*

Continued on next page

CHICAGO IN-PERSON STUDY GROUPS, CONT.

NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	Changemakers
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	Exploring *Palaces For The People*
NEW	1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.	CA	Movies and American Business
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	Hong Kong and Singapore: A Tale of Two Cities
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	LIT	The American West: *Centennial* by James Michener

Wednesday

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CA	Short Stories Inspired by Great Paintings
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	HIS/SS	A History of Our Times: Looking Back at the Twentieth Century
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	HIS/SS	Origin of Fake News? Democratic National Convention, Chicago 1968
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	James McBride's Message of the Commonality of Human Experience
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	*The Economist* A
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Columbus, IN: Midwest Architecture Gem—Section A
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Columbus, IN: Midwest Architecture Gem—Section B
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	Happiness
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	Trade Builds a Nation: The Hudson's Bay Company
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	STMH	*Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution*

Thursday

	9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	CA	Capturing Chicago Through Photography
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	HIS/SS	The Partnership: George Marshall and Henry Stimson
NEW	9:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	HIS/SS	Timeline of Black History in Film
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	British Mysteries Goes Continental
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	Readings in Western Culture—Great Books Conversations
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	States of Mystery: South Carolina to West Virginia
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	Washington Week
	1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.	CA	British Film Noir
	1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.	CA	Classic Crime Cinema: Aspects of Noir
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Creativity and Promise: Selected MacArthur Fellows
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	STMH	Be a Scientific American

Continued on next page

EVANSTON IN-PERSON STUDY GROUPS

Monday

	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**CI**	*The New Yorker*
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	China and the United States: A Love-Hate Relationship
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**LIT**	Best American Short Stories
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**LIT**	Four Masters of the Short Story—In-person
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CI**	Why Nations Fail
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CI**	You've Come a Long Way Baby, or Have You?
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**HIS/SS**	The Intellectual Evolution of Libertarianism

Tuesday

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	Democracy Awakening
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	Views from the Oval Office
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**STMH**	*Elderhood*
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**STMH**	Science In The News
	1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.	**CA**	From Print to Pictures, the Art of Film Adaptation: The Fabulous Fondas
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**HIS/SS**	The Supreme Court During World War Two: What War Does To The Constitution
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**LIT**	Money, Marriage, and Morals: George Elliot's *Daniel Deronda*

Wednesday

	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**CA**	Creative Writing Workshop
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**CA**	Documentary Films
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	John Marshall: Definer of a Nation
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CI**	*The Economist* In Person
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**CA**	Theater in Chicago
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**LIT**	Poetry for Pleasure
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	**LIT**	The Golden Age of Mystery

Thursday

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	American Nations—The Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	**HIS/SS**	How We Know What We Know: Exploring *The Last Archive*

Continued on next page

EVANSTON IN-PERSON STUDY GROUPS, CONT.

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	Great Artists, History, and Cultural Influence
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	STMH	Exercise: How Physical Activity Boosts Health and Slows Aging
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	*Cuba: An American History*
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	*Sex and the Constitution*
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	STMH	The Fight for Women in Science

VIRTUAL OLLI ANYWHERE STUDY GROUPS

Monday

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	HIS/SS	Spies: How Covert Activities Changed the Course of History
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	STMH	Generational Differences and Big Data
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	The Films of Martin Scorsese: A 50-Year Retrospective
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Writing Life Stories (B)
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	LIT	Literary Masters: Post-War Experiences
	4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.	CA	BONUS GROUP: Let's Talk About the Movies (Monday)

Tuesday

	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CA	Exploring the Visual Arts
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	HIS/SS	The 2024 Election: Potential Abuses of Presidential Power
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	Four Masters of the Short Story—Virtual
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	STMH	Biggest Ideas in the Universe—Part 3
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Tuesday at the Movies
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	*Battle Cry of Freedom*
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	LIT	*The Time Traveler's Almanac*: It's About Time!
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	STMH	Nature and Health: Escaping the Sidewalks

Wednesday

	8:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CA	Capturing Chicagoland Through Photography
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CI	Democracy, Truth, and Education in the US
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CI	Foreign Affairs
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	LIT	Literature of Baseball: *Strike Four*

VIRTUAL OLLI ANYWHERE STUDY GROUPS, CONT.

	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	Articles from the Sunday *New York Times*
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	*The Economist* plus *The Atlantic*
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Contemporary Art: The Big Picture
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Documentary Films

Thursday

NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CA	Instrumental Amalgamation
	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	CA	Poetry in a New Age
NEW	9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.	HIS/SS	Pope Francis: A Decade of Transformation
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CI	*The Economist*
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	Fiction Writers Workshop
NEW	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	CA	The Man Who Transformed American Theater: August Wilson—His Life and Plays
	1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	HIS/SS	Introduction to the New Testament Part 2
	4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.	CA	BONUS GROUP: Let's Talk About the Movies (Thursday)

Friday

	9:45 a.m.–11:45a.m.	CI	International Relations

OLLI IMMERSIVE THEATER — AUGUST WILSON EXPERIENCE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GOODMAN THEATRE

Join your OLLI community and Goodman's Education and Engagement department for an enchanting evening of storytelling. This special event celebrates the captivating works of August Wilson by highlighting the art of storytelling through performance. The cherry on top? Select OLLI members will share their own stories to an exclusive audience at the Goodman Theatre's Alice Education Center for Education and Engagement. Join us for an unforgettable night made possible by OLLI's special partnership with the Goodman Theatre.

See page 52 for more information.

How to Register for a 7-week Study Group

If you register for a 7-week study group, you may register for a second 7-week study group based on availability. Because the registration system does not recognize 1/2 credits, the office will have to assist with registering you for an optional second study group per the instructions below:

- Register yourself for one 7-week study group.
- If you wish to take a second 7-week study group, email the OLLI office with your choice: olli@northwestern.edu. (Please provide two or three options.)
- OLLI staff will register you for your second 7-week study group as quickly as possible and in the order received.
- If your 1st choice is filled you will be added to the wait list. OLLI staff will then attempt to register you for your 2nd choice. If it is also full, you will be added to that wait list as well.
- You will receive an automated email notifying you of the status (registered or waitlisted).

MEETS THE FIRST HALF OF THE SEMESTER

Monday

1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **HIS/SS** Chicago's Century of Progress—1933 ***(In-person, Chicago)***

NEW 1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **HIS/SS** The Intellectual Evolution of Libertarianism ***(In-person, Evanston)***

Tuesday

NEW 9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **HIS/SS** Views from the Oval Office ***(In-person, Evanston)***

NEW 9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **LIT** Jewish Short Stories: Then and Now ***(In-person, Chicago)***

Thursday

9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **LIT** British Mysteries Goes Continental ***(In-person, Chicago)***

MEETS THE SECOND HALF OF THE SEMESTER

Tuesday

NEW 9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **HIS/SS** The National Vietnam Memorial: From Dream to Reality ***(In-person, Chicago)***

NEW 9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **STMH** *Elderhood* ***(In-person, Evanston)***

NEW 1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **STMH** Nature and Health: Escaping the Sidewalks ***(Virtual)***

Wednesday

NEW 9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **LIT** James McBride's Message of the Commonality of Human Experience ***(In-person, Chicago)***

NEW 1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **CA** Columbus, IN: Midwest Architecture Gem—Section A ***(In-person, Chicago)***

NEW 1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **CA** Columbus, IN: Midwest Architecture Gem—Section B ***(In-person, Chicago)***

NEW 1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **CA** Contemporary Art: The Big Picture ***(Virtual)***

Thursday

9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m. **LIT** States of Mystery: South Carolina to West Virginia ***(In-person, Chicago)***

NEW 1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m. **CA** Creativity and Promise: Selected MacArthur Fellows ***(In-person, Chicago)***

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Northwestern University

OLLI SPRING 2024 SESSION • BEGINS MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

ICON KEY

- High level of discussion
- Medium level of discussion
- Low level of discussion
- Participation Required
- Participation Strongly Encouraged
- Participation Encouraged
- Digital SLR camera required
- Preparation: More than 2 hours per week
- Preparation: Roughly 1–2 hours per week
- Preparation: Less than 1 hour per week
- Movies/documentaries shown
- Access to streaming service required
- Kindle edition available

Chicago Campus Study Groups . . . . . p. 12–28

Evanston Campus Study Groups . . . . . p. 29–39

Virtual OLLI Anywhere Study Groups . . . . . p. 40–51



CHICAGO STUDY GROUPS: MONDAY

BEGINS MARCH 4, 2024

NEW

Stories of the Second City—Twentieth Century Chicago

CREATIVE ARTS

Rhoda Stamell, Peggy Kratz
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

The history of 20th century America is told in urban literature. Each of the great cities has its own character, its own distinctive voice, and its own defined territory. At one time, Chicago, the second largest city, was the fastest growing city in world history. As we read writings about immigration, assimilation, and expansion in Chicago, we will envision the energy and transcendence of this great city over the years. Our texts will include *The Coast of Chicago* (Picador, 2008) by Stuart Dybek, *The Lake on Fire* (Sarabande Books, 2015) by Rosellan Brown, *Humboldt's Gift* (Viking Books, 1975) by Saul Bellow, and *The Lazarus Project* (Riverhead Books, reprinted 2009) by Aleksander Hemon.



NEW

Early Influencers: Women Philosophers—Wollstonecraft to Addams

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Carol Hershman, Diane Lederer, Martha Bills
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Philosophy, the study of fundamental questions, inspired influencers throughout the centuries. When we think about philosophers, names of men like Aristotle come to mind. What about women philosophers? Women like Mary Astell, Catherine Cockburn, and Mary Wollstonecraft were active in the 17th and 18th centuries. In Regan Penaluna's *How to Think Like a Woman* (Grove Press, 2023) we will discover how these women were influencing, how the world thought about women by writing about God, feminism, and the value of the female mind. Moving to the 19th and 20th century, we will turn our attention to Jane Addams and her life as an activist, social reformer, and philosopher. Addams was a prolific writer in the American Pragmatist tradition and became a leader of Progressivism in the US. The Hull House settlement established by Addams also became the launching pad for several other dynamic, first generation college-educated women who influenced the world through social action and reform. We will examine the life and legend of Jane Addams in *American Heroine* by Allen F. Davis (Ivan R Dee, 2000). We will dive into the accomplishment of Addams and her cohort and discuss how these reformers' influence is still felt today.



> *Array of reading materials, participation, and session leaders were excellent.* Kathy McLain

NEW

The Blazing World: A New History of Revolutionary England, 1603-1689

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

James Smith, Bob Rifkin

Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

At the beginning of the 17th century, the King of England was an absolute monarch who ruled by divine right. At its end, Parliament was supreme. To reach this result, the English fought a civil war, beheaded one monarch, tried and rejected republicanism, and then deposed another monarch. Taken together, the English Civil War and the Glorious Revolution of 1688 were the first of the great modern Western revolutions, a political earthquake with deep lessons for our Founding Fathers, among many others. Our group will discuss *The Blazing World: A New History of Revolutionary England, 1603-1689* (Knopf, 2023) by Oxford scholar Jonathan Healey. Using a vast array of primary sources, Healey portrays the drama of this era in an immensely readable account that tells the tale from a variety of perspectives. Going beyond the politics, important as they were, we will discuss Healey's analysis of the underlying economic and social developments that were transforming English society from a land of aristocrats and peasants into a society increasingly influenced by a new middle class, shaping revolutionary politics in the process. Join us to discover how the roots of our Constitution and our liberties were forged in the crucible of 17th century England.

Med 1-2 k

NEW

The History of the National Parks: America's Best Idea

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Thomas Ross, Judith Gethner

Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

The National Parks have been called "America's Best Idea." Join us to explore the history behind that idea. We will learn what circumstances led to the creation of the parks, what political obstacles had to be overcome, how the role of the parks has changed since the beginning, how the parks' purposes of preservation and public access have conflicted, and other issues the parks have confronted. Many of us have been to at least one National Park. Many have fallen in love with the parks. Here is your chance to deepen your knowledge of the parks and to learn the story behind the scenery. Our text will be *National Parks: The American Experience* by environmental historian Alfred Runte (5th edition; Lyons Press 2021).

Med 1-2 k



Great Short Stories

LITERATURE

Julia Katz, Alan Goldberg
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

As Pulitzer Prize-winning author Stacy Schiff wrote in *The New York Times*, "A short story is by definition an odder, more eccentric creature than a novel; a trailer, a fling, a warm-up act, a bouillon cube, a championship game in one inning. Irresolution and ambiguity become it; it's a first date rather than a marriage. When is it mightier than the novel? When its elisions speak as loudly as its lines." If you enjoy reading fiction and want to explore the succinctness of the short story, join our study group. The very brevity of the form invites lively discussion and differing interpretations of the material. This study group gives a brief but fascinating introduction to a variety of contemporary authors. Each study group member acts as discussion leader for one or two stories of their choice, and also shares a brief biography of the story's author. Two anthologies serve as texts: *The Best Short Stories 2023,* edited by Lauren Groff with Jenny Minton Quigley (Anchor Books, 2023), contains short stories published in 2023; *The Scribner Anthology of Contemporary Short Fiction,* edited by Lex Williford and Michael Martone (Touchtone, 2007), contains short stories written since 1970.



The New Yorker

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Barbara Glatt, Marylyn Miller, Dale Walters
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Inside its famous covers and beyond the cartoons, *The New Yorker* magazine is dedicated to quality, topical writings and ideas. Our study group discussions will be as varied as the contents of this distinguished magazine. Join us as we explore art, technology, politics, personalities, medicine, movies, fiction, fashion, culture, and commentary. Members will find their view of our current world expanded. A current online or print subscription of *The New Yorker* magazine is required. All study group members are expected to be a discussion leader at least one time during the 14 week session.



Writing Life Stories (A)

CREATIVE ARTS

Steven Meiss, Janet Voss
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Why write your memories? Writing our memoirs helps us document and reflect on our experiences, revisit old memories, and remember the people who have made a difference in our lives. Writing our memoirs allows us to reflect on and examine the past from our present perspective. Memoirs can be a collection of personal essays, a poem, or even auto-fiction. Members will write up to 700 words each week and bring copies for all study group members to take home, read, and offer personal comments. We will read aloud what we distribute the previous week and offer constructive feedback to each writer. Members might even choose to include photographs in their memoirs. We will also place the weekly memoirs and any essential reference material on MyOLLINU.com. Whether experienced writers or just beginning, we will help each other organize and clarify our writing, decide what to include and what to leave out, and determine what style to follow. Our study group is an excellent opportunity to write a life story or a memoir of one or more of life's chapters.



Writing Life Stories (C)

CREATIVE ARTS

Beth Chiaiese, Susan Gillis
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Do you wish that a family member had written his or her life story for you to read? Do you wish you knew more about family members? This is your opportunity to write your life story and to make your memories available to current and future family members and friends. In this study group, we will discuss writing styles and important elements to help make your stories more compelling. Join us as we help each other craft and record our life stories.



Chicago's Century of Progress—1933

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Judy Myers, Debra Watkins
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 1st half of the semester)

Forty years after the White City of the Columbian Exposition, Chicago created a dazzling Rainbow City to celebrate its incorporation as a town in 1833. This Century of Progress international exposition was designed to be an uplifting experience for people struggling in the midst of the Great Depression. Join this study group to discover why this fair was significantly different from previous world's fairs. We will learn about the challenges faced by the business and civic leaders who organized the fair. We will also explore how the main theme, technology and science, shaped the format of the fair and helped create its legacy. We will discuss many issues that arose during the fair including public nudity, women's representation, racial justice, ethnic identity, and global nationalism. Our primary resource will be *The 1933 Chicago World's Fair* by Cheryl R. Ganz (University of Illinois Press, 2012).



NEW

The Making and Unmaking of Yugoslavia

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Steven Goldberg, Gigi McCabe-Miele
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Why did Yugoslavia fall apart? Was its violent demise inevitable? Did its people fall victim to the lure of ethno-nationalism? Where do we situate the short life of Yugoslavia in the long history of the twentieth century? How can Yugoslavia deepen our understanding of recent conflict elsewhere in the world? In this study group, we will examine the conditions under which Yugoslavia was created, what held the multinational state together for more than 70 years and why it finally broke apart in violence. Setting aside the stereotype of an isolated region beset by "ancient ethnic hatreds," we will broaden our focus to capture the complexity and scope of forces that shaped Yugoslavia as part of the modern world: empires, great powers, ideologies, economic policies, historical memory, state legitimacy, ethnic cleansing, minority rights, media manipulation, and international peacekeeping. We will rely on two highly regarded texts: historian Noel Malcolm's *Bosnia: A Short History* (NYU, updated edition 1996) and journalist Tim Judah's *The Serbs: History, Myth and the Destruction of Yugoslavia* (Yale, third edition, 2010). Join us for lively, thoughtful, and probing discussions.



NEW

Fantastic Fungi!

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Susan Salpeter, Misty Baumann, Michael Silverman
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Flora, fauna, and fungi. Join us for a fascinating exploration of fungi. Mushrooms aren't just for eating or taking a psychedelic trip. They are used in industry for eco-friendly building materials and fabrics, environmental clean-up, and medicinal remedies. When we think of fungi, we think of mushrooms. But mushrooms are only the fruiting bodies, analogous to apples on the tree. Most fungi live out of sight, yet make up a massively diverse kingdom that supports and sustains nearly all life. Together we will learn how Fungi are metabolic masters, earth makers, and key players in most of life's processes. Our texts are excerpts from *Entangled Life* (Random House, 2023) by Merlin Sheldrake, which describes how these extraordinary organisms are changing our understanding of how life works. We will also sample *Mycelium Running* (Ten Speed Press, 2005) by Paul Stamets, which discusses how fungi can impact environmental issues as diverse as pollutants and pathogen reduction from agricultural watersheds. Fungi can help enhance the health of forests and gardens. And most obviously, mushrooms have an important role in the kitchen. In addition to these texts, we will view the documentary *Fantastic Fungi* (Popcorn Entertainment, 2019), additional videos, and may visit a mushroom farm.



CHICAGO STUDY GROUPS: TUESDAY

BEGINS MARCH 5, 2024

Rolling Stones' Top Rock and Roll Songs

CREATIVE ARTS

Howard Tanzman, Tim Atkins, Laurie Toth
Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

In 2004, *Rolling Stone Magazine* published their list of the top 500 songs of all time. In this study group, we will review the song numbers 26–100 on that list. We will listen to each song together and discuss the lyrics, melody, riffs, and other aspects of the song. We will share when and where we first heard the song. Via reading assignments and discussions, we will evaluate many aspects of the band and their songs. As a group we will decide whether we agree with *Rolling Stone Magazine* on their rankings. At the end of the 14 weeks, we will do our own poll for the top songs of all time. Join us as we have fun learning and reminiscing.





NEW

JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dan Burns, Rosemary O'Shea

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Accounts and memories of John F. Kennedy often seem to have an almost mythic quality. But who was the real JFK? Now, one of our most outstanding historians of the Vietnam War turns to another subject you thought you already knew, and he makes John F. Kennedy as alive and compelling as if you were reading about him for the first time. Frederik Logevall, in the first volume of a proposed two-volume biography, *JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century, 1917-1956* (Random House, 2021), reveals a far deeper, worthier, and more interesting character than we may have been exposed to previously. We will explore Kennedy from his birth, the second son of a striving Irish American family, to the age of 39 and his decision, while serving in the US Senate, to run for the presidency. The "Coming of Age" in the subtitle refers not only to Kennedy, but also to the parallel history of America's mid-century rise. We will revisit the isolationist debates of the pre-World War II period, the war itself, the subsequent Cold War, the anti-communist politics of the McCarthy era, and the always entertaining world of Boston Irish politics. Join us for a fresh and lively discussion of this fascinating period of American history.



NEW

The National Vietnam Memorial: From Dream to Reality

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Steve Greska, Martha Bills, Bill King

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

After serving as an infantryman in Vietnam, Jan Scruggs returned to a United States that didn't recognize the veterans of the war. After working with men suffering from PTSD, Scruggs began a campaign (with little or no funding and no influential contacts) to build a memorial commemorating the service and sacrifice of those veterans. What started out as a dream has now become the most visited and one of the most beloved of American memorials. In this study group, we will discuss the Memorial's beginnings, the selection of a site, the competition for a designer, the controversies surrounding the memorial itself, what went on behind the scenes and in public during the struggle, and the ultimate achievement of the 1982 dedication of the Memorial. James Reston, Jr's book, *A Rift in the Earth* (Arcade Publishing, 2017) will be our primary text. Other source material will include videos, personal remembrances, guest speakers, and information about the people on the Wall. We will discover how artistic endeavors coupled with the solemnity of commemoration of a chapter in American history came together in acknowledgement of a difficult period for the Nation.



> *Facilitators were great, subject was fascinating, discussions were very stimulating, general atmosphere in the group was friendly and supportive.*
>
> Kate McKeon

NEW

Jewish Short Stories: Then and Now

LITERATURE

Eli Libenson, David Prosnitz

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 1st half of the semester)

I.L. Peretz wrote wonderful stories about Polish Jews of a century ago. Joseph Epstein, a Chicagoan, writes wonderful stories about contemporary American Jews. A century apart, the people and stories could not be more different and yet, on reflection, they may not be so different after all. In this study group, we will discuss similarities and differences in the themes of these stories. We will evaluate the narrator's voices and explore whether the authors arrive at similar moral judgments at the stories' ends. Our texts will be *The I.L. Peretz Reader* edited by Ruth Wisse (Yale University Press or Schocken Books Inc.) and *The Goldin Boys: Stories* by Joseph Epstein (W.W. Norton and Company 1992).



NEW

The Shock of the Old: Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*

LITERATURE

James Knapp, Peggy Knapp

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Like many travelers thrown together for a long journey (in this case a pilgrimage), the pilgrims in Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* pass the time by telling stories. The stories take many different forms, and the tellers are even more varied—in wealth, social position, learning, and personality. The stories they tell are sometimes motivated primarily by the desire to show up a rival storyteller. While their stories range from classical myths retold to 14th century religious teaching, and from tragic to comic, the men and women in these stories often strike us now as remarkably familiar, as do the dilemmas with which they struggle. We will read and discuss one tale each week, along with the tale's prologue, where the teller often reveals a great deal about why he, or she, has chosen to tell a particular story. We will read the tales in a modern translation, since the English of the 14th century is different enough to distract us from the remarkable realism of the voices Chaucer has given us. Join us for an exploration of these 14th Century, yet perennial, tales.



NEW

Changemakers

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Janet Lang, Amy Pobst, Kathy Lawten

Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Do you ever dream of changing the world in a meaningful way, but feel frustrated because change seems too risky, too complicated, too impossible? Join us and be inspired by the stories of changemakers who didn't accept the status quo. These individuals acted with vision and courage. They offer a blueprint for making change, both big and small. We will consider TED lectures on change and discuss selected readings from two books: *Big Bets: How Large-Scale Change Really Happens* (Simon and Schuster, 2023) by Rajiv Shah, President of the Rockefeller Foundation; and *The Moment: Changemakers on Why and How They Joined the Fight for Social Justice* (New South Books, University of Georgia Press, 2022) by Steve Fiffer. Guest speakers will include Chicago-area changemakers who made a difference in their communities. There will be an optional field trip to Sweet Water Garden, an example of regenerative neighborhood development in Englewood. Finally, we will use insights drawn from these changemakers to develop strategies addressing real or hypothetical challenges, and some of us may be inspired to answer the call. Join us as we imagine the possible. This is a 12 week study group beginning Tuesday, March 12 and ending Tuesday, May 28.



NEW

Exploring *Palaces For The People* CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ed Klinenberg, Steve Greska
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

During a time of deep divisions along racial, religious, and cultural lines, we have an opportunity to discuss a creative path toward bridging these divides. In this study group we will explore how shared amenities such as libraries, parks, and even OLLI programs, can combat polarization and help us all find common purpose. Our study group will be based on the book, *Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality, Polarization, and the Decline of Civic Life* (Crown, 2018) by Eric Klinenberg, Professor of Sociology at New York University. Together, we will learn about the importance of libraries, playgrounds, churches and synagogues, and many other diverse organizations that bring people together to provide opportunities for forming crucial personal connections. Join us for this lively discussion of how building a strong social infrastructure can help ameliorate some of our most pressing challenges.



NEW

Movies and American Business CREATIVE ARTS

Bill McGuffage, Paul Hurder
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.)

In this study group, we will watch and discuss films about the best and worst business practices of American companies. Several of the films are based on true stories of corporate corruption and the ensuing scandals, lawsuits, and prosecutions. Subject matter of the films includes anti-competitive practices (monopolies, price fixing, intimidation), market manipulation and insider trading, bribery of government officials for favorable legislative and regulatory treatment, and fraudulent claims about the efficacy or safety of products. We will explore how such unethical or unlawful behaviors are designed to boost corporate earnings, increase market share, and attract big investors; but ultimately victimize consumers, competitors, vendors, unwary investors, and honest employees. Join us for this examination of American business through the lens of such acclaimed and award-winning films as *Wall Street* (1987), *Glengarry Glen Ross* (1992), *The Aviator* (2004), *Moneyball* (2011), and *The Big Short* (2015), to name a few. Articles on the subject matter of each film will be sent to study group members a few days before the film is scheduled to be viewed and discussed.



Hong Kong and Singapore: A Tale of Two Cities HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Ann Rusnak, Dennis Carlin
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Join us as we delve into the colorful and complex history of two of the most consequential cities in East and Southeast Asia—Hong Kong and Singapore, both of which became British Crown Colonies in the mid-19th century. *Singapore: A Modern History* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2019) by international relations professor Michael D. Barr will be our guide to the dramatic transformation of the island city state. He challenges the official orthodoxy of the city's rise by candidly exploring the struggles and dynamics that have faced the city since independence from Malaysia in 1965. We will then turn to *Fortune's Bazaar: The Making of Hong Kong* (Scribner, 2023) by Vaudine England, a lively and deeply researched page turner that focuses on the individuals and social forces that made Hong Kong one of the world's great cities. We will conclude with a study of the post-1997 history of Hong Kong, examining how the "one country, two systems" agreement with China paved the way for a gradual imposition of authoritarian communist rule.



The American West: *Centennial* by James Michener

LITERATURE

Lynne Carpenter, Joe Hayes
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Written to commemorate the Bicentennial of 1976, James Michener's novel *Centennial* celebrates the history of Colorado through characters based on real people. Many episodes are based on actual events in eastern Colorado and southeast Wyoming. Beginning with Colorado's prehistory, subsequent chapters tell of native Americans, trappers, traders, homesteaders, gold seekers, ranchers, and cowboys in the dramatic conflicts that shaped the legendary West. We will read about and discuss an Arapaho chieftain and his Comanche and Pawnee enemies; a Mennonite trader who fled with his child bride from Amish country; and a cowboy who falls in love with a wealthy and cultured Englishwoman. With fourteen chapters, this 1000+ page book lends itself perfectly to an OLLI semester.



CHICAGO STUDY GROUPS: WEDNESDAY

BEGINS MARCH 6, 2024

NEW

Short Stories Inspired by Great Paintings

CREATIVE ARTS

Diane Dunne, Tim Atkins
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Have you ever stood before a painting and wondered about the story it tells? Join us as we imagine the untold stories within various artworks by some of the greatest artists including Georgia O'Keeffe, Andy Warhol, Salvador Dali, Winslow Homer, Vincent van Gogh, Grant Wood, and more. Each week we will read two or three short stories inspired by the various artworks and written by award-winning authors including Jeffrey Deaver, Jane Hamilton, Michael Connelly, Sara Paretsky, and Joyce Carol Oates. Members will lead a discussion on the qualities of the literature and the creative art. Supplemental materials will be provided including helpful checklists about reading short stories and appreciating art. There will be an optional trip to the Art Institute and lunch together at a local restaurant. We will read two short story anthologies: *Alive in Shape and Color* (Pegasus Books, 2017), and *From Sea To Stormy Sea* (Pegasus Books, 2019).



NEW

A History of Our Times: Looking Back at the Twentieth Century

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Richard Krantz, Joe Hinkel
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

What does it mean for a history book to be critically acclaimed? In the case of Paul Johnson's *Modern Times, The World From the Twenties to the Nineties,* it can have a double meaning. Johnson's book has been acclaimed by being ranked number eleven on *National Review*'s list of best non-fiction books of the 20th century. It was also described in one review as nothing more than Johnson viewing "the 20th century as one long and unsuccessful attempt at social engineering from which he would like to retreat," presumably back to the nineteenth. Johnson's conservative viewpoint will lead to interesting discussions. Along with his engaging writing style and a wealth of anecdotes, this "classic world history of the events, ideas, and personalities of the twentieth century" will make for a very enjoyable and informative study group. Due to the length of the book and the complexity of the issues raised we anticipate continuing to the summer semester, but participation in the summer is not required.



NEW

Origin of Fake News? Democratic National Convention, Chicago 1968

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Judy Myers, Joanne Schochat

Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

The news coverage of the 1968 Democratic Convention has sometimes been characterized as "liberal biased" and "fake news." Many Chicagoans remember the turmoil, protests, and riots during that Convention. Media coverage was done primarily by the three major television broadcast networks. In this study group, we will examine how the culture of media ownership, political and economic issues, and technological limitations affected the Convention reporting. In the late 1960s, demonstrations against the Vietnam War, racial unrest were on-going, and there were assassinations of political and civil rights leaders. We will discuss how these events may have created a backdrop for public response to convention coverage. As the 2024 Democratic Convention approaches, we will discuss if current media coverage of political events will be 'déjà vu' all over again? Our primary resource will be *When the News Broke: Chicago 1968 and the Polarizing of America* by Heather Hendershot (University of Chicago Press, 2022).



NEW

James McBride's Message of the Commonality of Human Experience

LITERATURE

Abe Brustein, Diane Valencia

Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

In this study group we will explore James McBride's belief that common values can transcend the forces that seemingly divide people by focusing on two of his books: *The Color of Water* (Riverhead Books 2006) and *Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* (Riverhead Books, 2023). McBride is an African American author and musician who first gained recognition in 1996 with the publication of *The Color of Water,* a tribute to his white mother. This book recounts McBride's family life as one of twelve children of two stable mixed-race marriages growing up in the 1960s and 70s. McBride's mother was raised in an observant Jewish family—a family and religious life she fled from, but not without incurring emotional trauma and scars. Together we will learn how McBride's exploration of his mother's past was also his personal journey of self-discovery. Set in Pottsville, PA in the 1920s and 30s, *Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* portrays the lives of Jews and African Americans who live as neighbors. We will discuss how each group struggles, collectively and as individuals, to find the way to heal the divisions in its own community and to find community with each other. The book is a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2023 and Barnes & Noble's Book of the Year.



This was the most interactive group possible. Interesting subject, excellent coordinators, and terrific study group participants. Rona Brown

The Economist A

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Jerry Levine, Larry Winer, Joseph Lane
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

The Economist magazine is known for its informative and thought-provoking reporting on political, social, and economic developments around the world. Join us as we review several articles selected from the current week's issue as catalysts for informed and lively discussion on the critical topics of our time. A subscription or access to current editions of *The Economist* (print or digital) is required for being able to participate in the healthy discussions about world affairs. Information on subscriptions, student rates and special rates are available at 1-800-456-6086 or www.economistsubscriptions.com.



NEW

Columbus, IN: Midwest Architecture Gem—Section A

CREATIVE ARTS

Bill Lipsman, Sandy Bredine
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)
(This section includes a trip to Columbus at an additional cost.)

How can a small town of 50,000, in the middle of nowhere, have more significant modern architecture by world famous architects than almost any city in the United States? This is due to the vision and wealth of J. Irwin Miller, second CEO of Cummins, Inc., who directed the Cummins Foundation to pay the fees of architects for public buildings. In this study group, we will study the history of Columbus, Indiana. We will also examine how one visionary person can significantly impact the cultural and economic development of a small city by leaving a legacy of great architecture. We will study the architects and the buildings they designed for Columbus and elsewhere. Then, we will visit Columbus as a group on May 29th–31st. Study group members will be responsible for paying their own expenses of approximately $600–700 per person. Contact bill.lipsman@gmail.com or bredine2@gmail.com for an itinerary and breakdown of costs prior to registering for this study group. Attendance on tours is limited. Guests may not attend with OLLI members.



NEW

Columbus, IN: Midwest Architecture Gem—Section B

CREATIVE ARTS

Bill Lipsman, Sandy Bredine
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)
(This section does not include a trip to Columbus)

How can a small town of 50,000, in the middle of nowhere, have more significant modern architecture by world famous architects than almost any city in the United States? This is due to the vision and wealth of J. Irwin Miller, second CEO of Cummins, Inc., who directed the Cummins Foundation to pay the fees of architects for public buildings. In this study group, we will study the history of Columbus, Indiana. We will also examine how one visionary person can significantly impact the cultural and economic development of a small city by leaving a legacy of great architecture. We will study the architects and the buildings they designed for Columbus and elsewhere. This section will meet with Section A members during weeks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7.



NEW

Happiness

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dixie Johnson, Joe Hinkel
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

What makes for a happy life, a fulfilling life, a good life? In their captivating book, *The Good Life* (Simon & Schuster, 2023), Robert Waldinger and Marc Schulz show us that the answer to these questions may be closer than we realize. Waldinger and Schulz are the directors of the Harvard Study of Adult Development, the longest scientific study of happiness ever conducted (spanning 85 years). What makes a life fulfilling and meaningful? The simple but surprising answer is relationships. In this study group, we will explore how the strength of our relationships directly impacts the likeliness of living a happier, more satisfying, and healthier life. In fact, the Harvard Study of Adult Development reveals that the strength of our connections with others can predict the health of both our bodies and our brains as we go through life. *The Good Life* will help us explore how it is never too late to strengthen the relationships we already have and to build new ones. We will discuss how the findings in this study are particularly important for older adults as we face the inevitable loss of friends and loved ones. The authors argue that nourishing new relationships will not just make us happy but will, on average, allow us to live longer. Join us and explore happiness.

High 1-2 k

NEW

Trade Builds a Nation: The Hudson's Bay Company

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Margaret Schilt, Richard Krantz
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

In May, 1670, Charles II gave the new Hudson's Bay Company "Sole Trade and Commerce" rights as "true and absolute Lordes and Proprietors" of a region stretching from Hudson's Bay to the Pacific Ocean, over 40% of Canada, including portions of what would become the American states of North Dakota, Minnesota, Washington and Oregon. The monopoly endured until 1869 when the Company surrendered its land rights to the British Crown. What happened in those 200 years is the subject of this study group. Our book, *The Company: The Rise and Fall of The Hudson's Bay Empire* (Anchor Canada 2021) by Stephen Bown, details the hardships, adventure, and determination of the travelers and fur traders who extracted millions in profits from the global fur trade, in the process exploring and mapping millions of acres of territory. We will discuss Bown's argument that the traders' interactions with Indigenous peoples, positive and negative, were essential to their success. We will also explore Bown's explanation of how the Company shaped the political and economic geography of the regions. Join us for our explorations.

High 1-2 k



NEW

Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Carol Dietz, Dorothy Balabanos, Pamela Radke
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

In this page-turning, whistle-stop tour of mammalian development that begins in the Jurassic Era, *Eve* recasts the traditional story of evolutionary biology by placing women at its center. Cat Bohannon's book is brimming with science, but it's written with a lay audience in mind. Critics and readers call it "engaging, playful, erudite, irreverent, rich with detail and surprising facts—a landmark book." This Eve is not from the Book of Genesis, she is the "Mitochondrial Eve" of science. It's her maternal DNA that traces the evolution of the female body though genes passed only from mother to daughter. In this study group, we will explore Bohannon's story of how female and male bodies became so different and why this still matters to our entire human species. Ten years in the research and writing, *Eve* encompasses evolutionary biology, physiology, paleo-anthropology, genetics, and love. We will also discuss Bohannon's urgent call to refocus our world that has under-prioritized and under-supported women in scientific research, medicine, and healthcare. The just released book is *Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution* (Alfred A. Knopf, NY 2023). Supplemental articles, videos, and speakers will enrich our discussions. All XX and XY chromosomes are welcome!



CHICAGO STUDY GROUPS: THURSDAY

BEGINS MARCH 7, 2024

Capturing Chicago Through Photography

CREATIVE ARTS

Donald Weissman, Eric Cooper, Howard Rose
Thursday (9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)

Practice and grow your photography skills while capturing Chicago locations and assigned images. Every other week the study group will receive information on a notable place or technique to capture images. Study group members will complete the assignments individually and upload their images in our Dropbox account. Then every other week in the classroom, we will review and critique our images to help improve our composition and photography skills. While we will not be required to edit images with post-processing software, we will discuss how some post-processing features might enhance the photo. Several different post-processing software edits will be demonstrated. This study group is for intermediate level photographers with a working knowledge of aperture, shutter speed, and ISO. A DLSR or mirrorless camera with interchangeable lenses and manual control is required.



The participants were bright and engaging.
Naomi Stonehill

The Partnership: George Marshall and Henry Stimson

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Rich Dubberke, Dea Brennan, Barry Kaplan
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

On September 1, 1939, the day World War II broke out in Europe, General George Marshall was sworn in as Chief of Staff of the US Army. Ten months later Roosevelt appointed Henry Stimson as Secretary of War, overseeing the armed forces of the United States. In this study group, we will read and discuss *The Partnership: George Marshall, Henry Stimson, and the Extraordinary Collaboration That Won World War II* by Edward Farley Aldrich (Stackpole Books, 2022 ed.). We will explore the lives of both men, two remarkable Americans, from the first half of the 20th century through the World War II years. The World War II years concentrate on logistics rather than battles. General David Petraeus, US Army (ret.) has stated that "... victory in war usually goes to the side that can outlast an enemy, continue to provide logistical support to its troops and survive economically." This is a well-written book that will help us explore the decision making and the collaborations that helped lead the allies to a victory in World War II.



NEW

Timeline of Black History in Film

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Diane Valencia, Paul Hurder
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–12:45.p.m.)

Explore this important selection of films curated to show critical moments, events, and themes in the black American experience. Presented across the historical timeline from the late 1700s into our current era, these films offer deep perspective. Slave rebellion on land and sea, plantation experiences, and the fight for respect leading to emancipation lay the groundwork for the next challenges that faced both Black and white Americans. These challenges include reactionary racism and the violence of hate groups like the KKK which greatly scar and impact the country. As a result, Black leaders rise, and some of these men of steel become angry, impatient, and give their lives for meaningful civil rights in America. We will discuss what's at stake—whether a society can become integrated if it's unsure about how to value and amalgamate its diversity and strengths. Our series of films, and their actors and directors, have received many honors and awards from US and international societies. Among the directors are Ava Duvernay, Steven Spielberg, Steve McQueen, and Spike Lee. Due to the length of some films and our lively discussion, please plan for 3-hour sessions.



British Mysteries Goes Continental

LITERATURE

Michael Goodkind, Martha Bills, Marybeth Schroeder
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 1st half of the semester)

Never mind Brexit, this spring Mostly British Mysteries is taking a trip to the European Continent. Our writers capture the souls of the characters and give us a glimpse into life during both trying and happy times. The books we will read and discuss will be: *Darkness for the Bastards of Pizzofalcone* by Maurizio de Giovani, translated by Anthony Shugaar (Europa Editions, 2016); *A Coffin for Demetrios* by Eric Ambler (Vintage Crime/Black Lizard, 2011); *Outsider in Amsterdam* by Janwillem Van de Wetering (Soho Crime, 2003); *Bruno, Chief of Police* by Martin Walker (Alfred A. Knopf, 2009); *The Sunday Philosophy Club* by Alexander McCall Smith (Anchor, Reprint Edition, 2005); and *Blue Night* by Simone Bucholz, translated by Rachel Ward (Orenda Books, 2017). We will read and discuss one book per week, discovering a policeman who loves to cook, a philosopher in Edinburgh, the criminal underworld of Hamburg, complicated cops and ruthless criminals, drug traffickers, and a book that is considered by *Time Magazine* to be one of the top 100 mystery books of all time. Join us on our travels.



Readings in Western Culture—Great Books Conversations

LITERATURE

Marcie Marcovitz, Nancy Kelly-Martin
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Reading *Great Books Conversations* collections extends our awareness that great writers share in a dialog across time, place, and culture. Our discussions will encourage members to engage in the exchange of ideas generated by the best minds in Western Culture, from Ancient Greece to the European Enlightenment, from 19th and 20th Century America. Selections will include prose, philosophy, essays, and drama. We will use *Great Books Conversations, Volume 6* (Great Books Foundation, 2013). We will explore authors including Seneca, Bacon, Locke, Robert Browning, Twain, Nietzsche, Mann, Capek, and others. Join us for lively and thought-provoking discussions.



States of Mystery: South Carolina to West Virginia

LITERATURE

Martha Bills, Michael Goodkind, Marybeth Schroeder
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

States of Mystery will take study group members on a journey to distinct regions of the country: East, South, West, and the Southwest. Some of the authors may be familiar and some will be new to readers. We will get to know the unique characters who emerge as we follow a modern-day moonshiner in Tennessee, a novice sheriff in West Virginia, and a transplanted Brooklyn native in Texas, along with the usual assortment of evil-doers, murderers, nosy neighbors, and dedicated public servants trying to do their jobs. We will read and discuss six books, exploring small towns, major urban areas, experiencing cultural anomalies as well as descriptions of the environment. Our books will be: *In the Heat of the Night* by John Ball (Penguin Classics, 2017 edition); *The Moonshine Shack Murder* by Diane Kelly (Berkley Prime Crime, 2017); *The Dime* by Kathleen Kent (Mulholland Books, 2017); *Artifacts of Death* by Rich Curtin (CreateSpace Publishing, 2011); *Open Season* by Archer Mayor (AMPress, 2007); and *Buried in the Backwater* by Drew Strickland (Drew Strickland Books, 2021). Books are available in hardcover, paperback, and Kindle editions.



Washington Week

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Leonard Grossman, Justin Joseph, Marion Derringer
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Ready or not, the 2024 election cycle is upon us. Will the primaries bring surprises? Will the prosecutions of the former president shake up the race? The chaos in Congress continues while critical issues are ignored. Will Congress pay attention to the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East? How will Congress address budgetary issues? Will abortion issues continue to motivate women of both parties? Will the Supreme Court continue to review rights and long standing precedents? We try to make sense of it all by providing a forum for discussion of news focusing on Washington and beyond, empowering OLLI members to understand different perspectives on the federal government and other areas of national concern. During each session we will focus on current news stories selected by the members. This is a fast-paced study group. Members are expected to be or become keen observers of national news through many different sources. Reading assignments and topics will be distributed in advance. All points of view are respectfully welcomed.



British Film Noir

CREATIVE ARTS

Tom Swanstrom, Dennis Carlin, Ray Rusnak
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.)

In this study group, we will discover the many ways in which classic British films noir differed from American films noir. American films noir were noted for personal traumas or desires, fixation with the middle or upper classes, and femme fatales. In contrast, British noirs usually dealt with community upheavals, the lower class, and had few femme fatales. British noir plots frequently covered the post-war transition, often featuring spivs or small-time black marketers. Some of the top noir directors in Britain had been driven out of America by the hunts for Communists while controversial topics, such as Blacks or gays, were covered in Britain earlier than in America. Noted British noir drama directors who we will discuss include: Carol Reed (*Odd Man Out, The Third Man*); Alfred Hitchcock (*Frenzy*) and David Lean (*Great Expectations*). British noir comedies that may be shown and discussed include *The Ladykillers* and *Kind Hearts and Coronets*. American expatriates' films may include Jules Dassin (*Night and the City*), Edward Dmytryk (*The Hidden Room*) and Joseph Losey (*The Servant*). The films will be shown during classroom time and subtitles will be provided. Join us as we view these films from across the pond and gain a greater understanding of the differences between British and American films noir.



NEW

Creativity and Promise: Selected MacArthur Fellows

CREATIVE ARTS

Kay Burnett, Marc Ungar
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

Join us in getting to know some very interesting people—MacArthur Fellowship award winners. Each winner is chosen by the MacArthur Foundation as a result of demonstrating exceptional creativity in their work and manifesting promise for important future advances. Each week our study group will explore the life and work of two recipients of these $625,000 unrestricted awards. Our choices are drawn from a variety of professions and fields. The awards have generated great public interest so there is a wealth of information about the individuals and their work: biographies, interviews, recorded lectures, and follow-up discussions. The Foundation's website, macfound.org, continues to update information on past fellows. Members will present and lead the discussions with the help and support of the coordinators. No text is required. The reading materials and discussion topics will be distributed weekly and posted on MyOLLINU.com.



Classic Crime Cinema: Aspects of Noir

CREATIVE ARTS

Bill McGuffage, Steve Greska
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.)

Film noir describes a sub-genre of the standard crime movie which emerged in the post-WW2 era. Such films feature cynical, disillusioned, and morally ambiguous characters. These films use shadows, odd camera angles, and framing devices to create a dark and doom-laden atmosphere. The male or female noir protagonist is on a "slow descent into hell." Certain film critics take a too expansive view of film noir and include some black and white dramas that may share some noir stylistics, but are unrelated to noir by plot and character. However, there are films that fall into a gray area. In this study group, we will watch and discuss *Gaslight* (1944), *Notorious* (1946), *Sunset Boulevard* (1950), *On the Waterfront* (1954), *The Manchurian Candidate* (1962) and others. Articles about each film and a check list of noir aspects will be provided for the members to decide whether the film is "for sure noir," "near noir," or "not noir." Join us for a visit to the dangerous world of film noir and meet its actual, close, or distant movie relatives.



NEW

Be a Scientific American

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

William Barker, Benjamin Schwartz, Charles Kiefer

Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

This is a study group for those seeking to keep up with and discuss science related developments. *Scientific American* provides in-depth coverage of the most important and exciting research, ideas, and knowledge in science, health, technology, the environment, and society. Recent articles include "Is Too Little Play Hurting Our Kids?," "Climate Adaptation Can Backfire If We Aren't Careful," "The Theory That Men Evolved to Hunt and Women Evolved to Gather Is Wrong" and "The Most Shocking Discovery in Astrophysics Is 25 Years Old." Every week, we will choose two recent articles to study and discuss. Scientific background is not at all necessary. Simply come with a curiosity about the world around us and an interest in how science plays a role in our world. A subscription (print or digital) or access to *Scientific American* is required.



EVANSTON STUDY GROUPS: MONDAY

BEGINS MARCH 4, 2024

The New Yorker

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Susan Gaud, Mary Watt, Hillis Howie
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

The New Yorker magazine has won multiple awards for its creative coverage of art, technology, politics, personalities, medicine, movies, fiction, fashion, and culture. In each session of this study group, we will examine the varied contents of this distinguished magazine. We will review the current issue from the cover to the cartoons and everything in between. Then we will explore a previously assigned article in depth. A volunteer discussion leader who has chosen the article will lead the discussion. Conversations will be lively and lead to expanded knowledge. Everyone will be encouraged to lead a discussion. A print or digital subscription to the magazine is necessary.



China and the United States: A Love-Hate Relationship

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Harold Primack, Charles Hayford, Henry Lambert
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

The United States and China are bound together inextricably in a long term relationship that swings between mutual enrichment and trade wars, cultural respect and contempt, cooperation and rivalry. If you want to understand the issues and the history behind today's menacing headlines, then join us in discussing *The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom: America and China, 1776 to the Present* (Henry Holt, 2016) by John Pomfret. We will be reading the second half of this book. Pomfret is a prize winning *Washington Post* Beijing correspondent who witnessed many of the events. We will supplement the book with optional videos and occasional background reading. We will begin with a discussion of Mao's 1949 Revolution and will continue our analysis through Cold War mutual isolation, Nixon's 1972 visit, and the Rise of China until today. Members will be warmly encouraged to lead a discussion. The book is available in paperback, an e-book/Kindle version (with a new afterword), and an audio. Participation in the fall offering on this topic is not required to register for this spring study group.



Best American Short Stories

LITERATURE

Sandy Robbins, Randee Phillips
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Short stories are often carefully written gems of literature. They combine compelling characters, drama, and descriptive language, which lead to lively and thought-provoking discussions. Led by a different member of our study group each week, we look closely at characterizations, plot, and themes. Our weekly discussions explore recent works by novice as well as established authors. Group members will have the opportunity to lead a discussion for a story of their choice. Our texts are *The Best Short Stories 2022: The O. Henry Prize Winners,* Valeria Luiselli, Editor (Anchor Books, 2022) and *The Best American Short Stories 2023*, Min Jin Lee, Editor (Mariner Books, 2023). From time to time, we read the works of guest authors, who then join us to add their insights. If you enjoy reading fiction and are interested in exploring the power of the short story, this study group is for you.



Four Masters of the Short Story—In-person

LITERATURE

Glen Phillips, David Hart
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Short stories have the power to entertain, inform, and even heal. Interpreting those stories and uncovering the author's message are the challenging goals of this study group. Each week two complex stories by two different master authors are vigorously dissected for their ideas. During a lively exchange of interpretations, members learn from one another and refine their own positions. At discussion's end, all have a clearer sense of the author's words and, week by week, all become more adept at literary interpretation. There are neither prerequisites nor is specialized knowledge required. The coordinators will provide any necessary definitions of literary terms as well as guidance on how to lead a discussion. The books we will use are *A Dove of the East: And Other Stories* (Marine, 2005) by Mark Helprin, *Disruptions* (Knopf, 2023) by Steven Milhauser, *Eleven Kinds of Loneliness* (Vintage, 2008) by Richard Yates, and *Welding with Children* (Picador, 2009) by Tim Gautreaux.



NEW

Why Nations Fail

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

David Hunt, Bob Ingersoll, Mounif El-Youssef
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

During this presidential election year, both political parties will be suggesting that the election of other party candidates will bring the end of the United States as we know it. However, what does it take to bring an end to nationhood? We will read *Why Nations Fail: the Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* (Crown, 2013) by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson. The authors use history, economics, and political science to evaluate and build on the theses of others, such as Jared Diamond, Niall Ferguson, Francis Fukuyama, Charles Mann, and Ian Morris, to show us what it takes for a nation to fail. Using this book, we will explore how many nations have grown and changed through history. People who love politics and history should have a great time discussing our selection together.



NEW

You've Come a Long Way Baby, or Have You?

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Jeffrey Rochman, Sandra Rochman
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

How has the role of women in American society evolved from the 1960s to the present day? The second half of the Twentieth Century saw a culture that was expanding the accepted roles of women in a rapidly changing society. Women were beginning to demand more agency and greater equality in all aspects of their lives and are continuing to evolve. Together, we will explore and analyze representative films, articles, podcasts, and other sources from each decade and compare them. We will see *Carnal Knowledge* (1971) to recall the zeitgeist of the earlier period. Then we will read articles and watch podcasts in order to follow the progress or lack thereof throughout the decades. For the final sessoin we will view and discuss *Good Luck to You Leo Grande* (2022) as a means of measuring the distance women have traveled. Additionally, many members of the study group will be able to share their personal experiences relating to this societal change, leading to many lively and interesting discussions.



NEW

The Intellectual Evolution of Libertarianism

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Abe Brustein, Bob Elliott

Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 1st half of the semester)

Have you ever wondered how, why, and when libertarianism—a mutated form of liberalism—arose, evolved, and gained popular strength in the United States? Libertarianism is now a powerful force in culture and politics which should be understood and reckoned with. What are the principles which form the foundation and core beliefs of libertarianism? Is the libertarian political philosophy expounded by its contemporary adherents true to the principles of the movement's founders? In this study group we will try to answer these questions using Andrew Koppelman's *Burning Down the House: How Libertarian Philosophy was Corrupted by Delusion and Greed* (St. Martin's Press, 2022). Koppelman, a professor at Northwestern Law School, explains the ideological origins and the evolution of libertarianism by focusing on the works of Friedrich Hayek, Robert Nozick, Murray Rothbard, and Ayn Rand. Together, we will explore his comparison of their ideas with the seminal 17th century theoretical work of John Locke and the thought of John Rawls, their most prominent liberal contemporary. We will assess Koppelman's dispassionate critique of the strengths and weaknesses of American libertarian thought and how this political philosophy is being used and misused by politicians and political activists.



EVANSTON STUDY GROUPS: TUESDAY

BEGINS MARCH 5, 2024

NEW

Democracy Awakening

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Gordon Mallett, Mark Rosenberg

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Acceptance of electoral results is fundamental to the legitimacy of democratic institutions. However, this is now being challenged at the local, national, and international levels. Is it time for democracy to take heed and resist the exhortations to become more authoriatorian? Professor Heather Cox Richardson of Boston College in her book *Democracy Awakening* (Viking Press, 2023) summarizes the state of American democracy and the pathway to arrive at our current condition. Starting from the Declaration of Independence through the Civil War, she states that the protection of democracy is rooted in the Declaration and is driven by the belief that we are all created equal and that we have a say in our democracy. Over the course of this study group, we will discuss and analyze these concepts and draw our own conclusions of where our democracy needs to be strengthened. We will base our discussions on current opinion from across the political spectrum as well as the experts in the room.



> *Coordinators fostered a welcoming and friendly environment, making it a safe space to share ideas and discussion.*
>
> Carol Hershman

NEW

Views from the Oval Office

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Margot Wallace, Dan Coha

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 1st half of the semester)

Those admitted to the Oval Office see history from a rare viewpoint, that of the Presidency. In this study group, we will hear how the variety of people at the top think. We will explore insiders such as First Ladies, a former Defense Secretary, and the chief White House photographer during 9/11. We will glean insights from those inside and near the Oval Office including the grandson of Harry Truman who ended a war and the daughter of Lyndon Johnson who couldn't. Our resource material will be a series of videos archived at the LBJ Presidential Library and Museum, which we will watch in advance of meeting. Discussion leaders are invited to add their own supplementary material. Each week, we will think along with the privileged few who experienced the Oval Office. Join us and add your name to the Oval Office visitor log.



NEW

Elderhood

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Mary Hummel, Jeff Graff

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

First there was childhood, then there was adulthood, and now, for all of us who have "made it," there is Elderhood. In her Pulitzer Prize-nominated book, *Elderhood: Redefining Aging, Transforming Medicine, Reimagining Life* (Bloomsbury, 2021), Louise Aronson, MD, MFA, walks us through the challenges of aging, drawing on both her personal experiences and her clinical practice as a board-certified geriatrician. In this 7-week study group, we will discuss her searing critique of the medical system, with its emphasis on expensive procedures and treatments over personal care, and a society that values youth over wisdom and experience. She urges us to re-examine our assumptions about aging and medicine, and to reimagine elderhood as a unique stage of life with its own joys and rewards, despite its physical and emotional challenges. If you want to know more about where you are going, while maintaining a positive mindset, join us to see what we can all learn from Dr. Aronson and each other.



Science In The News

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Brenda Russell, Jeffery Semel, Sara Jones

Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

We live in an ever-changing world with scientific breakthroughs and daunting advancements in technology. To stay up-to-date, we will rely on articles from *Scientific American*, a magazine committed to sharing knowledge, enhancing our understanding of the world, and advancing social justice. Each week, study group members will have in-depth discussions on two articles that cover the most important and exciting research, ideas, and knowledge in science, health, technology, the environment, and society. Coordinators will suggest recent articles and members will be able to choose additional topics. Members may enrich the discussion with additional video or materials. Access to a digital or print subscription to *Scientific American* is required. No scientific background is needed. Simply bring your curiosity and interest in all things science. Join us for great discussions as we learn and laugh together.



From Print to Pictures, the Art of Film Adaptation: The Fabulous Fondas

CREATIVE ARTS

Julie Gordon, Art Bloom
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.)

In the following films we will examine the careers of Henry Fonda and daughter Jane: Preston Sturges directs the screwball comedy, *The Lady Eve*, with a naive Fonda duped by seductress Barbara Stanwyck and her gambler father, Charles Coburn. In John Ford's adaptation of Josh Logan's play, *Mister Roberts*, Fonda recreates his stage role as a ship's officer who yearns for action during World War II. Sidney Lumet dramatizes a nuclear crisis based on Eugene Burdick's best seller *Fail-Safe*, with POTUS Fonda heading all-star cast to avoid disaster. Fred Zinnemann's *Julia* stars Vanessa Redgrave (as Julia) and Jane (as Lillian Hellman), who plot against the Nazis, with Jason Robards as Dashiell Hammett. Jane wins an Oscar as a persecuted call girl in Alan J. Pakula's thriller *Klute*, with Donald Sutherland as the detective. Jane and Robert Redford shine as widowed neighbors in Ritesh Batra's adaptation of Kent Haruf's late-life romance, *Our Souls at Night*. In Mark Rydell's *On Golden Pond*, Henry and Jane play father and daughter in Henry's final film, for which he wins an overdue Oscar. We will meet three hours for film viewing one week, then two hours for discussion the following week.



NEW

The Supreme Court During World War Two: What War Does to the Constitution

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Michael Sehr, Marc Beem
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

By the time the United States entered World War Two, Franklin Roosevelt had chosen seven of the nine sitting Supreme Court Justices. During the war, the Court would confront issues which would test the limits of our constitutional rights and responsibilities. In this study group, we will discuss questions such as: Do German saboteurs on US soil have a right to trial before execution? Can Japanese citizens and non-citizens be interned as threats to national security? Can communists be stripped of their citizenship? Are "all white" primary elections constitutional? In his new book, *The Court At War: FDR, His Justices And The World They Made* (Hachette Book Group, 2023) Georgetown University law professor Cliff Sloan gives us an intimate look at the Justices and their rivalries, as well as how their ongoing close relationship with Roosevelt impacted their decisions on the cases before them. Using Professor Sloan's book and background material on each of the Justices, as well as Thurgood Marshall, and excerpts from the Court's opinions, we will analyze and debate the issues as the Court saw them at the time and how the same issues might be addressed today.



"The study group introduced me to subject matters that I had little previous exposure. Nancy A. Goldin

NEW

Money, Marriage, and Morals: George Elliot's *Daniel Deronda*

LITERATURE

Julie Johnson, Michael Singer
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

In 1876, George Elliot was at the end of a long and distinguished career when she brought out *Daniel Deronda* (Oxford World Classics, 2014), her final novel and the only one set in the Victorian society of her own day. In this study group, we will discuss the two separate plot lines that intertwine in the novel. The first, which focuses on the life of a young beauty named Gwendolyn Harleth, is regarded by many critics as one of the masterpieces of English literature. The second, which zeroes in on the life and views of Daniel Deronda, the young ward of a wealthy aristocrat, displays a sympathy and understanding for the life of Jews in Victorian England that made the book controversial when it first appeared. Populated by additional vivid characters besides Gwendolyn and Daniel, the novel fuses Elliot's ability to tell a marvelous story with her penetrating observation of British society, her characteristic moral searching, and her somewhat surprising talent for social satire. Study group members will have the opportunity to lead a weekly session. Join us for an exploration of this novel, which is sure to generate stimulating discussion.



EVANSTON STUDY GROUPS: WEDNESDAY

BEGINS MARCH 6, 2024

Creative Writing Workshop

CREATIVE ARTS

Ron Denham, Bob Jenkins, Art Altman
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

This study group is for members who love words and who wish to improve and practice their creative writing skills across the various genres: poetry, creative nonfiction, essay, memoir, and fiction. Members will present their work to the group who will respond with encouragement, critique, and suggestions. Revisions and resubmissions are encouraged. Longer works may be submitted in segments. This study group will give members a creative outlet and an opportunity to produce a finished piece of writing of which they can be proud. New and experienced writers are welcome. Members will be encouraged to bring their torrent of words of knowledge, humor, tears, fears, desires, perspectives, and wisdom.





Documentary Films

CREATIVE ARTS

Gloria Gleave, Stephanie Lerner Ernsteen, Susan Berkowitz
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Do you love learning about fascinating people, places, and ideas through the medium of film? If so, this documentary film study group is for you. Each week, members will view a documentary film at home and then come together to discuss the film in class. Each member will be responsible for selecting a film and leading the discussion of that film. The films reflect the members' interests and passions and can include such wide ranging topics as social justice, biography, environment, music, and personal adventure challenges. The weekly discussions include an analysis of the film's content, aesthetic, and technical aspects. Selected films must be widely available to study group members. The selections may be rented through an online streaming service for a minimal fee, available via the internet at no cost, or borrowed from a library. We will limit any required subscriptions to Netflix. Join us as we explore and discuss a variety of documentary films.



NEW

John Marshall: Definer of a Nation

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Stuart Applebaum, Naomi Fisher, Steve Fisher
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

In 1801, President John Adams nominated John Marshall to be the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court; the Senate quickly approved. So began the 35-year term of Marshall as the nation's premier legal authority. In this study group, we will explore Marshall's lengthy tenure in which he asserted and solidified the ultimate power of the Court, defined and strengthened the Constitution, designed a legal climate sympathetic to the growth of the American economy and consistently promoted a strong centralized national government. We will read and discuss Jean Edward Smith's *John Marshall: Definer of a Nation* (Owl Books, 1988) which gives a detailed and robust portrait of the man who was the most influential jurist in US history. Smith describes a genuinely warm and humorous man who was an intellectual giant and a gifted leader with an infectious personality. He possessed a common touch and had been a farmer, soldier, lawyer, and diplomatic envoy before his service on the Court. The book is more than a biography as it describes the profound effect Marshall had on our country and the role of the Constitution. Join us in studying this significant man and his impact on our history.



The Economist In Person

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Lisa Dworkin, Jane Roth
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Do you enjoy reading and watching news that is not always consistent with your political views, that is broader in scope than what you typically find in mainstream US journalism? *The Economist* magazine is widely acclaimed for its informative and thought-provoking reporting on political, social, and economic developments around the world. Join us for informed and lively discussions based on several articles chosen from the current week's issue. Our group will be kept small to ensure that all voices are heard while respecting our varied backgrounds and opinions. Each member is encouraged, during one of our sessions, to select articles from the current issue and to lead the discussion. Digital or print access to current editions of *The Economist* is required. Subscriptions are available at 800-456-6086 or www.economistsubscriptions.com.



Theater in Chicago

CREATIVE ARTS

Bob Myers, Sue Bowker, Stephanie Lerner Ernsteen
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Join us at some of Chicago's best theaters as we read, discuss, and attend seven plays performed in various venues such as Steppenwolf, Goodman, and Timeline. We will read each play script at home and then discuss it in the classroom. During the week, we will see the play as a group, and often gather for an optional dinner beforehand. Members may invite a guest to attend the play and dinner with them. On the week following the performance, we will compare the written play with the staged production. Members will be asked to lead discussions on topics including themes, characters, acting style, and production. While the coordinators will purchase tickets for the group, each member will be responsible for the ticket cost and for obtaining copies of the scripts. Estimated expenses per person are $275-300 for play tickets and $50-100 for play scripts. Members must arrange their own transportation to the theaters, although carpools may be arranged.



Poetry for Pleasure

LITERATURE

Doreen Feitelberg, David Hart
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Join us as we explore the world of poetry which is wide, varied, exciting, and challenging. Each week a study group member will select 10 to 12 poems by a poet of his or her choosing and provide copies to the group in advance. We will begin with a short biography of the poet and any other relevant information the discussion leaders think will be helpful. We will then read aloud and discuss each poem. Our discussions will be lively, interesting, and deepen our understanding of the poems and of poetry as an art.



NEW

The Golden Age of Mystery

LITERATURE

Beverly Snell, Roberta Rakove
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

In the years between the First and Second World Wars, something mysterious happened. A golden age of detective fiction dawned, and people around the world are still reading its books. But the popularity of these books has tended to obscure the fascinating stories behind the plots. In this study group, we will read and discuss works of the Queens of Crime: Agatha Christie's *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* (featuring Hercule Poirot) and *The Murder at the Vicarage* (featuring Miss Marple); Dorothy Sayer's *Strong Poison* (with Lord Peter Wimsey); Margery Allingham's *Mystery Mile* (with Albert Campion); and Ngaio Marsh's *Artists in Crime* (featuring Roderick Alleyn). In parallel, we will listen to and discuss episodes of *Shedunnit*, a podcast that looks at the literary, social, and political context in which these writers worked. Any edition of these books can be used and all are available from the library and online; the *Shedunnit* podcasts are free online and feature written transcripts. Join us as we discover how this golden age came about and how these writers became its royalty.



The poems were wonderful. The participants were insightful. Elise Masur

EVANSTON STUDY GROUPS: THURSDAY

BEGINS MARCH 7, 2024

NEW

American Nations—The Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Gordon Mallett, Mark Weiner
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Why do Americans have such a difficult time agreeing on basic issues like the meaning of freedom, the role of government and religion in public life, or what it means to be an American? Could it be that North America is actually made up of several very different cultures? Each one of these cultures has its own unique historical roots, derived from its initial European or American settler stream, whose values and mores were adopted and even enhanced by subsequent waves of new peoples. In this study group, we will traverse and explore all 11 regions of North America, using *American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America* (Penguin, 2012) by Colin Woodard as our primary source. We will also investigate recent migrations affecting various regions.



NEW

How We Know What We Know: Exploring *The Last Archive*

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Michael Plumpton, Jerry Bernstein
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

How do we know what we know? This question is the central theme of Jill Lepore's podcast *The Last Archive* (www.thelastarchive.com). Lepore, a professor of American History at Harvard University and a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, will help us assess an array of historical events, sifting through the evidence to find the frequently elusive truth. Topics such as an early twentieth century murder mystery, the polio crusade of the 1950s, the Apollo moon landing, and social media have been targets of Lepore's penetrating analysis. Podcasts run from 35 to 45 minutes. Members will listen to one or two assigned podcasts before each study group session. Discussion is guided by questions found on *The Last Archive* website. Discussions will be organized and led by study group volunteers.



NEW

Great Artists, History, and Cultural Influence

LITERATURE

Margot Wallace, Ken Behles
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Artists are a part of history. Brueghel, Rubens, Gainsborough, Monet, Degas, Picasso, Kahlo, and Hopper each reflect their time and place. What world events influenced Vermeer? Who backed Manet and bought Sargent? Why did the American Cassatt stay in Paris and the French Gauguin decamp to Polynesia? From Caravaggio to Kahlo, this study group will explore art and artists as representatives of their culture, analyzing the isms of Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism, and Modernism. Each week, two artists representing an art period will be selected. Our resource material will include short videos from major art museums, plus supplementary articles. Each week we will survey a different art period, the history surrounding it, and the milieu of the artists portraying it. Whether you already delight in art or want to begin learning about it, join this expedition.



NEW

Exercise: How Physical Activity Boosts Health and Slows Aging

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Brenda Russell, Maureen Shayman, Jan Karzen
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

We know that exercise is good for us. But what exercise works best and what kind of exercise should we do to keep us healthy as we age? Answers to these questions are found in *Exercise is Medicine: How Physical Activity Boosts Health and Slows Aging* (Oxford University Press, 2020) by Judy Foreman, an investigative journalist. In this study group, we will discuss the power of exercise, how it can help extend the healthy lifespan, and how it can reduce the debilitating effects of aging. As evidence, we will use Foreman's exploration of evolutionary biology, exercise physiology, cell and molecular biology, and the new field of geroscience. As Foreman writes "Don't panic. It isn't as off putting as it sounds." This book is up-to-date, comprehensive, and jargon free. Chapters guide us through processes of aging and the effects of exercise on our body muscles, heart, bones, brain (cognition and mood), gut microbiome, inflammation, cancer, and more. The author addresses commonly asked questions about exercise and why pills will never replace work. Each week, a study group member will lead discussions enriched by additional video or materials if they wish.



NEW

Cuba: An American History

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Carmen Garcia Ruiz, Joe Hinkel, Donna Spicuzza
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Many Americans regard Cuba in broad strokes: a former tourist mecca, a gangsters' paradise, a communist regime and satellite of Russia, and of course, a land of irresistible music. Yet behind these cliches is a complicated history that intertwines in numerous ways with the history of the United States. We will read and deeply discuss *Cuba: An American History* (Scribner 2021) by Ada Ferrer, a Cuban American historian at New York University, who chose her book title to alert the prospective reader to their deeply connected stories. Professor Ferrer won the Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction as much for her nuanced and comprehensive untangling of that history as for her elegant prose. With Ferrer as our guide, we will explore not only Cuba's captivating past, but also aspects of American history that few of us learned in school.



NEW

Sex and the Constitution

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Carole Kagan, Kate McKeon
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Using the text *Sex and the Constitution: Sex, Religion and Law from America's Origins to the Twenty-first Century* (Liveright, 2017) by Geoffrey R. Stone, we will examine the history of the legal and moral codes that shaped our constitution's approach to gender and its interpretation, from ancient times to the present day. Because the book was published in 2017, we will supplement with video of Professor Stone discussing recent developments. Professor Stone is the Edward H. Levi Distinguished Service Professor of Law at the University of Chicago. This is a big book, therefore considerable reading will be expected. This is also a historical book for general audiences and not a legal treatise. Join us for rich discussions of an important topic.



NEW

The Fight for Women in Science

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Naomi Fisher, Mary Hummel

Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

In July 1994, sixteen tenured woman scientists at MIT presented a letter to Dean Birgeneau in which they wrote "that there is consistent, though largely unconscious, gender discrimination within the Institute." Using the text *The Exceptions: Nancy Hopkins, MIT, and the Fight for Women in Science* (Simon and Shuster, Inc. 2023) by Kate Zernike, we will explore the story of how these exceptional women joined together to reveal and challenge gender biases and how this adversely affected their careers. Zernike, a journalist at *The New York Times*, draws in the reader as she builds the story around the leader of the group, Dr. Nancy Hopkins, detailing her development as a scientist and the politics of the scientific community. A second text, *A Feeling for the Organism: The Life and Work of Barbara McClintock* (W.H. Freeman and Company, 1983) by Evelyn Fox Keller, profiles another woman scientist, 1983 Nobel Prize Laureate Barbara McClintock. Additional resources will be included to discuss the work of 2023 Nobel Laureate Claudia Goldin on the challenges women have faced in the workforce, and the current status of women in science. Join us for an exploration of both the personal and professional challenges confronting women, and their remarkable achievements.

High 1-2



VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS: MONDAY

BEGINS MARCH 4, 2024

NEW

Spies: How Covert Activities Changed the Course of History

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Susan Longo, Amanda Fox
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

For over a century, the US, UK, USSR, and People's Republic of China have used their spy agencies and individual spies to gain economic and military advantage over each other, to amass power, and to shape the world geopolitical order. You have heard the names of some of the most infamous of them: The Cambridge Five, Aldrich Ames, Oleg Penkovsky, and Oleg Gordievsky. In this study group, we will learn about and analyze this shadow struggle between East and West, and will be introduced to the world of espionage. We will use *Spies: The Epic Intelligence War Between East and West* (Simon & Shuster, 2023) by Calder Walton as our text. Based on recently declassified documents and interviews with former spies and spy agency officials, the author recounts how information obtained through clandestine operations, in ways generally unknown to the public, have influenced the decisions made by political leaders and have shaped the course of history.



NEW

Generational Differences and Big Data

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Steve Barrigar, Steve VanderVoort, Sami Nordmark
Monday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Have you ever wondered why you have such a difficult time understanding your children or grandchildren? Do differences between generations really exist? In this study group, we will explore these questions as we discuss the book *Generations: The Real Differences Between Gen Z, Millennials, Gen X, Boomers, and the Silents—and What They Mean for America's Future* (Atria Books, 2023) by Jean Twenge. We will learn from Twenge's summary of three decades of research and survey data from 39 million people which paints a portrait of six generations (from the silent generation to generation alpha). Join us and see if you agree with her conclusions.



NEW

The Films of Martin Scorsese: A 50-Year Retrospective

CREATIVE ARTS

Jim Gecker, Jim Burns
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Martin Scorsese is widely considered cinema's greatest living director. From his 1973 breakout in *Mean Streets* to last year's *Killers of the Flower Moon*, Scorsese has created a uniquely powerful cinematic vision. Best known for his violent gangster films, the director's range is surprisingly broad, including a 19th Century romance and a magical tale of a boy living in a Paris train station. Join us as we explore 14 of Scorsese's features, focusing on their cinematic elements including the script, themes, direction, cinematography, acting, music, etc. The films, which members will watch before meeting, are *Mean Streets* (1973), *Taxi Driver* (1976), *Raging Bull* (1980), *The King of Comedy* (1982), *After Hours* (1985), *Goodfellas* (1990), *The Age of Innocence* (1993), *Casino* (1995), *Bringing Out the Dead* (1999), The *Departed* (2006), *Hugo* (2011), *The Wolf of Wall Street* (2013), *The Irishman* (2019), and *Killers of the Flower Moon* (2023). To enhance and focus our discussions, we will read selected chapters of Eric San Juan's *The Films of Martin Scorsese* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2020), and post and email film reviews, articles, and discussion questions.



Writing Life Stories (B)

CREATIVE ARTS

Bill Kudlaty, Michael Graff
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Why write your own story? For yourself? For your family and friends, or simply to reflect upon your life? Memoir writing helps us present portraits of ourselves and the people in our lives, as we recreate in words the landscapes we walked. Writing enables us to reflect on our ever-changing personal, familial, or social circumstances. Members tell stories that range from joyful to heartbreaking. Yet, writing about one's own life can be daunting. Where does one start? What should be included or left out? When you organize your thoughts for story writing, how do you approach it—chronologically or thematically? And what about style—poetry or prose? Brief anecdotes or chapter-long memoirs? Whether beginners or experienced writers, we help each other tackle some of these questions in our OLLI memoir writing group. Every other week one-half of the members present their work to a sounding board of like-minded "memoirists" and give and receive helpful feedback. We will also hone our skills by drawing from a wide variety of resources dealing with the genre. If you want to try your hand at writing compelling stories of your life, this is your chance.



Literary Masters: Post-War Experiences

LITERATURE

Robert Relihan, Beverly Snell
Monday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Join us as we read and discuss four novels that deal with the post-war experience from different perspectives and in response to different wars. We will begin with *Cold Mountain* (Grove Press, 2017) by Charles Frazier, the tale of a Civil War soldier's journey back to his beloved. Next, we will read *A Passage to India* (Random House, 1992) by E. M. Forster, which connects personal relationships with the politics of colonialism after WWI. We will follow that with *House Made of Dawn* (Harper, 2010) by N. Scott Momaday, which deals with a young Native American's return from WWII. Our fourth novel, *The Things They Carried* (Mariner Books, 2009) by Tim O'Brien, is a Vietnam War soldier's meditation on war, memory, and storytelling. Finally, we will return to *Cold Mountain* in its 2003 award-winning movie form as we synthesize what we have learned about the impact of war on those who have lived through it. We will discuss each book for two to four weeks, depending upon length; any edition can be used, and all the novels and the movie are available from the library and online.



BONUS GROUP: Let's Talk About the Movies (Monday)

CREATIVE ARTS

Trish Ronan, Suraleah Michaels, Tim Atkins
Monday (4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.)

If you love to go to contemporary movies and then talk about what you have seen, this is the Bonus Group for you. Our process is two part. In the first part, the co-coordinators will present a short description of the artists involved in the production. Then, we will analyze and discuss whether the director and the crew of artists have successfully told the cinematic story. If you are new to analyzing movies, we encourage you to try this Bonus Group. Movie titles, discussion questions, and other information will be provided in advance of each session. Movies will be *Dreamin' Wild* (Pohlad, 2023), *Barbie* (Gerwig, 2023), *Maestro* (Cooper, 2023), *Killers of the Flower Moon* (Scorsese, 2023), and *Oppenheimer* (Nolan, 2023). OLLI members are eligible to register for Bonus Groups at no extra cost. Members may register for only one of the two Let's Talk About the Movies Bonus Groups (Monday or Thursday). We will meet on 3/11, 4/1, 4/22, 5/13, and 6/3.



VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS: TUESDAY

BEGINS MARCH 5, 2024

Exploring the Visual Arts

CREATIVE ARTS

Bridget Stump, Mary Jon Girard, Roger Heuberger
Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

This dynamic discussion group centers on mutual curiosity and love of art. No expertise required. For more than two decades, Exploring the Visual Arts has been offered at OLLI Northwestern and every term is unique. We will develop the syllabus together and take care to cover a variety of mediums, techniques, historical periods, and styles. Each of us will bring our own perspective to the observations and discussions; professional, personal, and travel experiences add to our enjoyment of the art. Members' visual acumen is guaranteed to grow. Members will be encouraged to delve into areas that reflect their interests and share them. Most source materials will be available online and provided by discussion leaders. Possible topics are wide-ranging including art movements, individual artists, exhibits, and museums. Recent topics included Van Gogh, Jordan Casteel, Anselm Kiefer, Hilma af Klint, Piet Mondrain, and Georgia O'Keefe.



NEW

The 2024 Election: Potential Abuses of Presidential Power

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

James Smith, Laurie Rose
Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

It is probable that Donald Trump will capture the 2024 Republican Presidential nomination. Polls show him running even with Biden overall, and ahead in key swing states. Some worry that Trump, if elected, will move on multiple fronts to establish an authoritarian regime. In this study group, we will evaluate the potential outcomes of the 2024 Presidential election and examine some of Trump's pre-announced post-election plans in detail. We will then look at whether it is within a President's power to achieve those plans, should he win. If Trump is convicted by the time he is elected, could he pardon himself? Could a President use the Justice Department to prosecute political opponents? Could a President use the military to suppress dissent? Could a President purge the federal civil service? What clues to Trump's potential handling of the media can we discern from his earlier Presidency? What would a post-election Trump foreign policy look like? What would a second Trump Presidency mean for global warming? How might Trump reshape the judiciary? What political or judicial resistance might Trump encounter? Finally, could this lead to further divisions within our country? As our source material we will use analysis from mainstream journals like *The Atlantic* and *The New York Times*. You cannot afford to miss this study group.



> *I'm sure that everyone felt they gained a lot in this study group and the camaraderie was terrific.*
> Susan Kay

Four Masters of the Short Story—Virtual

LITERATURE

Glen Phillips, April Ware
Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Short stories have the power to entertain, inform, and even heal. Interpreting those stories and uncovering the author's message are the challenging goals of this study group. Each week two complex stories by two different master authors are vigorously dissected for their ideas. During a lively exchange of interpretations, members learn from one another and refine their own positions. At discussion's end, all have a clearer sense of the author's words and, week by week, all become more adept at literary interpretation. There are neither prerequisites nor is specialized knowledge required. The coordinators will provide any necessary definitions of literary terms as well as guidance on how to lead a discussion. The books we will use are *A Dove of the East: And Other Stories* (Marine, 2005) by Mark Helprin, *Disruptions* (Knopf, 2023) by Steven Milhauser, *Eleven Kinds of Loneliness* (Vintage, 2008) by Richard Yates, and *Welding with Children* (Picador, 2009) by Tim Gautreaux.



Biggest Ideas in the Universe—Part 3

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Arthur Goldman, David Whitney, Dick DuFour
Tuesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Sean Carroll, Theoretical Physicist at Johns Hopkins University, has a passion to share his understanding of the workings of the universe. He has produced a series of videos explicating the nature of reality as characterized by modern physicists. Carroll's goal for these videos is to fill the gap between what one might experience as a college level science student, and what you can access as an interested layperson. He exposes us to mathematical concepts but limits their use to making the underlying physics accessible to anyone who has had high school algebra. Last spring, we learned about relativity. This fall and winter, we focused on the subatomic world of quantum mechanics. This spring, we will continue our quest for understanding the complex nature of the micro and macro worlds by addressing topics that range from randomness and emergence to entropy and cosmology. Participation in prior term offerings is not required. Each week we will view Carroll's videos together during our Zoom session. As we watch the videos, we will call on the assembled group to answer questions, explain, and discuss the ideas: it's our version of peer learning. Join us to come closer to the world view of modern physicists.



Tuesday at the Movies

CREATIVE ARTS

Michael Pierce, Hillel Furlager, David Buffen
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Who done it? This study group will explore the genre of movies known as crime, thriller, or mystery. We will determine how the directing, editing, and cinematography often determines how successful a movie is at leaving us on the edge of our seats, waiting for the surprise ending. Studying the techniques directors use to keep the anxiety level high will allow us to uncover the often complex plots that made a movie so highly rated by movie critics. We will view: *L.A. Confidential* (Curtis Hanson, 1997); *The Maltese Falcon* (John Huston, 1941); *Chinatown* (Roman Polanski, 1974); *Knives Out* (Rian Johnson, 2019); *Psycho* (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960); *The Fugitive* (Andrew Davis, 1993); *In the Heat of the Night* (Norman Jewison, 1967); *The French Connection* (William Friedkin, 1971); *Fargo* (Joel Coen, 1996); *Memento* (Christopher Nolan, 2000); *The Departed* (Martin Scorsese, 2006); *Mystic River* (Clint Eastwood, 2003); *Gone Girl* (David Fincher, 2014); *The Usual Suspects* (Bryan Singer, 1995). We will watch each week's movie in advance of class. Members must obtain access to the movies on their own, which can usually be found through the public library or by streaming. Each movie is presented by one group member who will volunteer to lead the discussion.



NEW

Battle Cry of Freedom

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Jerry Bernstein, Bob Jenkins, John Drodow
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

In 1988, Princeton history professor James McPherson published *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (Oxford University Press, 2003 or 1988 edition), a volume in the Oxford History of the United States series. Winner of the 1989 Pulitzer Prize for history, McPherson's work has subsequently been recognized as one of the masterpieces of American historical writing. This spring we will take up the story in the summer of 1862 when Robert E. Lee's tactical brilliance changed the war's trajectory and Lincoln altered the Union's war aims by transforming it into a war to destroy slavery. Gracefully written and filled with judicious analysis, the volume covers both the conflict's military history and the political events that shaped its outcome in a narrative addressed to general readers. For those who have never read a book about the Civil War, this account will be an excellent introduction. We welcome newcomers and returning members to analyze and discuss this period of US history. Its lessons for subsequent generations should enlighten you on how what McPherson calls "the second American revolution" shaped our nation's future.



NEW

The Time Traveler's Almanac: It's About Time!

LITERATURE

Rick Okonis, Michael Jablon
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Time travel stories have fascinated millions for over a century, from H.G. Wells' classic *The Time Machine* to more modern examples of the genre like *Back To The Future*. In this study group, we will explore what is it about the ability to travel back and forth in time that has fascinated so many. Do people want to right some wrong, save John Kennedy from the assassin's bullet, recapture a lost love, or go back in time to buy Apple stock? The short stories in *The Time Traveler's Almanac* (TOR Books, 2013) edited by Ann and Jeff Vandermeer, cover all of the paradoxes and dilemmas encountered by the typical intrepid time traveler. Together, we will discuss selections from the 72 short stories collected in this anthology. Fire up the flux capacitor in your DeLorean time machine and get ready to join your fellow Chrononauts for fun and adventure.



NEW

Nature and Health: Escaping the Sidewalks

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Judy Myers, Valerie Maragos
Tuesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

Emerging science that explores how nature nurtures our physical and mental health reveals a surprisingly easy way to improve well-being—spend time in natural settings. In an urban environment of brick, concrete, and steel how can this happen? Join us as we examine what recent studies tell us about the connection between nature and health. Members should be prepared to hit the road to explore some of Chicago's health-enriching naturescapes. This study group will alternate virtual meetings with afternoon visits to Chicagoland nature areas. Together we will explore four to five different locations to learn how easy it is to achieve access to nature in our city. We will have two to three virtual sessions to examine the science and discuss the nature areas we visited. Study group members will be encouraged to share reflections such as journaling, photographs, art, or poems as part of our discussions. Don your most comfortable shoes and join us as we escape the sidewalks.



VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS: WEDNESDAY

BEGINS MARCH 6, 2024

Capturing Chicagoland Through Photography

CREATIVE ARTS

Richard Fisher, Howard Frank
Wednesday (8:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

This study group is designed to improve members' photographic skills. Sessions will alternate between virtual sessions and group photography shoots (indoor and outdoor, chosen by the coordinators). The virtual sessions will include image review, discussion of photographic techniques, post-processing methods, tips and tricks, and discussion of upcoming field exercises. Our virtual sessions will also include study group member presentations of a favorite photographer, photographic technique, or place to photograph. This study group is open to any OLLI member who owns a digital camera where the exposure can be adjusted (ideally with a manual exposure mode). Members must also have a computer (PC or Mac), basic computer skills, and access to and basic knowledge of photographic editing software such as Photoshop, Lightroom, or Photoshop Elements. Mentoring is available to help study group members learn camera features, photographic techniques, and processing methods.



NEW

Democracy, Truth, and Education in the US

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Scott Peters, Steve Greska
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

In this study group, we will examine the idea that America may have failed to provide its citizens with the knowledge, skills, values, and aspirations needed for democratic governance leaving a deep political scar. Today, only a quarter of K-12 students score as "proficient" in a test of civic knowledge; nearly half of them report supporting the idea of a "strong leader," instead of elections. More than half of adults polled express dissatisfaction with democracy. Together, we will explore whether we have failed to provide students with the skills necessary to evaluate the validity of claims made by candidates, public officials, and purported experts, and if these failures have produced a polarized citizenry with severely divided views of our democracy. This study group will examine such questions as: what must citizens learn to be effective participants and supporters of democracy; how is truth is to be determined; what is the proper role of experts and science in determining public policy; and how can experts and scientists make their claims more transparent so the truth of claims can be evaluated by the public? We will use as our primary text *What Universities Owe Democracy?* (Johns Hopkins Press, 2021) by Ronald Daniels. Supplemental articles will also be provided.



> *The best Part … Full participation and excellent preparation by the coordinators and discussion leaders*
>
> Ed Klinenberg

Foreign Affairs

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Gary Benz, Gene Mackevich, David Hunt
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

This study group is made up of fellow members who love to read and desire to learn about the countries of the world through their interactions with one another. We encourage and attract people who have inquisitive minds and are serious about learning and exchanging ideas. We take pride in being inclusive and not intimidating by conducting study groups that are welcoming and tolerate a wide range of opinions that are documented and convincingly expressed. We start with material from *Foreign Affairs*, a bimonthly magazine published by the Council on Foreign Relations, but we don't stop there. Discussion leaders may supplement weekly readings with materials from think tanks (such as Brookings), mainstream periodicals (such as *The Economist, Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, The New York Times*), and topical books. The goal of this study group is to be interactive with a healthy exchange of ideas, while still being fun and rewarding. In doing so, we create our own "think tank" and try to resolve problems and world issues.



Literature of Baseball: *Strike Four*

LITERATURE

Mark Rosenberg, Bob Shaevel, Benjamin Schwartz
Wednesday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

This study group will explore how the modern game of baseball has become the sport that we know and love. As baseball resumes in the spring we will also follow our favorite teams as they advance from spring training into the regular season. If you thought you knew baseball, you may be surprised to learn how the game has evolved. In *Strike Four: The Evolution of Baseball* by Richard Hershberger (Rowman & Littlefield, 2019) the author examines the national pastime's development, the reasoning behind new rules and innovations, and the consequences of these changes—both intended and unintended—which often led to additional rounds of modifications. We will evaluate and discuss topics including the dropped third strike, foul territory, nine innings, tagging up, balls and strikes, tie games, equipment and the infield fly rule. Join us for a deeper understanding of America's favorite pastime.



Articles from the Sunday *New York Times*

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Hilmon Sorey, MItchell Harrison
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

For well over 100 years, *The New York Times* has been the newspaper of record. With its 132 Pulitzer Prizes since 1918 (the most by any news organization) some consider *The Times* to be the greatest newspaper in the country. The paper continues to cover New York, national, and international stories and is quoted worldwide. Its photographers and their work are also renowned. In this study group we will focus on articles from the front section of the paper in the previous Sunday's edition. Because the Sunday paper covers an incredibly broad scope of topics and areas of interest, articles from other sections of the paper can also be selected. Join us to learn, discuss, and even smile during these wonderful and lively discussions. Access to current print or digital *The New York Times* edition is required.



The Economist plus *The Atlantic* CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Dianne McCallum, Phyllis Fischel
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

We have upped our game by adding discussion of both *The Atlantic* magazine to *The Economist* in a single study group. This is a small discussion group where every voice is heard. Our discussions are based on worldwide political, economic, and cultural articles from both *The Economist* and *The Atlantic* magazines. Weekly, two volunteers will lead the discussions on articles of their choice. OLLI members' varied backgrounds and opinions lead to interesting and respectful discussions which sometimes lead to members changing their viewpoints. Access to the current print or digital editions of *The Economist* and *The Atlantic* are required. The digital versions are recommended due to potential delivery issues and some articles not appearing in the print versions. Subscriptions for *The Economist* are available at 800-456-6086 or www.economistsubscriptions.com. Student rates may be available. Subscribe to *The Atlantic* using the academic rate at www.accounts.theatlantic.com.



NEW

Contemporary Art: The Big Picture CREATIVE ARTS

Joyce Salsburg, Tim Atkins, Sid Mitchell
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.) (7-week study group, meets the 2nd half of the semester)

Open your mind and discover the exciting world of Contemporary Art. In this study group, we will examine multiple forms of contemporary art including photography, painting, performance, sculpture, installation, film, public exhibitions, video, and video game art. This fast-paced study group will examine ten artists from Brazil, China, Germany, Iceland, Serbia, and the United States. Members will get to know, understand, and appreciate the powerful messages of these artists by viewing, before each session, interviews, documentaries, and/or short videos of these artists using discussions and critiques by well-informed art historians. The text we will use is *The Big Picture, Contemporary Art in 10 Works by 10 Artists* (Prestel, 2017) by Art Historian Matthew Israel. In this study group, guest speakers will enhance your understanding and appreciaiton of Contemporary Art. A guest speaker on Video Game Art and a field trip to The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago to view works by four of the artists will enhance your understanding and appreciation of Contemporary Art.



Documentary Films CREATIVE ARTS

Colleen Leahy, Belinda Silber, Laurie Bederow
Wednesday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

A documentary film is a non-fictional motion picture intended to document reality—primarily for the purposes of instruction, education, or maintaining a historical record. Or is it? Join us for our adventure into the fascinating world of documentary films. In each session, we will view a film of artistic, political, historical, or social merit—always of interest and sometimes controversial. A list of possible documentaries for viewing will be distributed. Study group members will choose which film they wish to present and then will lead the discussion. Members can nominate additional recent films. Films are watched in advance at home. Join us for a study group of fun and discovery.



VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS: THURSDAY

BEGINS MARCH 7, 2024

NEW

Instrumental Amalgamation

CREATIVE ARTS

Sid Mitchell, Matt Corey, Denise Stauder
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

If you enjoy movies, music, history, and science, this study group will both enhance your interest and broaden your knowledge as we study musical instruments. Our assignments will be to watch a movie and to read about the featured orchestral instrument in our chosen text, *Encyclopedia of Music* (Hermes House, 2002) by Max Wade-Matthews and Wendy Thompson. Each session, members will give a review of the movie and instrument featured, as well as topical issues related to the movie, such as Irish immigration, multiple sclerosis, and Marfan syndrome. A sampling of the movies include: *The Devil's Violin* (2013), *Hilary and Jackie* (1998), and *Immortal Beloved* (1994). Guest speakers from the Chicago Symphony and Civic Orchestras will discuss construction and history of the instruments. The first 10 weeks will be virtual. The final 4 weeks will be in-person, at various locations in Chicago relevant to that week's chosen instrument, such as an instrument company, Chess Records, and a Chicago cathedral. We will conclude each session by listening to a famous piece of music featuring the studied instrument. Study group members will also have the opportunity to attend for free an open rehearsal of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.



Poetry in a New Age

CREATIVE ARTS

Judy Myers, Judith McCue, Michael Dolesh
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Whether you are interested in learning about poetry, or are a long-time, experienced reader of poetry, this study group is for you. Each week, we read aloud and discuss a selection of contemporary poems chosen by the study group members, giving careful attention to the poet's meaning, style, and content. Discovering new poets and reading contemporary poetry is of particular joy. But, we will also revisit poems and poets from the past such as Joy Harjo, Ada Limon, Louise Glück, William Merwin, Yevgeny Yevtushenko, Judith Sanders, Paidrig O'Tauma, and Rita Dove. In addition, we will have occasional sessions when study group members will share their favorite poems with the group. Join us for an enjoyable and informative study group, enhancing our understanding and appreciation for what still causes people to love poetry.





NEW

Pope Francis: A Decade of Transformation

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

George Sullivan, John Howard, John Drodow
Thursday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

Embark on a wide-ranging exploration of Pope Francis' decade as the spiritual leader of the Roman Catholic Church. Delving into his writings, teachings, and actions, we will explore an overview of his papacy. Beginning with an introduction to Pope Francis, we will examine his Argentinian and Jesuit roots, then his election to the papacy. Study group members will discuss and analyze key themes of his pontificate: mercy and forgiveness, social justice, compassion, environmental stewardship, and interfaith dialogue. Navigating through several intricate landscapes, we will examine the Pope's exhortation on love in the family, his reforms of Church governance, and the challenges and controversies, including internal criticism of his papacy. The journey will also cover Pope Francis' global outreach, diplomatic endeavors, culminating in an exploration of the groundbreaking Synod on Synodality. Members will share their perspectives on Pope Francis' vision for the Catholic Church, debate his impact on the Church and contemporary world, and reflect on his potential legacy. The coordinators will provide written materials and videos from varied sources, averaging 40-60 pages weekly. Excerpts from *Wounded Shepherd: Pope Francis and His Struggle to Convert the Catholic Church* (Henry Holt, 2019) by Austen Ivereigh will comprise part of the syllabus.



The Economist

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Jennifer Gainer, Tom Green, Bob Lapin
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

The Economist weekly magazine is widely acclaimed for its thoughtful and stimulating analyses of world news, politics, and business. It also has sections on science, technology, books, the arts, and extensive reports on particular issues of current interest. This long-running study group is always looking for new members interested in current events who can enrich our discussions. Each study group member is required to lead or co-lead a weekly discussion. This involves selecting 10-12 articles from the current weekly issue and developing the questions needed to get the lively conversations started. Given the uncertainty of the mail, a digital subscription to *The Economist* is highly encouraged. Information on subscriptions, digital subscriptions, and a reduced introductory (maybe even a student) rate is available at 1-800-456-6086 or www.economistsubscriptions.com. Join us if you are interested in current events and eager to participate in enriching discussions.



> *Hearing the comments of all the participants enriched my appreciation and understanding of the subject, and was a window into each of them.*
>
> Bob Magrisso

Fiction Writers Workshop

CREATIVE ARTS

April Ware, Howard Tanzman
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

If you love to write fiction—novels, short stories, or flash fiction—and want to improve your writing skills, join us for this workshop focused on writing great fiction. Published works of contemporary writers will be read and discussed. The text, *The Making of a Story: A Norton Guide to Creative Writing* (W. W. Norton & Company, 2010) by Alice LaPlante, will be used as reference for the elements of craft. Twice during the semester members will submit an original work of up to 25 pages for peer review. Let the narratives of the published works and the creative genius of your peers inspire you to bring the characters and plots of your stories alive. Storytellers of all levels are welcome.



NEW

The Man Who Transformed American Theater: August Wilson—His Life and Plays

CREATIVE ARTS

Jim Roselle, Geneva Norman, Sarah Vanderwicken
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Step into the tapestry of the African-American experience during the tumultuous 20th century through the captivating lens of dramatist August Wilson, a luminary who has reshaped the landscape of American drama over the last five decades. In this immersive study group, we will learn about his life and creative evolution through various sources and materials written both by and about Wilson. The Goodman Theatre in Chicago is an esteemed OLLI partner and is the first theater to have produced all 10 of Wilson's "cycle" plays. We will read and discuss four of Wilson's epoch plays: *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* (1910s), *Fences* (1950s), *Two Trains Running* (1960s), and *Radio Golf* (1990s). These theatrical masterpieces not only give voice to long-overlooked themes but also stand as a testament to the transformative power of storytelling. As a highlight, the study group will have an event evening which will include dinner, attendance at the Goodman's new production of *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, and discussion of the play with one or more of the Goodman's creative directors (at an additional cost). Join us on this exciting odyssey that promises both enjoyment and challenge, to learn about the life and plays of the unparalleled August Wilson, a true maestro of American drama.



Introduction to the New Testament Part 2

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Janet Jablon, Michael Dolesh, Bob Jenkins
Thursday (1:15 p.m.–3:15 p.m.)

Join us as we complete our exploration of the New Testament and look at Christianity's explosive growth in the early centuries of the Common Era. Our continued study of the New Testament, based on a Yale Open Course, will offer a historical view of the origins of Christianity, including analysis of the literature of the earliest Christian movements in their Greco-Roman-Judaic context. Although we will discuss theological issues raised by the texts, this is a secular course of study. When we complete our discussion of the New Testament, we will turn our attention to an examination of the conditions that led to Christianity's rapid growth within the Roman Empire as well as other topics of relevance to the early Christian church, such as key heresies, early martyrs, influential leaders and theologians, and apocryphal writings. We welcome new and returning members to take part in stimulating discussions about the mysteries and joys of the New Testament and early Christianity. Our texts are *New Testament History and Literature* by Dale B. Martin (Yale University Press, 2012) and any New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) edition of The Bible. Participation in the fall offering on this topic is not required to register for this spring study group.



BONUS GROUP: Let's Talk About the Movies (Thursday)

CREATIVE ARTS

Trish Ronan, Tim Atkins, Barry Blitzsten
Thursday (4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.)

If you love to go to contemporary movies and then talk about what you have seen, this is the Bonus Group for you. Our process is two part. In the first part, the co-coordinators will present a short description of the artists involved in the production. Then, we will analyze and discuss whether the director and the crew of artists have successfully told the cinematic story. If you are new to analyzing movies, we encourage you to try this Bonus Group. Movie titles, discussion questions, and other information will be provided in advance of each session. Movies will be *Dreamin' Wild* (Pohlad, 2023), *Barbie* (Gerwig, 2023), *Maestro* (Cooper, 2023), *Killers of the Flower Moon* (Scorsese, 2023), and *Oppenheimer* (Nolan, 2023). OLLI members are eligible to register for Bonus Groups at no extra cost. Members may register for only one of the two Let's Talk About the Movies Bonus Groups (Monday or Thursday). We will meet on 3/14, 4/4, 4/25, 5/16, and 6/6.



VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS: FRIDAY

BEGINS MARCH 8, 2024

International Relations

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Allen Cohen, Phil Bashook
Friday (9:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.)

We are living in a rapidly changing world. International and US policy concerns are also interlaced and changing, so that they need to be constantly reviewed and reevaluated. Our study group will analyze specific problems and potential threats, as well as opportunities that shape US and global security. Our topics will cover the far reaching ramifications of the security and well-being of the United States, including the profound implications for world stability. We will focus on the historical trends, as well as the current economic and demographic concerns. We will entertain many different viewpoints, using material from the best informed and most qualified sources, including pertinent foreign policy journals. Join us as we explore multifaceted approaches to and strategies for these complex topics and concerns. Reading material will come from current articles from both online and printed sources. Participation will include reading, home study/research, presentations, and discussion.





OLLI IMMERSIVE THEATER EXPERIENCES

In Partnership with the Goodman Theatre

Join your OLLI community and Goodman's Education and Engagement department for an enchanting evening of storytelling. This special event celebrates the captivating works of August Wilson by highlighting the art of storytelling through performance. The cherry on top? Select OLLI members will share their own stories to an exclusive audience at the Goodman Theatre's Alice Education Center for Education and Engagement. Join us for an unforgettable night made possible by OLLI's special partnership with the Goodman Theatre. Register early as seats are limited. ***If the event fills, we encourage you to place your name on the waitlist in hopes that we can obtain more discounted group tickets.***



Friday, May 3, 2024

4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.:
Optional dinner at a local restaurant with OLLI friends. Separate payment.

6:00 p.m.–7:15 p.m.:
Storytelling Showcase by members of OLLI in the Walter Lab, at Goodman's Education Center

7:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.:
Evening performance of the play *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*

Cost: $43. Includes:

- one OLLI discounted ticket to the 7:30pm performance of *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*,
- access to the OLLI Storytelling Showcase,
- discounted parking (available via https://www.iparkit.com/goodman) for the following lots:
  – Government Center Self Park (GC) – 181 N. Clark
  – Theatre District Self Park (TD) – 181 N. Dearborn

Location: Goodman's Albert Theatre 170 North Dearborn, Chicago IL

JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE

A journey of self-discovery leads to salvation in this major revival of the Pulitzer Prize-winner's masterwork.

On the heels of *Gem of the Ocean* (2022), expert August Wilson interpreter Chuck Smith revives the second work in the famed American Century Cycle—one of Wilson's best-loved, most compelling plays. Herald Loomis searches the country with his young daughter to find his estranged wife. But first, he must regain a sense of his own heritage and identity in this story of spiritual and emotional resurrection.

For more information about this play and the Goodman Theater, click here: https://www.goodmantheatre.org/show/joe-turners-come-and-gone/

SPRING 2024 SPEAKER EVENT

Recognizing Misinformation and Overcoming Conflicts: How to Reduce Polarization in Political Discussion

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



Tuesday, March 12, 12:00 p.m–1:00 p.m.
In-person, OLLI Evanston with Live Stream to OLLI Chicago

In 2022, nearly half of all Americans viewed news articles or photos that they later discovered to be false. 64% of those who obtain news via social media report such encounters. And surprisingly, older adults were four times more likely to share misinformation that younger Americans!

We live in an era in which misinformation is readily available, conspiratorial rhetoric has become mainstream and political polarization is deeply entrenched in US society. In such times, engaging in conversations with those with whom we have political disagreements becomes increasingly challenging, at times fracturing family relationships and ending friendships.

With another election cycle looming, misinformation will be rampant. At this event, you will learn the strategies you can use to engage with someone you politically disagree with and explore ways of making society less polarized.

HOSTED BY THE OLLI ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE.



Speaker **Dr. Cynthia Wang**, Executive Director of the Dispute Resolution and Research Center (DRRC) and Clinical Professor of Management and Organizations at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management

**This event is free and open to all 2024 OLLI spring members. Registration is required through the OLLI online registration system (Augusoft).*

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

SPRING 2024 SPEAKER EVENT
Two Years In: Is Support for Ukraine Waning?



Monday, April 1, 12:00 p.m–1:00 p.m.
In-person, OLLI Evanston with Live Stream to OLLI Chicago

Professor Slevin will discuss the state of the Ukraine war after two years and how, despite pledges by political leaders, support both in the US and in Europe may be declining. Is this decline in support real? How do the shifting political landscapes in Slovakia, Hungary, and the US impact support? How does the war in the Middle East affect support? And what about the 2024 General Election in the US? Are stories about the decline in support being pushed by Putin as a propaganda campaign or are they accurate? And last but not least, how does this end?

Peter Slevin spent a decade on *The Washington Post*'s national staff and is currently a contributing writer for *The New Yorker*, focusing on national politics. He teaches classes on politics and the media; the US role in world affairs; and reporting strategies on current events, from the 2020 presidential campaign to the intersection of policing and race in Chicago.



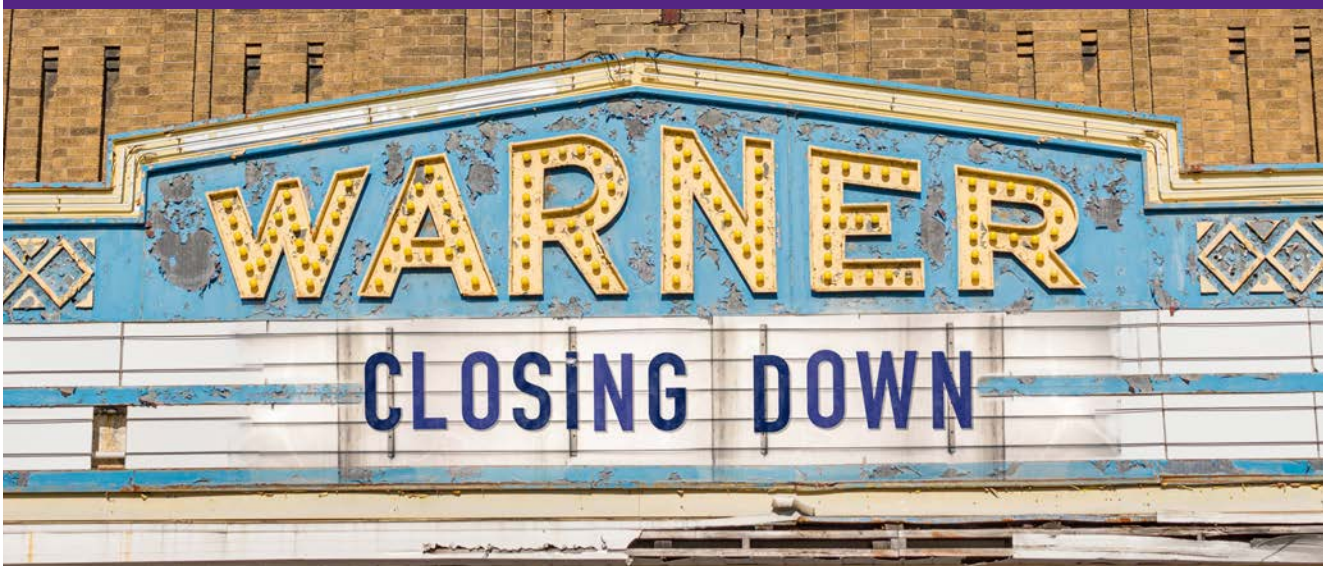
Speaker **Peter Slevin,** Professor of Journalism, Northwestern University

**This event is free and open to all 2024 OLLI spring members. Registration is required through the OLLI online registration system (Augusoft).*

HOSTED BY THE OLLI ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

SPRING 2024 SPEAKER EVENT
Is Movie Going Dead or Alive?



Thursday, May 9, 12:00 p.m–1:00 p.m.
In-person, OLLI Chicago with Live Stream to OLLI Evanston

Join *Chicago Tribune* Film Critic Michael Phillips for a conversation about how we watch movies today, and what we are in danger of losing. We will look at viewing habits, changing tastes, the Pandemic, and our own living rooms—and how these things have imperiled the theatrical experience. We all have great memories of movie-going in our collective past. Is it really time to say goodbye to the theatrical film-going tradition?

Michael Phillips has been the *Chicago Tribune*'s film critic since 2006. He appeared frequently on *At the Movies* with Ebert & Roeper, first as a guest critic and later becoming a cohost with Richard Roeper. He has introduced over 100 films as host on *Turner Classic Movies*, taught cinema studies and arts journalism around the nation, and he guest hosts 'Filmspotting' on Chicago Public Radio.

HOSTED BY THE OLLI ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE.



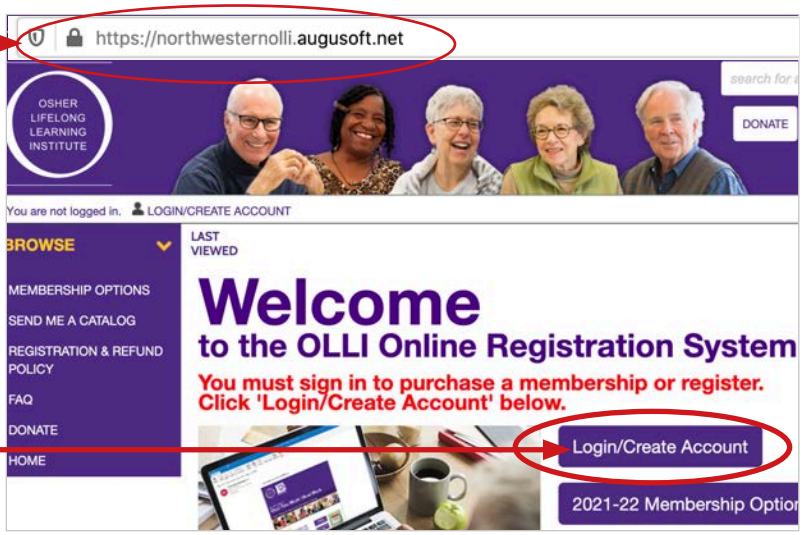
Speaker **Michael Phillips**, *Chicago Tribune* Film Critic

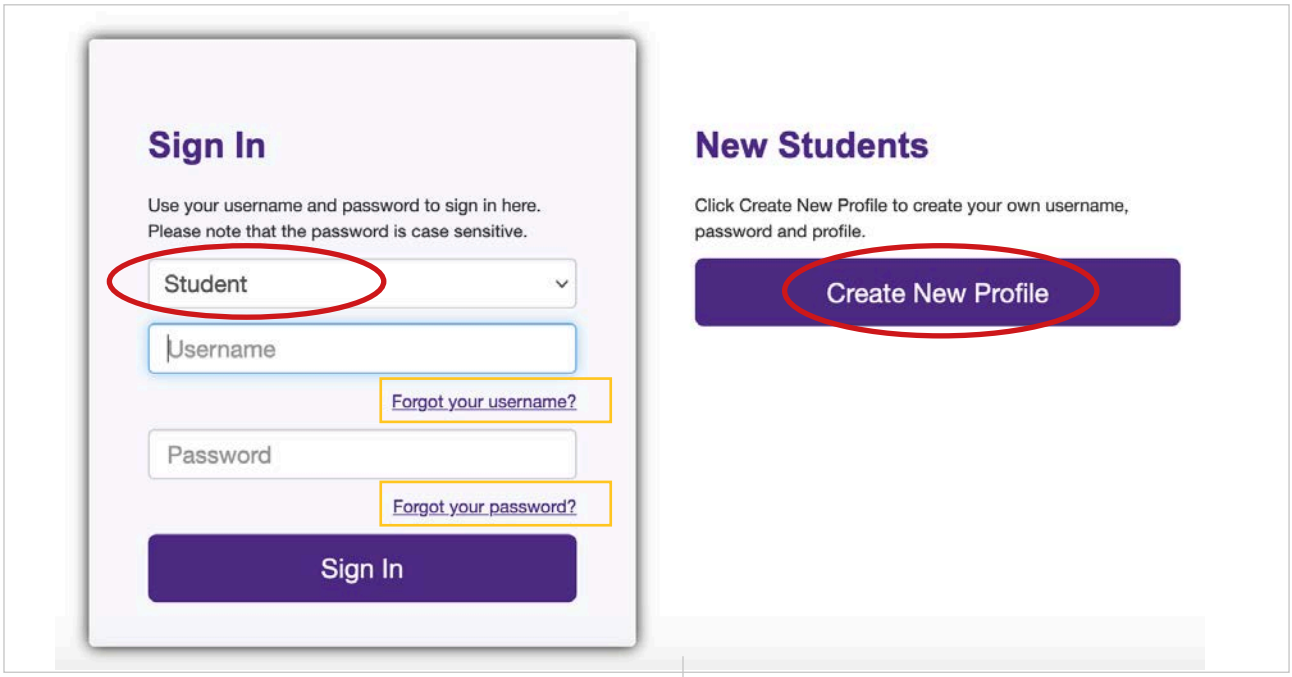
**This event is free and open to all 2024 OLLI spring members. Registration is required through the OLLI online registration system (Augusoft).*

HOW TO PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTER FOR STUDY GROUPS

Full year OLLI members do not need to purchase a spring membership.

- Go to the OLLI Online Registration System (Augusoft) which can be accessed at: **https://northwesternolli.augusoft.net**
- Click **Log In/Create Account**.
- This takes you to the **Sign In** page.





EXISTING USERS:

If you are a current or former member and have a Profile in the system:

SIGN IN to Your Account with your **Username** and **Password**.

- Make sure the option says **Student** in the pulldown menu.
- If you have forgotten your Username or Password, click on the **Forgot Your Username?** or **Forgot Your Password?** links.
  DO NOT CREATE A NEW PROFILE

NEW USERS:

If you are a new user, please create a new profile.

Click **Create New Profile** and follow the prompts

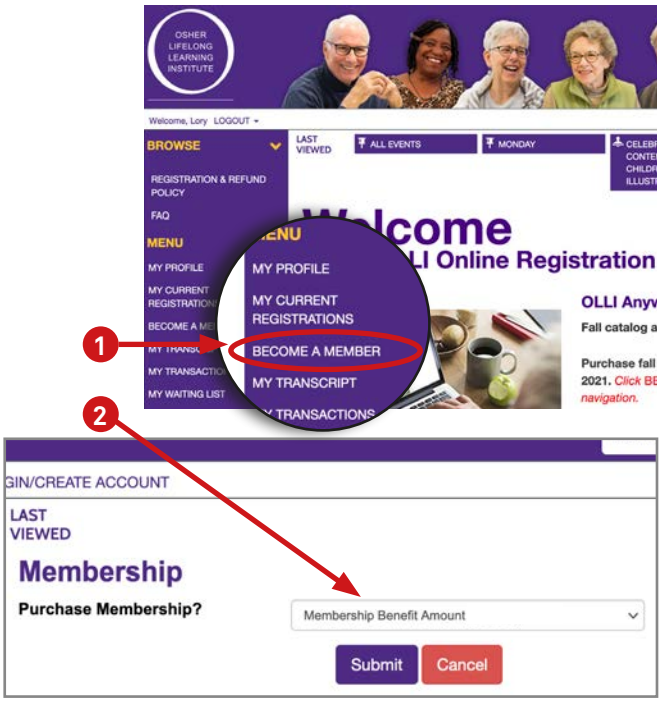
- On the Profile Creation page, select Student Profile (single user) button (it should be clicked already), click Submit.
- Fill in the necessary information for Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3 tabs.
- Click **Submit** to register your account.

If you need assistance, email olli@northwestern.edu.

New Members who have created a profile and Existing Members who have signed in can now continue to **Purchase Membership**—instructions on next page.

PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP (if necessary):

1. On the **Welcome** home page, click **BECOME A MEMBER** in the purple column on the left.
2. On the **Membership** page, select the membership option you wish to purchase from the dropdown menu.
3. You will then be led to your cart page. Continue with the prompts to check out.
   - OLLI accepts Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover.

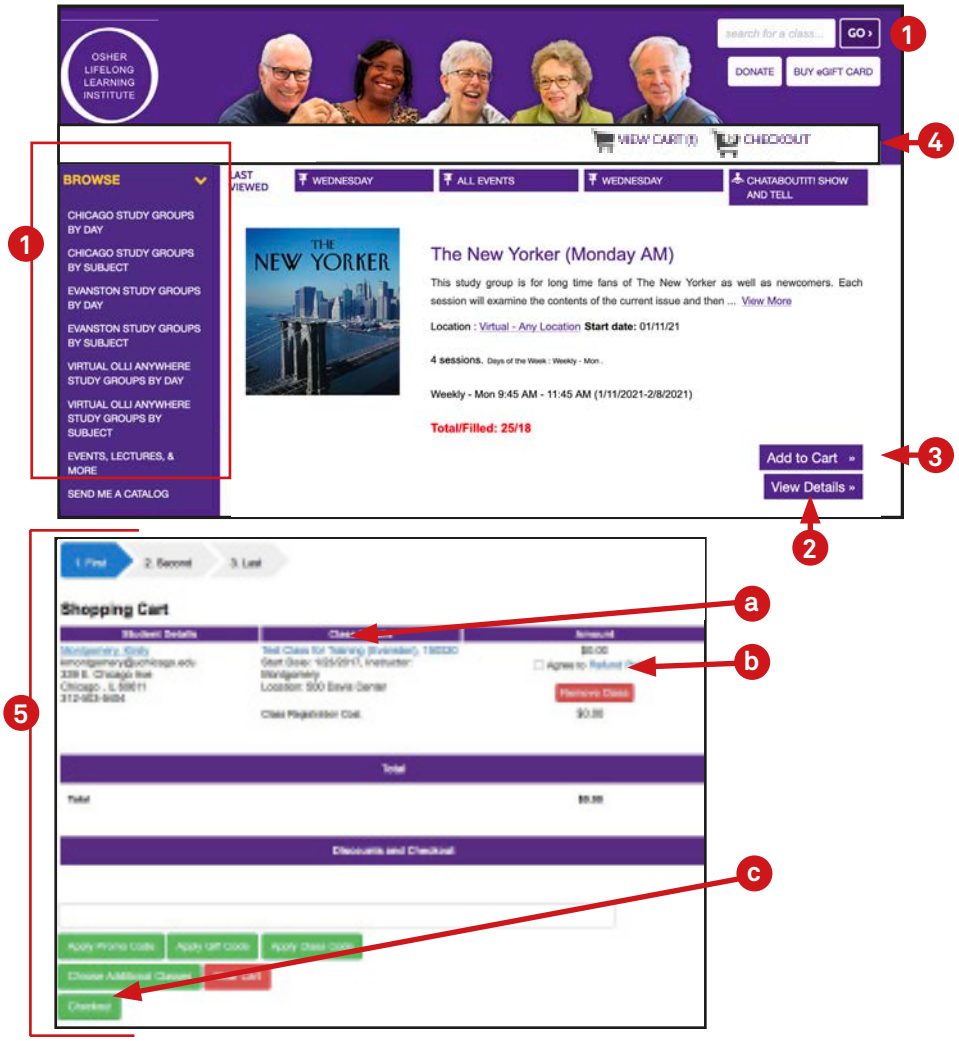


REGISTRATION (Beginning February 5):

1. **BROWSE** Study Groups by location, by day, or by subject area. Or, type a portion of the title in the SEARCH bar at the top right of the page.
2. For more information about a Study Group click **View Details**.
3. Once registration is open, to register for a Study Group click **Add to Cart**.
   - To register for additional Study Groups, repeat Step 1 through 3.
4. **Important:** To complete your registration click **CHECKOUT** at the top right of the screen.
5. Finish your checkout by:
   a. Reviewing your selections
   b. Clicking the **Agree to Refund Policy** box
   c. Clicking the green **CHECKOUT** box at the bottom of the screen.

Wait for the screen that says "Your transaction has been processed successfully."

You will receive a confirmation email of your registration. **If you do not receive the confirmation email, your registration is not complete.**



2023–2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

SEPTEMBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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OCTOBER 2023

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29	30	31				

NOVEMBER 2023

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DECEMBER 2023

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JANUARY 2024

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FEBRUARY 2024

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MARCH 2024

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APRIL 2024

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MAY 2024

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JUNE 2024

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JULY 2024

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AUGUST 2024

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- **Fall Session**
  14 Weeks, September 5–December 11, 2023
- **Break**
  December 12, 2023–January 15, 2024
- **Winter Session (all virtual)**
  4 Weeks, January 16–February 12, 2024
  The short 4-week winter term is an all-virtual experience. All other terms offer both in-person and virtual study groups.
- **Break**
  February 13–March 1, 2024
- **Spring Session**
  14 weeks, March 4–June 10, 2024
- **Break**
  June 11–July 5, 2024
- **Summer Session**
  4 Weeks, July 8–August 2, 2024

OLLI and Northwestern University will be closed on the following days:

- Monday, September 4, 2023
- Thursday, November 23 through Friday, November 24, 2023
- Friday, December 22, 2023 through Monday, January 1, 2024
- Monday, January 15, 2024
- Monday, May 27, 2024
- Wednesday, June 19, 2024
- Thursday, July 4, 2024

2023–2024 POLICIES AND INFORMATION

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Choice and Flexibility

Remember, every study group will have a limited number of seats in order to maintain the high quality, discussion-based learning model that Northwestern OLLI is known for. As a result, not everyone may get into their first choice. However, members are often pleasantly surprised and pleased by their second, third, or even fourth choice study group which expands their interests and their friendships. In the spirit of lifelong learning, we encourage members to keep an open mind when registering. There are many outstanding study groups from which to choose!

Membership Purchase and Registration

Participation in the OLLI program is based on membership. Membership allows you to join a given number of study groups in each term (varies by membership level). Membership also gives you access to lectures, workshops, enrichment opportunities, and other benefits through Northwestern.

REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE

Membership Purchases and Registration are through the OLLI Online Registration System (Augusoft).

If you need assistance, email olli@northwestern.edu. The first available staff member or OLLI VOLLI volunteer will call or email you to assist.

ADDITIONAL STUDY GROUP PURCHASES

- Additional study groups, beyond those included in your membership, can be purchased for an additional charge. To purchase additional study groups, email olli@northwestern.edu.
    - **14-week term (Fall or Spring)** = Prime +$65 / +$33 for a 7-week; Standard +$105 / +$53 for a 7-week; Basic +$150 / +$75 for a 7-week
    - **4-week term (Winter or Summer)** = Prime +$50; Standard +$80; Basic +$100
- Changes to your membership type are only allowed in specific circumstances which must be approved by the Director. If approved, changes are subject to an administrative fee.

REGISTRATION

- You MUST be officially registered through the OLLI office for all study groups and bonus groups you attend.
- Registration for study groups is on a first come, first served basis. If a study group is full, members will be placed on a waiting list and will be notified only if a space becomes available. Should space become available, members will be added to a study group in the order in which they have been wait listed. We encourage you to register for an open study group in case the waitlisted group does not become available.
- OLLI accepts Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover.
- Unless otherwise noted, you must be a current member of OLLI to register for OLLI events.
- Trial memberships are available only to new members and may be purchased only one time.

REGISTRATION ADD/DROP

- **Please make your selections carefully. Changes to study group selections may ONLY be made by the OLLI office.** Changes are subject to study group availability.
- Changes may only be made up to the end of the second week of the fall or spring term or the first week of winter or summer term.
- If your plans have changed and you can no longer participate in a study group or bonus group you must notify the OLLI office.

As of January 28, 2024

continued

Refund Policies

UNUSED MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS: Refunds are **NOT issued** for unused membership benefits. If you are unsure of your plans for the year, we recommend that you purchase a half-year membership.

EVENTS: Refunds are **NOT issued** for academic enrichment or social events, including but not limited to prepaid meals, theater tickets, and prepaid tours.

EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES: Issuance of refunds for extraordinary circumstances are at the discretion of the OLLI Director.

METHOD: Qualifying refunds must be issued in the exact form as payment was made (i.e. to the same credit card that was used to pay for the transaction). Allow 6 weeks for processing.

NEW MEMBERS ONLY: If you participate in OLLI at Northwestern University for the first time and find that this program is not a good match for you, you may be eligible for a full or partial refund under the following circumstances:

- If you started in the fall or spring term and you notify the OLLI Director in writing **within two weeks** of the start of the term.
- If you started in the winter or summer term and you notify the OLLI Director in writing **within one week** of the start of the term.

Attendance Policies & Expectations

While occasional absences may be unavoidable, OLLI Membership is based on the expectation that you will register for, attend, and actively participate in study groups.

- Members who are unable to attend the **first two weeks** of the fall or spring term are required to notify the study group coordinator of their absence, and (if possible) provide an expected date of return to the study group. Members who fail to notify their study group coordinator of their absence may be dropped from the study group at the end of week two.
- Members who are unable to attend the **first week** of the winter or summer term are required to notify the study group coordinator of their absence, and (if possible) provide an expected date of return to the study group. Members who fail to notify their study group coordinator of their absence may be dropped from the study group at the end of week one.
- Members who sign up for a study group and fail to attend at least half the scheduled sessions without communicating with the coordinator and the office may be refused registration/ membership in the future.
- If you require special accommodations, please contact the OLLI office **prior** to registration.
- RSVP carefully to events and workshops, understanding that while there may be no cost to you, there is a cost to the program.
- OLLI prohibits video recording of any study group by members or coordinators.

As of January 28, 2024

HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

Safeguarding the health and safety of our members and staff remains top priority. Northwestern OLLI continues to listen to the science and follow CDC guidelines, state mandates, and Northwestern policies related to all COVID-19 safety protocols. If these guidelines, mandates, or policies change, Northwestern OLLI will adjust accordingly.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY MULTIMEDIA RELEASE AGREEMENT

For good and valuable consideration, as a current or former member of Northwestern Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, you grant Northwestern University (the "University") and its agents and assigns the right to record your appearance and participation on digital recordings, videotape, audiotape, film, photograph or any other medium and to use, publish, reproduce, modify, distribute, and publicly exhibit without limitation for promotional and marketing materials to be used by the University, television networks, and on websites, including but not limited to the University's website, iTunes, iTunesU, and the University's page on YouTube, such recordings, in whole or in part, without restrictions or limitation for any purpose that the University in its sole discretion deems appropriate. You further consent to the University's use of your name, likeness, voice, and identifying information in connection with such recordings. You release the University, its successors and assigns, its agents, and all persons for whom it is acting from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the recording process, or any misspellings or inaccuracies, and you waive any right that you may have to inspect, approve, own, or control the finished recordings. You agree that neither you nor your heirs shall be entitled to any compensation for the use of your name, photograph, likeness, or other image of yourself.

As of January 28, 2024

NORTHWESTERN'S POLICY ON DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

Northwestern University does not discriminate or permit discrimination by any member of its community against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status, age, disability, citizenship status, veteran status, genetic information, reproductive health decision making, or any other classification protected by law in matters of admissions, employment, housing, or services or in the educational programs or activities it operates. Harassment, whether verbal, physical, or visual, that is based on any of these characteristics is a form of discrimination. Further prohibited by law is discrimination against any employee and/or job applicant who chooses to inquire about, discuss, or disclose their own compensation or the compensation of another employee or applicant.

Northwestern University complies with federal and state laws that prohibit discrimination based on the protected categories listed above, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX requires educational institutions, such as Northwestern, to prohibit discrimination based on sex (including sexual harassment) in the University's educational programs and activities, including in matters of employment and admissions. In addition, Northwestern provides reasonable accommodations to qualified applicants, students, and employees with disabilities and to individuals who are pregnant.

Any alleged violations of this policy or questions with respect to nondiscrimination or reasonable accommodations should be directed to Northwestern's Office of Equity, 1800 Sherman Avenue, Suite 4-500, Evanston, Illinois 60208, 847-467-6165, equity@northwestern.edu.

Questions specific to sex discrimination (including sexual misconduct and sexual harassment) should be directed to Northwestern's Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equity, 1800 Sherman Avenue, Suite 4-500, Evanston, Illinois 60208, 847-467-6165, TitleIXCoordinator@northwestern.edu.

A person may also file a complaint with the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights regarding an alleged violation of Title IX by visiting www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html or calling 800-421-3481. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to Northwestern may be referred to Northwestern's Title IX Coordinator, the United States Department of Education's Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, or both.

AVOIDING MICROAGGRESSIONS

To reduce the possibility of unintended harm to fellow OLLI members and to help OLLI be fully inclusive, we encourage all members to educate themselves on microaggressions and be mindful of this information as they engage in OLLI classrooms. Microaggression education can be found under Tips and Tools within the MyOLLINU website.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

As members of the Northwestern community, OLLI members are expected to behave with each other with civility and respect, recognizing that disagreement and informed debate are valued in an academic community. Demeaning, intimidating, threatening, or violent behaviors will not be tolerated. Such behavior could result in dismissal from the program.

The Northwestern University Student Handbook can be viewed at:
sps.northwestern.edu/student-handbook

As of January 28, 2024

NORTHWESTERN OLLI MEMBER EXPECTATIONS AND COVID-19 CODE OF CONDUCT

The well-being of our Northwestern OLLI community is our highest priority. Northwestern OLLI has developed the following expectations for all OLLI members who return to campus or participate in any OLLI program (even remotely). Northwestern OLLI may modify these expectations at any time as guidance from federal, state, and local governments and/or the University evolves. Substantive modifications will be communicated to you. As a reminder, in addition to the expectations set forth below, all members are expected to follow policies applicable to members, including those contained in the NU Student Handbook and the OLLI program documentation.

I agree to the following:

- I will regularly monitor the University's guidelines related to COVID-19 on the COVID-19 site and stay updated on any guidance provided by the University.
- While on campus I will abide by safety or hygiene standards recommended by Northwestern and any applicable agencies, including the Illinois Department of Public Health or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). For example, standards regarding social distancing, limiting gatherings, hand washing and sanitizing, and cleaning shared surfaces.
- If mandated by Northwestern University, I will wear a mask or face covering in all public and shared environments on campus and whenever required by the University, unless I have a medical condition that restricts my ability to do so. I understand that the face covering must meet guidelines from the CDC and Northwestern's guidance.
- I understand that I may be asked to submit to COVID-19 testing and will comply with COVID-19 testing requirements and treatment recommendations.
- I will cooperate with any contact tracing efforts by the University.
- I will perform and document any self-monitoring or self-screening of health symptoms that the University asks me to complete, including monitoring my personal health daily and reporting any conditions as required by the University.
- I will participate in any additional health screening required by the University.
- I will follow the University's guidelines on self-isolation and/or quarantining and any applicable guidelines or requirements from public health agencies, including any guidance regarding self-isolation and/or quarantining for individuals who have traveled outside of the United States and/or the State of Illinois.
- I will complete training programs related to COVID-19 provided by the University.

I have read and understand this summary of expectations and agree to follow all Northwestern University guidelines related to reducing the spread of COVID-19. If I do not follow these expectations, I may be referred to the OLLI office for follow up and the consequences of regular noncompliance may include removal from the OLLI program. I understand these expectations may change given the evolving nature of the pandemic. I further understand that if I have questions, I can raise them with the OLLI office and/or the appropriate University office.

I understand and acknowledge that while Northwestern is continuing to engage in best practices, and that Northwestern is continuing to follow the guidance of public health officials to help prevent the contracting and spread of COVID-19, much of the nature of the COVID-19 virus is still unknown (including potential long term health effects), and Northwestern cannot control risks associated with COVID-19 or guarantee that the campus (including any building) is free of the virus, or that I or my belongings will not be exposed to COVID-19, and that such exposure may result in illness and/or a disruption to my OLLI experience. I recognize that individuals with the following conditions may have a higher risk from COVID-19 infection: age 65 or older, HIV, asthma, chronic lung disease, diabetes, serious heart condition, chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis, severe obesity, immunocompromised, and certain pregnancy related conditions. I also understand that information suggests there may be heart or lung complications affiliated with COVID-19. I understand that if I am diagnosed with COVID-19 or was in close contact with someone with COVID-19 I should seek consultation from a medical provider and receive medical clearance before returning to any OLLI activities.

I understand and acknowledge that OLLI is planning for many study groups and events to take place in person in the upcoming term, while some study groups will continue to be virtual. However, in-person study groups are dependent upon evolving health guidelines and space availability. Accordingly, if safety conditions change, some or all events may be cancelled or postponed, and in-person study groups may shift to virtual experiences. Such changes will be communicated to members by OLLI or the University. Membership dues and fees will not be refunded or prorated in these circumstances.

I understand and acknowledge that Northwestern may need to make additional sudden changes to the campus environment – including requiring members to leave campus.

I understand and acknowledge that I have informed awareness of these risks and share the responsibility for minimizing risk of exposure to and spread of COVID-19 to myself and others, and that I am voluntarily resuming my OLLI experience.

As of January 28, 2024

LOGISTICS, SERVICES, AND RESOURCES

OLLI Office Location and Hours:

Chicago (Wieboldt Hall):
339 E Chicago Avenue, Room 412
Chicago, IL 60611

Evanston:
500 Davis Street, Suite 700
Evanston, IL 60201

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (less a flexible hour for lunch)
In-person office hours begin February 21, 2024. OLLI staff work remotely on Fridays.

OLLI Contacts

EMAIL: olli@northwestern.edu

OLLI HELP DESK:
https://spsolli.sps.northwestern.edu/

Intercampus Shuttle

Fully operational and available to OLLI students with a current Wildcard that contains your photo. Click Here for shuttle information.

Wildcards

Wildcards are only issued before the fall semester and only to OLLI members who purchased a **full academic year membership**. 2023-2024 Academic Year Wildcards are valid through September, 2024.

Wildcard ID Discounts

wildcardadv.northwestern.edu

University Police

EVANSTON: 847-491-3254
CHICAGO: 312-503-8314
EMERGENCY: 911

northwestern.edu/up

NU Libraries

Northwestern Library holds over 8 million items making it the 11th largest private university library.

OLLI members have access to the NU libraries and databases, however only full-time members with Wildcards have borrowing privileges.

Evanston Main Library:
Click Here for more information.

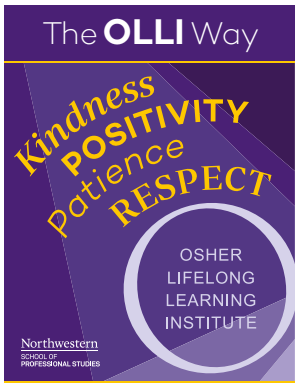
PHONE: 847-491-7658

EMAIL: library@northwestern.edu

GUIDES: libguides.northwestern.edu/OLLI_libguide

LIBRARIAN: Tracy Coyne
tracy-coyne@northwestern.edu

WEBSITE: library.northwestern.edu



The OLLI Way

As a lean staff, we do the very best we can to provide an outstanding experience for each and every OLLI member. Our community values kindness, patience, positivity, and respect—something we call The OLLI Way. These values are critical as members, staff, and volunteers interact with one another. They are especially important as we manage the logistics, fun, and excitement associated with each new OLLI term. Thanks to all of you for embracing the OLLI Way.