



**Rethink  
Learning**  
Discovery  
Vitality  
Camaraderie  
Enrichment  
Creativity



Northwestern  
University

# 2025 OLLI ALL-VIRTUAL WINTER TERM

FOUR WEEKS: TUESDAY, JANUARY 21–MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2025



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## KEY DATES:

**Winter memberships are available for [purchase now](#).**

**Monday, December 16 at 9 a.m.: [Winter registration opens](#).**

**Friday, January 3, 2025 at 5 p.m.: [Winter registration closes](#).**

**Tuesday, January 21: Winter session begins.**

## 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, **EMILY FERRIN**

Dear OLLI Members and Friends,

As we usher in the quiet beauty of winter on Lake Michigan, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Winter Term at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Northwestern University. While our study groups are remote for the season, I am confident that our sense of community across OLLI will continue to thrive.

This winter, our catalog offers a carefully curated selection of study groups designed to keep your mind engaged and your curiosity sparked. From thought-provoking discussions to creative explorations, there is something for everyone, no matter where you are on your lifelong learning journey.

Even though we are not meeting in person, the bonds we share as a community are stronger than ever. Through the virtual spaces we create together, we find new ways to connect, learn, and support one another. We remain committed to fostering a spirit of kindness, inclusion, and curiosity—values that are especially important as we navigate these challenging times. It is more essential than ever that we approach our learning with open minds, embracing the opportunity to explore new perspectives and deepen our understanding of the world around us.

OLLI is a place where we can create opportunities for diverse voices and experiences to come together to enrich our collective learning. Your engagement, thoughtful contributions, and willingness to connect with others are what make this community so special. We continue to be inspired by your dedication to growth and your commitment to intellectual exploration.

I invite you to explore this catalog and select the study groups that inspire you. Together, let us continue to embrace the joy of learning and the warmth of community, no matter where we are.

Warm regards,  
*Emily*

**Emily Hood Ferrin, PhD**  
Director, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
School of Professional Studies  
Northwestern University

### Action Items

#### RIGHT NOW:

1. Log into the OLLI Online Registration System ([northwesternolli.augusoft.net](http://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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> choices.](#) Many groups fill quickly, so be open to other options that expand your interests and your exposure to new friendships.

#### REGISTRATION DAY (Monday, December 16):

[Online registration](#) opens at 9 a.m.  
Registration closes Friday, January 3 at 5 p.m.

If you need assistance, email [olli@northwestern.edu](mailto: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 20 and 21 for membership purchase and registration instructions.**

# WINTER MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Memberships are purchased through the OLLI Online Registration System (Augusoft). Sign into your account, or create an account if you have not yet done so. OLLI members who participated in the fall term do not need to purchase a winter membership; the winter term is included in your current membership. See pages 20 and 21 for detailed instructions to purchase a membership and register.

| Winter Membership Levels and Pricing |   |                              |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Level                                | Price   | Terms Included               | Number of Study Groups per Term       |
| Winter only                          | <b>\$165</b><br>• All-virtual 4-week winter term                                    | Includes:<br>winter only     | <b>2 (4-week) winter study groups</b> |
| Trial (1/term)                       | <b>\$225</b><br>• Available only to new members and may be purchased only one time. | Includes:<br>winter & spring | <b>1 per term for a total of 2</b>    |

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 year 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.

## PLANNING AHEAD: SPRING SEMESTER INFORMATION

Spring 2025 semester is Monday, March 3–Monday, June 9, 2025

The 14-week Spring Semester will offer in-person (Evanston and Chicago) and virtual study groups.

- **Catalog Release:** Sunday, January 19, 2025
  - emailed through the OLLI newsletter
  - online through the OLLI registration system (Augusoft)
- **Membership purchase:** Monday, January 6–Monday, February 17, 2025
  - Spring Half-Year memberships will be available to purchase
  - Spring Trial memberships will be available to purchase
- **Spring Registration:** Monday, February 3–Monday, February 17, 2025

OLLI ALL-VIRTUAL WINTER 2025 SEMESTER • BEGINS TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025

# STUDY GROUPS AT-A-GLANCE

## KEY

**CS:** Contemporary and Social Issues

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

**HIS:** History & Government

**LIT:** Literature

**STMH:** Science, Technology, Medicine & Health

**SS:** Social Sciences (Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, Economics)

## WINTER ALL-VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS

### Monday

|            |                    |     |   |
|------------|--------------------|-----|---|
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CS  | <i>Autocracy, Inc.: The Dictators Who Want to Run the World</i> |
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CS  | <i>The New Yorker</i>   |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | LIT | Amor Towles' New Short Story Collection: <i>Table for Two</i>   |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | CS  | <i>When Should Law Forgive?</i>                                 |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | LIT | Spy Masters   |
|            | 4:00p.m.–5:30p.m.  | CA  | BONUS GROUP: Let's Talk About the Movies (Monday)               |

### Tuesday

|            |                    |      |   |
|------------|--------------------|------|---|
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CA   | Great Themes in Art   |
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CA   | <i>Rolling Stone's</i> Top Rock and Roll Songs                                      |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | LIT  | Much Ado About...Nothing?   |
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | STMH | Science in the News   |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | CS   | Exploring the Hidden Side: A Freakonomics Podcast Journey                           |
|            | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | CA   | From Page to Stage—Four Operas and their Literary Sources                           |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | CA   | The Experimental Films of Godfrey Reggio & Philip Glass: The Qatsi Trilogy & Beyond |
|            | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | CA   | Tuesday at the Movies   |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | LIT  | Philip K. Dick Goes to the Movies   |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | LIT  | <i>Tell Me Everything</i>   |

### Wednesday

|            |                    |      |                                      |
|------------|--------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CS   | Foreign Affairs                      |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CS   | The Rise of the Religious Nones      |
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CA   | Creative Writing Workshop            |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | LIT  | O. Henry: Short Stories with a Twist |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | STMH | Victorians Meet Dinosaurs            |

Continued on next page

## WINTER ALL-VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS, CONT.

### Wednesday, cont.

|            |                   |     |  |
|------------|-------------------|-----|--|
|            | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m. | CS  | Articles from the Sunday <i>New York Times</i>             |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m. | CS  | How to Succeed at Failing                                  |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m. | CA  | For the Love of (Even More) Art: Four Weeks. Eight Artists |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m. | CA  | O Coen Brothers, Where Art Thou?                           |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m. | HIS | <i>When Books Went To War</i>                              |

### Thursday

|            |                    |      |  |
|------------|--------------------|------|--|
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CA   | In the Voice of the Neighborhood:<br>Exploring Gwendolyn Brooks' Poetic Legacy |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | CA   | Sean Connery: James Bond and More  |
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | LIT  | The Caldecott Award—which books will be honored this year?                     |
|            | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | LIT  | Why is Haruki Murakami an international bestseller?                            |
| <b>NEW</b> | 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. | STMH | <i>A Brief History of the Earth</i>  |
|            | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | CS   | <i>The Economist</i>   |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | LIT  | A Quick Look at Flannery O'Connor on Her Centenary                             |
| <b>NEW</b> | 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.  | LIT  | Stranger in a Strange Land: Colm Toibin's <i>Brooklyn</i>                      |
|            | 4:00p.m.–5:30p.m.  | CA   | BONUS GROUP: Let's Talk About the Movies (Thursday)                            |


















Northwestern  
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OLLI ALL-VIRTUAL WINTER 2025 SEMESTER • BEGINS TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025

# STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

## ICON KEY

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

## OLLI ANYWHERE THIS WINTER!

**OLLI's 4-week winter session is all virtual.** Join our study groups from anywhere you have an Internet connection! Virtual classrooms are held via Zoom and study groups follow our regular peer-led, highly interactive, social, and fun approach to learning.

OLLI Anywhere winter term allows members to avoid Chicago's inclement weather, accommodates members who travel in the winter months, and safeguards us during the cold/flu season.

In the spring term, we will return to our blended approach in which both in-person and virtual study groups will be available. Until then, enjoy the benefits of this short virtual winter term.



**Winter Session: January 21–February 17, 2025. Spring Session: March 3–June 9, 2025.**

MONDAY VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS

BEGINS JANUARY 27, 2025

NEW

***Autocracy, Inc.: The Dictators Who Want to Run the World***

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

*James Smith, William Barker*  
Monday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

The US and other major democracies face the most challenging geopolitical landscape in decades. The largest war since World War II rages between Russia and Ukraine. China is threatening to invade Taiwan. Israel is engaged in a multi-front war with Iranian proxies. Anne Applebaum, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Autocracy, Inc.: The Dictators Who Want to Run the World* (Doubleday, 2024), asserts that behind these disparate crises lies a fundamental threat. Modern autocracies like Russia, China, Iran, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe have formed a loose but very real network to help each other to keep current leadership in power, well funded and well armed. Modern autocrats share no ideology other than a common determination to rule regardless of the wishes of their peoples and a hatred of liberal ideas and democratic states. Kleptocratic institutionalized thievery is key to their power; their ability to hide, move and launder money is critical to their success. At one time, internet technology was thought likely to end autocracy. Now, autocrats share techniques for controlling the internet and using it to their advantage. They also share arms, policing technologies, and messaging themes for undermining democracies. Join us to discuss this urgent warning about the danger we face.



***The New Yorker***

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

*Susan Gaud, Mary Watt*  
Monday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.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.



NEW

***Amor Towles' New Short Story Collection: Table for Two***

LITERATURE

*Susan Blumenfeld, Sandy Robbins*  
Monday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Amor Towles, the acclaimed American novelist and bestselling author (*Rules of Civility*; *Gentleman in Moscow*, recently adapted into a television series; and *The Lincoln Highway*), published his first short story collection, *Table for Two* (Viking, 2024). It does not disappoint! Towles is a consummate storyteller who infuses his tales with wit, irony, and complex ethical dilemmas. The collection has six short stories plus a novella. In this study group, we'll focus on an in-depth discussion of the short stories set in New York City around the year 2000. Towles captures the social and cultural context of the times with characteristic finesse, while also inviting us to linger on the more universal and timeless elements inherent in each of the stories. Whether you're a short story lover new to the writing of Amor Towles, or a dedicated fan, we invite you to join us with a seat at the table.



**NEW**

**When Should Law Forgive?**

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Carole Kagan, Joey Rodger  
Monday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

The justice system needs to hold people accountable for their actions and to impose consequences. But what is the right balance between punishment and forgiveness? Should the law encourage forgiveness, and under what terms? In her book, *When Should Law Forgive?* (W.W. Norton, 2019), Martha Minow, Professor and former dean of Harvard Law School (and daughter of Northwestern OLLI founder Newton Minow), thoughtfully examines the complexities surrounding this issue. We will read the book and consider the many questions she poses. Issues include forgiving youth (child soldiers and juvenile justice), forgiving debt (corporate debt, consumer debt, student debt, sovereign debt), and amnesties and pardons (which serve the interests of justice and which undermine it?). If you find these questions to be complex and thought-provoking, this is the study group for you.



**NEW**

**Spy Masters**

LITERATURE

Beverly Snell, Roberta Rakove, Angela Pisano  
Monday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

Ian Fleming’s first James Bond novel, *Casino Royale*, was published in 1953. A decade later, John Le Carre introduced us to Alec Leamas in *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*. Over this time period, the depiction of British espionage had changed dramatically—or had it? In this study group, we will explore how these two authors portrayed their protagonists and the culture surrounding them. We will also look at how the film versions may have changed viewers’ perceptions of the authors’ works. Our resources will be Ian Fleming’s *Casino Royale* (William Morrow, 2023; 2006 film starring Daniel Craig) and John Le Carre’s *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (Penguin Books, 2013; 1965 film starring Richard Burton). Any edition of the books may be used, and all books are available in hard copy, ebook, and audiobook from the library and online. The films are also available from the library and for rent from multiple streaming platforms. Join us as we discover how, over all these years, these spy masters and their characters have continued to intrigue us.



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

CREATIVE ARTS

Trish Ronan, Tim Atkins, Suraleah Michaels, Barry Blitzsten  
Monday, 4:00p.m.–5:30p.m. (Meets January 27 and February 10)

If you like discussing and analyzing contemporary movies, this bonus group is for you. For each of our two sessions, members will view the movies at home. Discussion questions will then be posted, and each participant will watch the movie a second time at home, considering the discussion questions. We will discuss the movie and the questions at our group session. Our emphasis will be on how the story is told using the techniques of film-making. Members may register for only one of the two Let’s Talk About the Movies Bonus Groups. The group will meet on Monday, January 27 and Monday, February 10, 2025. The movies we will discuss are: *The Crime is Mine* (François Ozon, 2023) and *Lee* (Ellen Kuras, 2024).



**TUESDAY VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS**

BEGINS JANUARY 21, 2025

**NEW**

**Great Themes in Art**

CREATIVE ARTS

*Margot Wallace, Ken Behles*  
Tuesday, 9:45a.m.-11:45a.m.

Explore how timeless themes of home, heart, food, and friendship have inspired artists across centuries. In this interactive study group, we will compare iconic works from masters like Vincent Van Gogh and Frida Kahlo, Degas and Archibald Motley, Breughel and Monet, Hopper, Tiepolo, Gauguin, and O’Keeffe. Through virtual visits to the Art Institute of Chicago and other museums, we will access both on-display and hidden gems, enriched by the stories behind the artists and their times. Supplementary readings will be provided, and light homework will keep the conversation going between sessions. Our focus will be on in-class discussions and close comparisons of these great works. Coordinators will handle all the tech, so you can focus on the art. Join us for a lively, engaging journey through the world of art.



**Rolling Stone’s Top Rock and Roll Songs**

CREATIVE ARTS

*Howard Tanzman, Tim Atkins, Laurie Toth*  
Tuesday, 9:45a.m.-11:45a.m.

In 2004, *Rolling Stone* published their list of the top 500 songs of all time. In this study group, we will continue our exploration of this list by reviewing song numbers 186–210. 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 and evaluate aspects of the band and their works. As a group we will decide whether we agree with *Rolling Stone* on their rankings. At the end of the 4 weeks, we will do our own poll for the top songs of all time. Join us as we have fun learning and reminiscing.



**NEW**

**Much Ado About...Nothing?**

LITERATURE

*Robert Elliott, Margaret Schilt, Michael Hennessy*  
Tuesday, 9:45a.m.-11:45a.m.

It’s the classic Shakespeare comedy: boy meets girl, they fall in love, confusion separates them, but (whew!) they’re reunited in marriage at the happy end. But wait: that’s only half the story. What’s up with that other couple, Beatrice and Benedick? Their “romance,” far from classic, feels very *Seinfeld*-like in contrast! Join us in exploring Shakespeare’s greatest prose comedy. We’ll read and discuss *Much Ado About Nothing* (Folger Shakespeare Library edition, 2004), then watch and discuss Kenneth Branagh’s 1993 film adaptation, starring Emma Thompson, Kenneth Branagh, Denzel Washington and Michael Keaton (in one of his greatest comic roles). Prepare thyself for some verbal jousting and lightning wit as we make much ado about...nothing?



## Science in the News

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

*Brenda Russell, Phillip Steptoe, Laurie Orgel*  
 Tuesday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.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.



### NEW

## Exploring the Hidden Side: A Freakonomics Podcast Journey

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

*Bob Eder, Bob Myers*  
 Tuesday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

Please join us for a thought-provoking and fun selection of podcast episodes and discussion from the widely-known and acclaimed Freakonomics Radio series *The Hidden Side of Everything*, produced and hosted by economist Stephen Dubner. Dubner and partner economist Steven Levitt co-wrote the acclaimed bestseller books *Freakonomics* and *SuperFreakonomics*. Study group members will choose a podcast from the series (over 500 episodes so far), and prepare a set of questions to stimulate discussion about the episode. Study group members will listen to the 50-60 minute episode in advance of the class session, prepare note-level responses to the discussion questions, and participate actively in the discussion. Join us as we discuss episodes like some of our favorites: “Why Do Your Eyeglasses Cost \$1,000?,” “Why Don’t We Have Better Candidates for President?,” and “What Does Glenn Loury Think About Reparations?”



## From Page to Stage— Four Operas and their Literary Sources

CREATIVE ARTS

*Roger Parfitt, Bob Jenkins*  
 Tuesday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

Does great source material make for a great opera? Let’s find out! Join us as we discuss four operas based on well-known literary sources. The chosen operas with corresponding literary sources will be: Mozart’s *The Marriage of Figaro* (1786), based on a play by Beaumarchais; Tchaikovsky’s *Eugene Onegin* (1879), based on a prose poem by Pushkin; Verdi’s *Othello* (1887), based on Shakespeare’s play; and Jake Heggie’s *Dead Man Walking* (2000), based on the non-fiction book by Sister Helen Prejean. No opera knowledge required—just bring your sense of exploration, a willingness to listen to the words and the music, and an interest in sampling the original sources of these very different operas. We will watch high quality videos of each opera utilizing the Met on Demand service, which will require a \$15 one-month subscription. For each session, we will read coordinator-provided excerpts from the original source of that week’s opera and watch the operas in advance. We look forward to members sharing their comparisons, enthusiasms, and criticisms each opera and their sources.



## NEW

### The Experimental Films of Godfrey Reggio & Philip Glass: The Qatsi Trilogy & Beyond

CREATIVE ARTS

Joyce Salsburg, Valerie Maragos, Dave Coronna  
 Tuesday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

Not your typical movies, *The Qatsi Trilogy* is a series of non-narrative thought-provoking art films directed by Godfrey Reggio and scored by Philip Glass. *Koyaanisqatsi*, *Powaqqatsi* and *Naqoyqatsi* are named in part using the Hopi word for life—qatsi. Each film integrates stunning images, music, and ideas with juxtaposed scenes from natural, urban, and industrial landscapes to explore the complex relationships among humanity, technology, and nature. The honored retro cult classic *Koyaanisqatsi*, 1982 (Life Out Of Balance), pioneered a unique visual experience using slow-motion and time-lapse cinematography to create a multi-sensory experience using Hopi lyrics throughout the score. *Powaqqatsi*, 1988 (Life In Transition), was filmed in seven international locations and *Naqoyqatsi*, 2002 (Life as War), uses all stock footage with music by Yo Yo Ma. Our final week we will consider Reggio's most recent film *Once Within a Time* (2023) which premiered at the Museum of Modern Art in New York and was described as “a work of art.” We will watch the movies at home; all are available on streaming services for free or a small fee. Study group members will lead discussions on these unusual and thematically relevant films and delve into the decades long collaborative and experimental work of Reggio and Glass.



### Tuesday at the Movies

CREATIVE ARTS

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

She is tough, resilient, empathetic, and captivating. We will view and analyze how Julia Roberts brings these qualities to life on screen. An Academy Award winner for Best Actress, and with multiple nominations for other roles, Ms. Roberts is celebrated for her remarkable talent and versatility. We will watch her in: *Erin Brockovich* (Steven Soderbergh, 2000); *Steel Magnolias* (Herbert Ross, 1989); *My Best Friend's Wedding* (P.J. Hogan, 1997); and *Pretty Woman* (Gary Marshall, 1990). Each movie allows us to compare her diverse acting abilities as well as how each director collaborates with her to showcase her talent. We will view each week's movie in advance. Participants obtain the movies on their own, which can usually be found through Amazon, Netflix, Apple TV+, and other streaming services. Study group members volunteer to present each movie. A common theme in this multi-year study group is: movies improve after seeing them again (and again) and engaging in stimulating discussions. Weekly presenters are key to making this happen.



## NEW

### Philip K. Dick Goes to the Movies

LITERATURE

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

Philip K Dick (1928–1982), a member of the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, was a prolific writer renowned for his incredible imagination. Hollywood took notice and turned many of his novels and short stories into movies and TV shows. In this study group we will read four of his short stories and view the subsequent movies that they spawned. The movies covered will be *Minority Report* (2002), *Total Recall* (1990), *The Adjustment Bureau* (2011), and *Paycheck* (2003). The movies can be rented from the usual sources. The short stories will be provided.



**NEW**

**Tell Me Everything**

LITERATURE

Lisa Oberman

Tuesday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

“What does anyone’s life mean?” Elizabeth Strout explores the answer to this existential question in her newest novel *Tell Me Everything* (Random House, 2024). Study group members who are familiar with Strout’s previous novels such as *Olive Kitteridge*, *Lucy By the Sea*, and *Oh William!* will enjoy checking in on her recurring and interconnected characters’ lives. However, Strout’s newest novel stands firmly on its own. In this, her 10th book, Strout returns to the town of Crosby, Maine and its beloved cast of characters as they deal with a shocking crime in their community, fall in and out of love, and wrestle with life’s questions. Strout’s latest dispatch from her home state is a beautiful testament to the power of love, friendship, and our never-ending desire to be recognized and seen by others. Study group members will have multiple opportunities to lead and participate in our discussion of this wonderful novel. Join us.



**WEDNESDAY VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS** BEGINS JANUARY 22, 2025

**Foreign Affairs**

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Gary Benz, Gene Mackevich, Jim Perlow

Wednesday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Participants in this study group love to read and desire to learn about the countries of the world through their interactions with one another. To encourage and attract people who have inquisitive minds and are serious about learning and exchanging ideas, we offer a 4-week winter session. Try us out. We take pride in being inclusive and not intimidating by conducting a welcoming study group that tolerates 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 do not 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 pursuing this goal, we create our own “think tank” and try to resolve problems and world issues.



**NEW**

**The Rise of the Religious Nones**

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Steven Barrigar, Steve VanderVoort

Wednesday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Explore and discuss with us the reasons people are leaving organized religions. Americans who do not affiliate with a religious group call themselves atheists, agnostics, humanists, skeptics, and freethinkers. Sometimes they are called “nones,” based on the box they checked on a survey identifying their religion. And sometimes they call themselves Jewish, Christian, Muslim, or Buddhist. Polls show a rapid increase in “religious nones.” The phenomenon is occurring not only in the United States but around the world. Our sources to tackle this topic include the book *100 Questions and Answers About the Religiously Unaffiliated: Nones, Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, Freethinkers, Secularists and Skeptics* (The Michigan State University School of Journalism, 2024). We will supplement the book with news articles and polls from Gallup, Pew, and AP-NORC.



## Creative Writing Workshop

CREATIVE ARTS

Ron Denham, Bob Jenkins, Arthur Altman  
Wednesday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.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 words, knowledge, humor, tears, fears, desires, perspectives, and wisdom.



### NEW

## O. Henry: Short Stories with a Twist

LITERATURE

Margot Wallace, Jeffery Semel  
Wednesday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

O. Henry, a master storyteller, was famed for crafting short stories with his signature surprise twist. Since 1919, his name has graced a prestigious literary award, honoring his unique style. Leading up to the unexpected endings are vignettes of life's realities, told with humor and human kindness. O. Henry writes of early 20th century America through the journalist's eye for detail and personalities. We'll discuss his locales, ingenious plots, and characters that interact in idiosyncratic ways; and then tie them together in those endings. We read two to three stories a week; they're short and all are available in one book, *The Best Short Stories of O. Henry* (Modern Library 1994, paperback Embassy Books, 2017) available from Amazon. Join us for the strange turns life takes.



### NEW

## Victorians Meet Dinosaurs

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH

Brenda Russell, Gordon Mallett  
Wednesday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Entertaining and erudite, *Dinosaurs at the Dinner Party* by celebrated storyteller and historian Edward Dolnick (Scribner, 2024) features an unconventional cast of characters. The book tells how the accidental discovery of prehistoric creatures' bones in the English countryside upended humanity's understanding of the world and our place in it. It then explores how a group of paleontologists worked to bring everything back into focus. Join us on this historical adventure with eccentric Victorians who, by following their own needs and curiosities, made unexpected discoveries with far-reaching consequences. Study group members are encouraged to actively participate in discussions and volunteer to lead a session.



## Articles from the Sunday New York Times

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Mitchell Harrison, Hilmon Sorey  
Wednesday, 1:15p.m.-3:15p.m.

*The New York Times* is one of the world's greatest newspapers covering a wide range of events. Today, it has some of the greatest writers and photographers who cover the news all over the world. We are living in extraordinary times and the articles of this paper shed light on everything from climate change, foreign and domestic political strife, to bold technological innovations. Together we take a deep dive into "All The News That's Fit To Print." Study group members choose four articles from the previous *Sunday New York Times* for discussion the following week. The conversations we have are enlightening, provocative, interesting, and fun. A subscription to the online or printed paper is required.



### NEW

## How to Succeed at Failing

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Janet Jablon, Maureen Shayman  
Wednesday, 1:15p.m.-3:15p.m.

Failure is inevitable. The scholars, entrepreneurs, artists, and athletes we most admire all faced disheartening setbacks on the road to success. Using the lens of Stephen Dubner's four-part Freakonomics podcast "How to Succeed at Failing," our study group will examine how we cope with failure, how we learn from it, how we prevent it, and how we may even embrace it. Dubner is an American author, journalist, podcaster, and radio host. He is also co-author of the popular Freakonomics book series: *Freakonomics*, *SuperFreakonomics*, *Think Like a Freak*, and *When to Rob a Bank*. We will supplement our listening with related Freakonomics podcasts and selected listening from Tim Harford's "Cautionary Tales" podcast. Harford is an economist, author and columnist for *The Financial Times*. Each week we will listen to two 50-60 minute podcasts prior to meeting. Study group members will be encouraged to draw on personal experience and real world case histories to add depth to our discussions.



### NEW

## For the Love of (Even More) Art: Four Weeks. Eight Artists

CREATIVE ARTS

Dorothy Balabanos, Tim Atkins  
Wednesday, 1:15p.m.-3:15p.m.

Did you know that just viewing art enhances brain function? Do you feel that you do not know enough about art to really understand and appreciate it? Then join us as we explore the work of eight artists we love, and learn how to view art for greater appreciation and impact. The artists include Georgia O'Keeffe, Kehinde Wiley, Joan Mitchell, Joan Miro, Frida Kahlo, and Thomas Cole. Each week, we will dive into the work of two artists often featured at the Art Institute of Chicago, with an optional field trip to view some of their work close up and with greater knowledge. We will provide simple yet effective techniques for viewing art as an expert. As a bonus, study group members can share the artwork of artists they love in a 30-minute post-study group session. Spend four wintry afternoons with us as we learn about art from one another.



**NEW**

**O Coen Brothers, Where Art Thou?**

**CREATIVE ARTS**

*Jim Gecker, Jim Burns*

Wednesday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

Forty years after brothers Joel and Ethan Coen burst onto the cinema scene with *Blood Simple*, they are now among America’s most acclaimed filmmakers. In a six-year creative burst, from 1994 to 2000, the Coen brothers wrote, directed, and produced four remarkable comedies, each a mash-up of familiar Hollywood genres. Join us as we discuss these indelible films, focusing on their cinematic elements—the script, themes, direction, cinematography, acting, music—and how the Coens revamped movie genres to create comic masterworks. The films, which you will watch before class on a streaming service or DVD, are *The Hudsucker Proxy* (1994), *Fargo* (1996), *The Big Lebowski* (1998), and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (2000). To enhance and focus our discussions, we will post and email film reviews, articles, and discussion questions.



**NEW**

**When Books Went To War**

**HISTORY & GOVERNMENT**

*Lisa Oberman, Fred Gleave*

Wednesday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

When America entered World War II in 1941, it faced an enemy that had banned and burned 100 million books. Outraged librarians launched a campaign to send free books to American troops, gathering 20 million hardcover donations. Two years later, the War Department and the publishing industry stepped in with an extraordinary program: 120 million specially printed paperbacks designed for troops to carry through the war in their pockets and rucksacks. This pioneering project not only lifted soldiers’ spirits, but also helped rescue *The Great Gatsby* from obscurity and made Betty Smith, author of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, into a national icon. In this study group we will read and discuss the book *When Books Went To War; The Stories that Helped Us Win World War II* by Molly Guptill Manning (Mariner Books, 2015), an account of the amazing effort to entertain, educate, and support our troops during wartime. Study group members will have multiple opportunities to lead and participate in discussion. Join us as we explore this little known slice of World War II history.



**THURSDAY VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS** **BEGINS JANUARY 23, 2025**

**NEW**

**In the Voice of the Neighborhood:  
Exploring Gwendolyn Brooks’ Poetic Legacy**

**CREATIVE ARTS**

*Judith Myers, Lucia Luckett-Kelly, Dorthea Juul*

Thursday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Gwendolyn Brooks was the first Black writer to receive a Pulitzer Prize. She was the first Black woman to be appointed a Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress. From her home in the Bronzeville neighborhood of Chicago, she wrote hundreds of poems and a novel that reflected the hardships and the realities of the everyday lives of her neighbors. She developed associations with other Black writers like Langston Hughes and Richard Wright. Through our weekly discussions, we will explore her poetry beyond her most popular poem “We Real Cool” and learn about the impact of the Civil Rights Movement and the Black Arts Movement on her writing and her personal identity. We will explore how her legacy has grown and continues to influence young poets writing today. We will use websites, articles, videos, audio recordings, and other online resources to learn about this remarkable woman whose work was described by Richard Wright as “raw and real.”



## NEW

## Sean Connery: James Bond and More

CREATIVE ARTS

Tim Atkins, Barbara Leff

Thursday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

While Sean Connery is best known for his iconic film role as James Bond, in fact he has portrayed a wide range of characters during his long career. We will examine four of his best films and discuss what makes them so memorable, including casting, directors, film scores, script, and cinematography. First up, and considered one of the best of the Bond series, is *From Russia with Love* (1964, Terence Young), starring Robert Shaw and Connery in his second portrayal of Bond. Next is *The Man Who Would Be King* (1975, John Huston), starring Connery and Michael Caine, based on the Rudyard Kipling story of two adventurers in India while it was under British rule. *The Untouchables* (1987, Brian De Palma), memorably filmed in Chicago and starring Connery, Kevin Costner, and Robert de Niro, is a fast-moving crime drama following Eliot Ness and his Untouchables team as they bring Al Capone to justice during Prohibition. Connery received his only Oscar, for Best Supporting Actor, for his role in this film. Lastly, we will view *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* (1989, Steven Spielberg), featuring Connery as the father of Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford). Join us for this Connery retrospective!



## The Caldecott Award—which books will be honored this year?

LITERATURE

George Sullivan, Mary Watt, Jeff Voltz

Thursday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m. (Meets January 16–February 6)

Each January, the American Library Association awards the Caldecott Medal to the artist of the previous year's most distinguished American picture book for children. Named in honor of 19th-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott, this award is considered the most prestigious in the world of children's illustrated literature. In this study group, we will explore the history of the Caldecott Award and dive into recent winners. From a curated list, we will also examine potential 2024 contenders, focusing on their authors, illustrators, and what makes them stand out. Once the winners and honorable mentions are announced, we will discuss what set them apart and explore the qualities that led to their selection. Participants will gain insight into current trends in children's literature and reflect on how these award-winning books offer readers both a window into the world and a mirror to their own lives. Presenters are encouraged to use videos and digital resources to enrich the discussion. Join us for a deep dive into the magic of illustrated children's books. **Note:** this study group will begin and end 1 week early (January 16–February 6).



## Why is Haruki Murakami an international bestseller?

LITERATURE

Dory Rand, Michael Goodkind

Thursday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Why is Japanese author Haruki Murakami an international bestselling author? With dozens of fiction and nonfiction books translated into over 50 languages and several of his stories made into movies, there must be something special about his writing. We will attempt to answer that question by reading and discussing his latest magical realism fiction novel: *The City and its Uncertain Walls* (Knopf, 2024). The book is 464 pages, so we will read and discuss about 116 pages per week. It will be available in hard copy and paperback on November 19, 2024, the US release date. You need not be familiar with Murakami or a “Harukist” (big fan) like Dory to enjoy this study group!



**NEW**

## A Brief History of the Earth

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE &amp; HEALTH

Jerry Bernstein, Michael Ryan  
 Thursday, 9:45a.m.–11:45a.m.

Harvard Geologist Andrew Knoll will lead us on a journey through the history of the earth from its beginning as a disc of dust and gasses to the earth as it is today, home to a diverse array of biological beings. Our text for this study group is *A Brief History of the Earth: Four Billion Years in Eight Chapters* by Andrew Knoll (Mariner Books, 2023). The book is accessibly written for both the non-scientist and the scientifically inclined. Knoll's chapters cover the entire history of the physical, chemical, biologic, catastrophic, and human-influenced earth. In the last chapter, Knoll connects this long history of the earth to current debates on climate change. Please join us on this field trip of understanding where we have been and where we are going.



## The Economist

CONTEMPORARY AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Jennifer Gainer, Mark Goldberg, Elliott Hartstein  
 Thursday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.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 specific issues of current interest. This long-running study group is always looking for new members interested in current events who can enrich our discussions. While normally each participant is encouraged to lead or co-lead a weekly discussion, for the Winter Semester we need just one participant in addition to the three coordinators to lead. This involves selecting 8–12 articles from the current weekly issue and developing the questions needed to get lively conversations started. Given the uncertainty of the mail, a digital subscription to *The Economist* is highly encouraged. Information on subscriptions is available at [subscribenow.economist.com](http://subscribenow.economist.com).


**NEW**

## A Quick Look at Flannery O'Connor on Her Centenary

LITERATURE

Abe Brustein, John Drodow, Bob Jenkins  
 Thursday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

By the time Flannery O'Connor died in 1964 at age 39, she had established herself as one of America's most gifted short story writers. O'Connor also authored two novels and was a prolific essayist and letter writer. Sixty years on, her reputation remains undiminished. O'Connor spent most of her adult life suffering from chronic illness, living with her mother on the family farm in rural Georgia. In her own words, her daily life was lived “between the kitchen and the chicken coop.” Writing in a distinctly southern idiom known as Southern Gothic, her stories describe the lives of ordinary people living in the rural South. Her world view and writing were shaped by her southern roots and her deep religious convictions. Our study group will focus on O'Connor's short stories in *The Complete Stories* (FSG Classics, 1971), winner of the National Book Award. One week will be devoted to a discussion of *Wildcat*, Ethan Hawke's 2024 biopic. A portion of one week's discussion may be devoted to a selection of O'Connor's correspondence, to be provided by the coordinators. This quick look may lead study group members to take a deeper dive into Flannery O'Connor's world.



**NEW**

**Stranger in a Strange Land: Colm Toibin’s *Brooklyn***

LITERATURE

*Julie W. Johnson, Michael Singer*  
Thursday, 1:15p.m.–3:15p.m.

The immigrant novel is an American staple. In 2009, acclaimed Irish writer Colm Toibin produced *Brooklyn* (New York: Scribner, 2009), a lovely novel about a young Irish woman’s arrival in New York City in the wake of World War II. A priest has offered to sponsor Eilis Lacey’s voyage to America, and she has reluctantly accepted his offer, knowing that if she remains in her small home town, nothing much awaits her except poverty and early marriage. Toibin writes in the best tradition of Irish writers (think Joyce, think Claire Keegan), rendering up Eilis’s experiences and yearnings in language both rich and spare. As the *New Yorker* magazine reviewer put it, “Purging the immigrant novel of all swagger and sentimentality, Toibin leaves us with a renewed understanding that to emigrate is to become a foreigner in two places at once.” In 2015, the novel was made into a fine film, *Brooklyn*, directed by John Crowley from a screenplay by novelist Nick Hornby. We will incorporate the film into the final week’s discussion. Do join us in the study of a great Irish novel.



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

CREATIVE ARTS

*Trish Ronan, Barry Blitzsten, Suraleah Michaels, Tim Atkins*  
Thursday, 4:00p.m.–5:30p.m. (Meets January 30 and February 13)

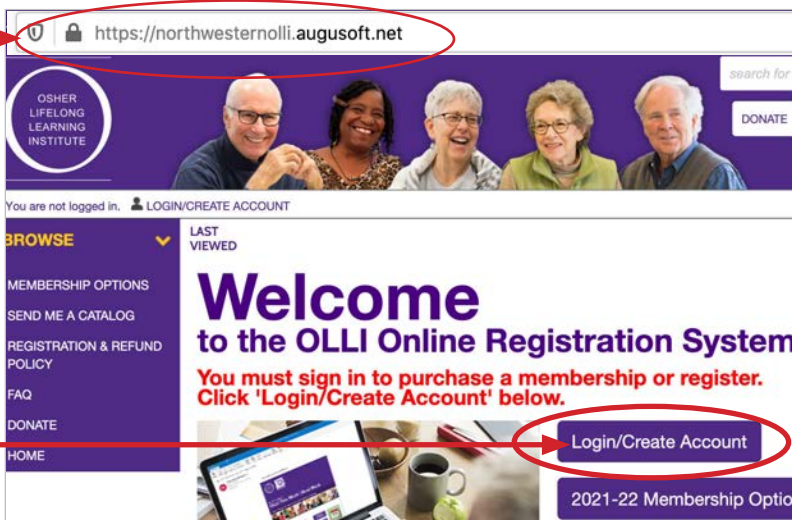
If you like discussing and analyzing contemporary movies, this bonus group is for you. For each of our two sessions, members will view the movies at home. Discussion questions will then be posted, and each participant will watch the movie a second time at home, considering the discussion questions. We will discuss the movie and the questions at our group session. Our emphasis will be on how the story is told using the techniques of film-making. Members may register for only one of the two Let’s Talk About the Movies Bonus Groups. The group will meet on Thursday, January 30 and Thursday, February 13, 2025. The movies we will discuss are: *The Crime is Mine* (François Ozon, 2023) and *Lee* (Ellen Kuras, 2024).



# HOW TO PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTER FOR STUDY GROUPS

If you participated in OLLI during the Fall 2024 term you do not need to purchase a winter membership.

- Go to the OLLI Online Registration System (Augusoft) which can be accessed at: <https://northwesternolli.augusoft.net>



- 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 pull-down 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, 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](mailto:olli@northwestern.edu).

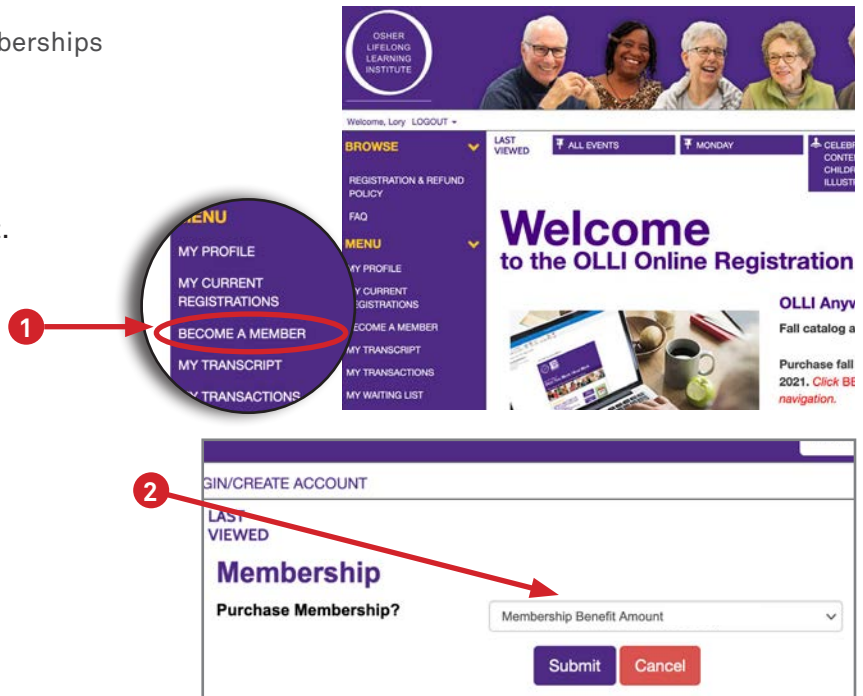
New Members who have created a profile and Existing Members who have signed in can now continue to **Purchase Membership**—instructions on next page.

# HOW TO PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTER FOR STUDY GROUPS

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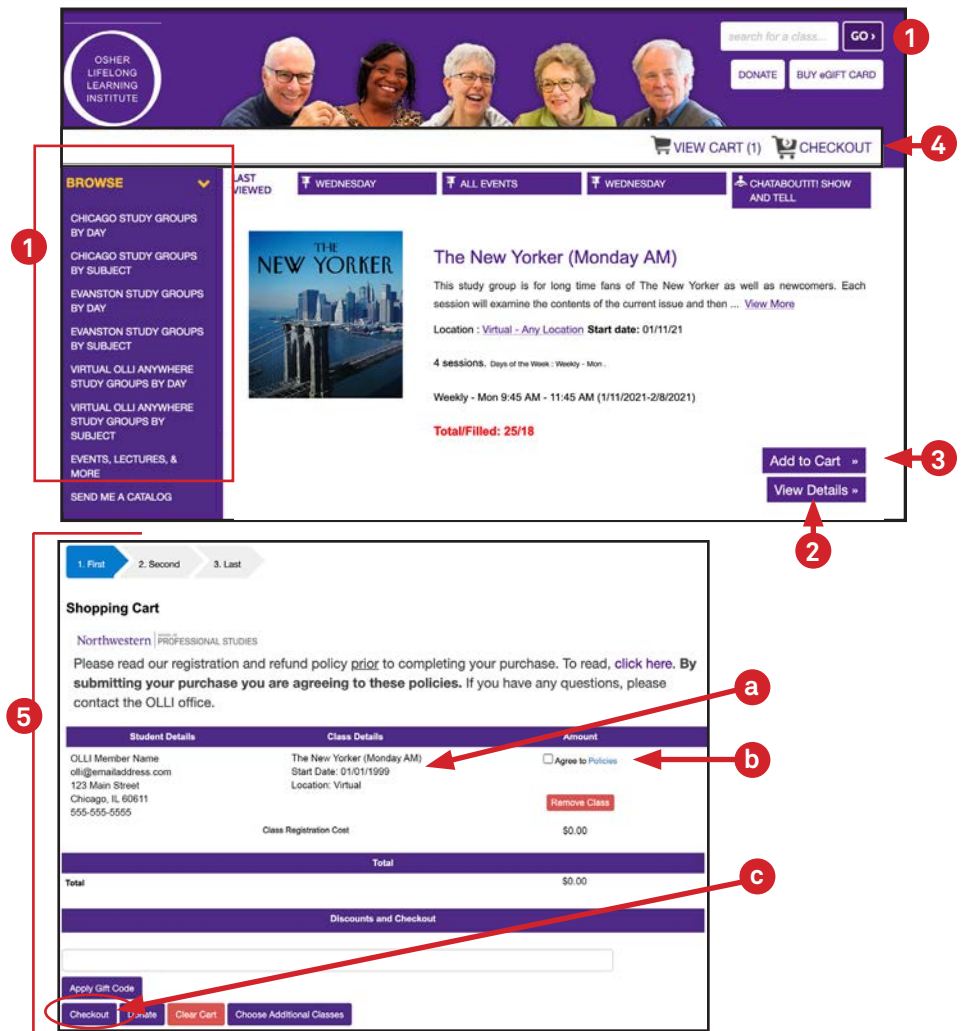
Winter Trial Memberships and Winter Only Memberships are available for purchase.

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 drop-down 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 December 16):

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**.
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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.**

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Laurie Rose\*\*  
James Roselle\*\*  
Debra Rosenberg  
Mark Rosenberg  
Thomas Ross  
Lisa Ruder  
Kathleen Ruhl  
Ann and Ray Rusnak\*\*  
Brenda Russell and  
Jack Cooksey\*\*

Tom Ryan  
Nick Sack\*  
Patricia Sack  
Kathy Sackheim  
Nancy Sacks  
Joyce Salsburg\*\*  
Sheena Sanny  
Barry Schaye  
Margaret Schilt  
Joanne Schochat  
Nanette Schonberg  
Heidi Schultz\*  
Joy Schwabach  
Benjamin Schwartz\*\*  
Jean Schwartz\*  
Barbara Sciacchitano  
Jesse Scott  
Madelyn Seckler  
Susan Seiden\*\*  
Linda and Jeffery Semel  
Mary Sferruzza  
Bob Shaevel  
Evelyn Shaevel\*  
Arlene Shafon\*  
Lois Siegel  
Vicki Siegelman  
Michael Silverman  
Lynne and George Simon\*\*  
Michael Singer\*\*  
Sue Singh  
Jim Smith  
Beverly Snell

Joan Solbeck\*  
Ed Sommer\*  
Marshall Sparberg\*\*  
Donna Spicuzza  
Joy Springer  
Judith and Dick Spurgin\*  
Denise Stauder  
Frances and Charles  
Steinberg\*  
Bob Steiner  
Ann Stelmach  
Philip Steptoe  
Sara Stewart  
Debby Strauss  
Richard Stuckey  
Ed Sturrus\*  
Richard Sullivan\*\*  
Stephen Sullivan  
Nancy and Tom  
Swanstrom\*\*  
Joseph Swartz  
Jeff Swinson  
Lois Taft  
Howard Tanzman  
Robert Taubenheim  
Elaine Ruth Taylor  
Hank Trenkle  
Judy Trombley and  
Marc Ungar\*  
Dorothy Turek and  
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Stephen VanderVoort  
Sarah Vanderwicken  
Sue Walker\*  
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Susan Walsh and  
Alan Cohen\*\*  
Frieda Walter  
Dale and John Walters\*  
Ron Wanke  
Katie Ward  
April Ware\*  
Mary Watt\*  
Barry Weber\*\*  
David Weinberger\*\*  
Joel Weiss  
Eric Weitz  
Fred Wellisch  
Julie West Johnson  
David Whitney\*\*  
Thomas Williamson  
Bernie Wilson\*\*  
Rex Wilson  
Doris Wineman  
Larry Winer\*\*  
Laura Wunderink\*  
Barbara Yates Slivnick  
Ken Yoshitani\*\*  
Veronica Zalewski  
Marylyn Zax Miller  
Hrisey Zegger  
Mary Zirul

### In Memory of:

**Newton Minow**  
Kenneth Goldstein

### In Honor of:

**Dennis Carlin**  
Greg Carlin\*\*  
**Cecilia Trudeau**  
Emilie Johnson  
Amanda Williams

### Other Donors

The Berghorst  
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Mark Dalgaard  
Edward Davis\*  
Ramu Kaladi  
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Sarah O'Brien  
Erin Po  
Joseph Roque  
Dream Shaw  
Sherri Sugarman  
Patricia Thrash\*

Donations February 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024

\*indicates lead donor of \$250 or more, \*\* indicates advanced donor of \$500 or more

## OLLI AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY MEMBER FUND



# Creating a Culture of Giving

Donate Today!



**OLLI's Culture of Giving** means that every member is encouraged to give of their time, talents, and dollars. Our goal is 100% participation.

Contributing to the OLLI Member Fund has a direct impact on your personal experience. All gifts are used exclusively for OLLI NU strategic priorities such as:

- Enhanced academic enrichment opportunities: special programs and guest speakers
- Acoustic improvements, hearing assistance devices, and sound transmission systems to provide better accessibility for all members.
- Increased diversity and outreach activities
- Need-based scholarships



[Scan the QR code](#)  
or [click here to give to the OLLI NU Member Fund](#)

**Your contribution—at any level—demonstrates your commitment to and appreciation for OLLI.**



# 2024–2025 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2024

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

OCTOBER 2024

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

NOVEMBER 2024

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

DECEMBER 2024

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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

JANUARY 2025

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

FEBRUARY 2025

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| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |

MARCH 2025

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| 2        | 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9        | 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16       | 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23<br>30 | 24<br>31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

APRIL 2025

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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

MAY 2025

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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

JUNE 2025

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

JULY 2025

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

AUGUST 2025

| S        | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24<br>31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

**OLLI session dates and registration periods:**

**Fall Session:**

14 Weeks, September 3–December 9, 2024  
Registration August 5–August 19, 2024

**Winter Session (all virtual):**

4 Weeks, January 21–February 17, 2025  
Registration December 16, 2024–January 3, 2025

**Spring Session:**

14 weeks, March 3–June 9, 2025  
Registration February 3–February 17, 2025

**Summer Session:**

4 Weeks, July 7–August 1, 2025  
Registration June 9–June 23, 2025

**Break between sessions**

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

- Monday, September 2, 2024
- Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29, 2024
- Tuesday, December 24, 2024 through Wednesday, January 1, 2025
- Monday, January 20, 2025
- Monday, May 26, 2025
- Thursday, June 19, 2025
- Friday, July 4, 2025

# 2024–2025 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## 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.

## 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.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.

# OLLI MEMBER/STUDENT CONDUCT RULES AND PROCESSES

*Adapted from SPS Rules and Regulations of Student Conduct. All students are subject to applicable Northwestern University-enacted policies and standards.*

Students admitted into the Northwestern University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Program (OLLI), offered through the School of Professional Studies (SPS), are SPS students taking non-credit courses in peer-led, discussion format.

OLLI students are subject to the following student conduct policies, rules and processes from the time of a student's registration for OLLI courses throughout participation in the OLLI community. These policies extend to student interaction with each other and with Northwestern staff and faculty, in and outside of the classroom.

**Community Expectations:** All OLLI students, as members of the Northwestern and SPS community, are expected to conduct themselves maturely and exemplify behavior consistent with Northwestern community standards. Northwestern students are expected to not only excel in the classroom but to engage in socially responsible behavior and to model exceptional conduct, character, and citizenship in class and beyond. All members of the Northwestern community are expected to engage with each other with respect and consideration. All students are expected to be respectful of OLLI and SPS staff time and resources.

**Classroom Expectations:** All course participants are expected to behave in a manner conducive to a successful and enjoyable learning experience. Sometimes, relatively harmless things can affect the classroom dynamic; for example, some students are so eager to participate that they unintentionally dominate class. Students must think about their role in class as an individual student but also as an integral part of a group experience. Some disruptions are of a more serious nature and cannot be tolerated.

**Prohibited Conduct:** All OLLI students are subject to applicable University-enacted policies and standards including but not limited to those in the Northwestern University Student Handbook. Any violation of these policies or assisting or encouraging others in the violation of these policies, may lead to student conduct action, including sanctions.

Prohibited and restricted conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Endangering self or others, including but not limited to the physical, psychological/emotional well-being of any person
- Interfering with the learning of others, including but not limited to in-person behavior, online behavior or use of University resources or systems to interfere with the work of another student, a faculty member, or a University staff member, or that otherwise interferes with normal operation of University systems or processes
- Acts of fraud, misrepresentation, or dishonesty including misuse of University documents or knowingly furnishing false information to the University
- Acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination and/or harassment
- Failure to comply to the reasonable request or instruction of a university staff member or emergency personnel acting in an official capacity

**Scope of Conduct:** OLLI students are subject to SPS Conduct Policies and applicable University-enacted policies found in The Northwestern Student Handbook. Conduct processes are adapted to the parameters dictated by offering peer-led non-credit programming. Northwestern and SPS reserve the right to review and resolve reports of alleged misconduct occurring from the time of a student's OLLI course registration throughout their time being a member of the OLLI community.

## OLLI MEMBER/STUDENT CONDUCT RULES AND PROCESSES, CONT.

**Student Conduct Process:** All alleged violations of conduct by OLLI students will be reviewed by the program director to determine next steps. Options include, but are not limited to:

- close the case due to insufficient information
- resolution of case by OLLI director
- refer case to Northwestern University's Office of Community Standards, Office of Civil Rights and Title IX Compliance, and/or other appropriate University office or unit. *Per Northwestern's reporting obligations, all allegations of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual harassment), discrimination based on a protected category, and harassment based on a protected category are referred to the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX Compliance.*

The director will consider whether interim action is appropriate when notice of an alleged violation is received.

**Notification:** When a conduct violation allegation is determined to move forward, the OLLI student involved (respondent) is notified via correspondence by OLLI leadership. Notification will typically include a brief description of the alleged misconduct, including the time, date and place the incident allegedly occurred, and a list of any University policies allegedly violated. The notification letter will include a request for a written response to the allegations within a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed two weeks of receipt.

**Standard of Evidence:** Northwestern University Office of Student Conduct and SPS use the preponderance of the evidence standard in reviews. This means that the conduct administrator(s), determine *more likely than not* what occurred.

**Participation:** The University expects students to participate promptly and fully in all aspects of the student conduct process. If a student elects not to participate in any part of the process, the case may proceed without the respondent's participation. Respondents may be held accountable for any outcomes issued, even if they fail to participate.

**Determination of Responsibility, Notification and Sanctions:** Outcomes determined by SPS will be communicated in writing in a reasonable timeframe following student written response receipt, or following the deadline provided for response. The Outcome Notification letter will be added to the student academic record. Using preponderance of the evidence standard, OLLI leadership will determine whether the respondent is responsible for the alleged policy violation and, if so, will issue appropriate sanctions, from warning to program dismissal at sole discretion of program director.

SPS reserves the right to take appropriate action for violations of this policy or other applicable University policies, up to and including dismissal of an OLLI student from the program.

**Reports of alleged bias or hate-related incidents** can be reported to the Bias Incident Response Team.

Information on filing reports can be found on the web page:

<https://www.northwestern.edu/inclusion/respectnu/incident-report.html>.

The Northwestern University Student Handbook can be viewed at:

[sps.northwestern.edu/student-handbook](https://sps.northwestern.edu/student-handbook)

# 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)  
OLLI staff work remotely during the winter term.

## OLLI Contact Information

**EMAIL:** [olli@northwestern.edu](mailto:olli@northwestern.edu)

## OLLI HELP DESK:

<https://spsolli.sps.northwestern.edu/>

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## Intercampus Shuttle

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

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## NU Libraries

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

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## Wildcards

Wildcards are only issued before the fall semester and only to OLLI members who purchased a **full academic year membership**. 2024-2025 Academic Year Wildcards are valid through September, 2025.

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.

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## Wildcard ID Discounts

[wildcardadv.northwestern.edu](http://wildcardadv.northwestern.edu)

**PHONE:** 847-491-7658

**EMAIL:** [library@northwestern.edu](mailto:library@northwestern.edu)

**GUIDES:** [libguides.northwestern.edu/OLLI\\_libguide](http://libguides.northwestern.edu/OLLI_libguide)

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## University Police

**EVANSTON:** 847-491-3254

**CHICAGO:** 312-503-8314

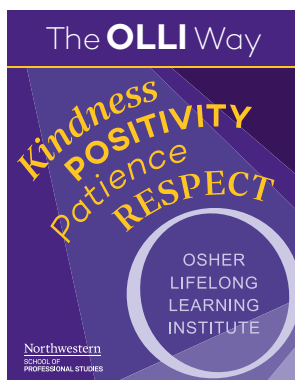
**EMERGENCY:** 911

[northwestern.edu/up](http://northwestern.edu/up)

**LIBRARIAN:** Tracy Coyne

[tracy-coyne@northwestern.edu](mailto:tracy-coyne@northwestern.edu)

**WEBSITE:** [library.northwestern.edu](http://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.