



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Life-Enriching Education for Adults 50+

Summer 2025 Catalog Your Community Learning Oasis

50+ Classes, Field Trips & Social Events
In Tucson & Online: 6 Weeks - May 13 to June 20



Fuel Your Mind & Have Some Fun

Welcome to OLLI-UA Summer 2025!

This summer we are excited to offer **in-person classes** at our Central Tucson campus and **online classes** hosted on Zoom, in addition to a variety of social events.

If you are considering joining OLLI-UA for the first time, summer session is a great way to get a taste of the programming we offer year-round and will hopefully encourage you to join us as an annual member for the new fiscal year: July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

Summer Session Overview

- **Summer is 6 weeks from May 13 to June 20**
- There are 50+ offerings across OLLI-UA including social events and more dining out options to be announced.
- Central Tucson classes are on Tuesday and Wednesday
- Online classes are Tuesday through Friday

Registration

- **Priority Request Registration (PRR) ends Tuesday, April 15** and runs Wednesday, April 16.
- Registration confirmation emails will be sent after PRR runs on the 16th.
- **Open Registration begins after PRR runs on Wednesday, April 16.** During open registration you can continue to add (and drop) classes first come, first serve throughout the term.

What's Priority Request Registration (PRR)?

PRR is a stress-free pre-registration process that allows you to prioritize and request the classes you most want to attend. At the end of PRR, our registration system officially enrolls members in classes, filling each seat based on the priority of the request. This is helpful for classes with limited capacities that fill quickly. **It is important to give small capacity classes a higher priority if they are important to you.** If a class is filled, a waiting list is started and ordered by the next priority assigned. More details on this process and our registration planner materials can be found on our website: olli.arizona.edu.

Memberships

What you can register for depends on the membership you purchase. Summer session is open to our existing Spring and Annual members. **If you are not a current member, OLLI-UA offers an \$85 summer membership option, and it is a great way to get a taste of OLLI-UA.**

The **Annual All OLLI / Central Tucson Campus (CT) Membership** OR the **\$85 All OLLI Summer Membership** allows you to register for ALL classes across OLLI-UA through June 30, 2025.

The **Green Valley / Online Membership** allows you to register for online classes through June 30, 2025. (Central Tucson classes are not included with this membership).

Complete membership purchase details can be found at olli.arizona.edu along with information on available financial assistance.



Central Tucson Campus



The [Central Tucson campus](#) is located at [4485 N 1st Avenue, Tucson AZ](#), on the NW corner of 1st Avenue and Wetmore Road. The facility includes three large classrooms, a member lounge with coffee service for eating or just gathering, and ample parking. The Saguaro and Ocotillo classrooms are hearing loop enabled.

Online Classes



[Online classes](#) are hosted using Zoom. Online offers the convenience of taking classes from anywhere, year-round – even from the comfort of home. Online expands class offerings as instructors can also teach from anywhere.

Volunteer Opportunities

As a member-run, volunteer-led organization, OLLI-UA is dependent on our members stepping up to help in ways big and small. Please consider giving your time and expertise to OLLI-UA. It is also a great way to meet fellow members and develop lasting friendships! [Click here to explore current opportunities.](#)

Teach at OLLI-UA

Share your knowledge and expertise by teaching at OLLI-UA. We are currently accepting proposals for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. [Learn more at olli-arizona.edu](#)

Planning Tools

Keep in mind all offerings are subject to change. See our website's [Class Catalogs](#) page for the latest information and additional class registration planners.

Clicking on the class titles in this catalog will take you to the OLLI-UA registration page for each class.

Need Help?

You can always email the office at ollimail@arizona.edu or call 520-626-9039, Mon – Fri, 9 AM to 4 PM

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Central Tucson Campus: In-Person Tuesdays

Hablando

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 20

Course Description

This is a class where the students and the SGL converse only in Spanish. This class is for students with at least an intermediate knowledge of Spanish. Students can choose some topics for conversation and activities for our conversations. YouTube videos, Spanish language music and in-class situations, where we pretend to be elsewhere, are some of the ways conversation is stimulated. This class also reviews different grammatical topics, and a student inspired vocabulary list is generated each week.

Instructor: Susan Sotelo

Susan Sotelo began her teaching career as a graduate student instructor (GAT) at the University of Arizona. After receiving an MA, she taught K-12 students. Then she returned to the University of Arizona and again taught in the basic language program. After receiving her PhD in Spanish Language Literature, she taught at Pima College. She also taught privately and tutored students. Then she took a job teaching for the Spanish Club in Sun City Vistoso in Oro Valley. This began her experience as a teacher of adult/senior students.

She has taught Spanish at OLLI Central Tucson since 2015.

No-Dharma Dharma as Explored by Shinran and Longchenpa

Subject Area: Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

There is a way to approach what is called “Dharma” (or “true reality”) that doesn’t involve effortful practices, and that has nothing to do with self-improvement. Two revolutionary thinkers from different times and places, Shinran (1173-1263, Japan) and Longchenpa (1308-1364, Tibet) explore this universal and immediately accessible territory from different directions and end up in the same placeless place. Their writings are paradoxical and counterintuitive, but also absolutely superficial in this sense: the plain meaning of their words is right there on the surface. Such a “No-Dharma Dharma” is, according to Shinran, “impossible to accept” because it’s just too simple and obvious (there’s the paradox). Also, it doesn’t compete with or contradict other teachings, religions, philosophies because it’s nonsectarian: there is no “-ism” or practice here (counterintuitive). In this class we will discuss this nondualistic and usually overlooked take on Mahayana and Dzogchen from an objective and open-minded standpoint. Obviously, people of all religious and nonreligious backgrounds and predispositions are welcome to attend and challenge these outrageous ideas. That’s the point of the class.

Instructor: John Veen

John Veen is a long-time participant in Maida Center (Berkeley, California) Dharma classes and retreats.

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He retired a few years ago from a career as a trade union representative and producer of working-class media projects.

[U.S. Border Patrol: Enforcement, Immigration and Citizenship From Plato to Trump](#)

Subject Area: Civic

Engagement/Community/Government, History/Current Events, Social Sciences

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

This class, led by a retired Border Patrol Agent, discusses how the ancients viewed "foreigners" and how that vision still holds today. Next, the discussion shifts to the modern era where the following topics are addressed:

Are we really a nation of immigrants? Born in the USA? Not so fast pardner! The advantages of a meritocratic immigration system for our citizens. Compassion and the limits of empathy. Use of (sometimes deadly) force in one of the most challenging law enforcement settings.

The study group leader will also highlight personal anecdotes from his time on the border to provide much needed context to our discussion.

Instructor: Christopher Montoya

Christopher is a retired Border Patrol agent and holds an M.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of Arizona.

[Beginning Knitting](#)

Subject Area: Crafts/Cooking

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

In Beginning Knitting, the first half, we will learn the basic stitches: How to Cast On (putting the stitches on the needle), Knit Stitch, Purl Stitch, Bind Off (how to stop). You will also learn some "Hints and Tricks" to make a perfect garment. The second half will be devoted to making a project, a scarf, a poncho or a short-sleeved tee. I do not provide materials. For the first half bring a ball of yarn and compatible sized needles for the yarn. I strongly suggest natural fibers, not acrylic or polyester! For needles I suggest circular needles. For your project we can discuss the fiber, amount, etc., in class. My emphasis is to teach in a therapeutic manner (will explain what this is in class!) Men are also invited to join the class, after all, men invented or created knitting!

Instructor: Kathe Haskell

Kathe Haskell has been a knitter since she was 4 years old. She had a yarn shop but briefly. She designed and created custom items and loves to teach! She is fascinated to notice how beneficial knitting is for neurological stimulation, how it helps with focus and concentration, dexterity, and is known to calm hand tremors and ease arthritis.

Pictures and Dates

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Tuesdays: 3 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 5/27/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

This class presents information dealing with major news events, top songs and singers, movies and movie celebrities, noteworthy politicians, and front-page news headlines. The class will identify the person or event in the picture and reveal the year. A summary of that year/date will be followed by an informational video clip.

Instructors: Arnie Bianco, Debbie Bianco

Arnie is a long time retired educator as a teacher, school principal and adjunct instructor at Chapman University, NAU, Brown Mackie College, and Brookline College. Arnie is an active OLLI member. He has been a teacher for a number of years and has done relationship workshops in more than 10 states. He is a published author who has always loved to teach. His wife is presently a teacher.

Debbie is an experienced teacher who teaches 5th grade at Castlehill School.

iPad Photos: Editing, Albums, Sharing, Picture Management

Subject Area: Arts/Culture, Science/Math/Technology

Tuesdays: Single Session 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 5/13/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 50

Course Description

Experienced iPad instructors will provide tutorials and helpful hints for the Photos app on your iPad. Bring your Apple iPad to class. All versions of the iPad are welcomed. They must be up-to-date with the latest iPadOS system and be fully charged.

We will demonstrate and practice editing methods, album best practices, image sharing, and more. We'll answer as many of your general and specific iPad Photos app questions as we can during class. We'll also include tips on how to get additional information and support on your own.

Instructors: John "Nemo" Nemerovski, Laura Couchman

Laura Couchman and John Nemo have been teaching iPad together for many years. We will bring our expertise to OLLI to help our members make the most of the Photos app on their amazing iPads.

Rum Punch by Elmore Leonard

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM **Start:** Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

No, he is not serving the beverage. Rum Punch is a crime fiction book written by Elmore Leonard. The book contains The Three M's: Murder, Mayhem, and Money.

Movie Tie-In: We will also be watching the movie Jackie Brown. The movie is based on the book Rum Punch. Directed by Quentin Tarantino. Starring Pam Grier, Robert DeNiro, Samuel L. Jackson, Bridget Fonda, and Robert Forrester.

Instructors: Edwin Holliday, Jennifer Black

Edwin is a Native Tucsonan. He attended local schools and served in the Army. He lived in various states, worked in hotels and sales. He enjoys

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reading, cooking, traveling, and socializing with family, friends, and cats. He has a background in local theater. Come share in his adventures.

Jennifer is a retired nurse (LPN). She worked in nursing homes for 10 years, and raised American Curls and Tonkinese cats.

[OLLI Talks: America's Longest War: 125 Years of the "Drug Wars"](#)

Subject Area: Arizona History/Culture, Civic Engagement/Community/Government, Health/Wellness, History/Current Events, Social Sciences

Tuesdays: Single Session 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 5/13/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

Speaker: Michael Schaller, UA Regents Professor of History Emeritus

Why Can't We Ever Win the War on Drugs? We've been at it for 125 years, and over the last 25 years alone over a million Americans—more than died in all the nation's wars—died from drug overdoses! For over a century, presidents and Congress launched successive "wars on drugs." These include the Harrison Narcotic Act of 1914 and the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937 to President Trump's calls for walls, tariffs and perhaps missile strikes against Mexico. To better understand the history, and present efforts at winning the drug wars, please join us to hear UA Regents Professor of History Emeritus Michael Schaller for a very stimulating and provocative historical perspective on America's endless war on drugs. Michael is a nationally known scholar of American history who has won teaching awards and authored many books, including Ronald

Reagan (Oxford University Press, 2011) and American Horizons: U.S. History in a Global Context (Oxford University Press, 5th ed. 2025). Arizona is a border state, and it's imperative that we learn as much as we can about the history of the war on drugs. And for that, there is no better place to begin than by attending this talk, asking questions, and joining a robust discussion about our failure to get it under control. Finally let me say Michael is a very dynamic and entertaining speaker; I know you won't want to miss his talk.

Instructor: Al Bergesen

Al Bergesen is an emeritus professor of sociology at UA with a wide range of interests and passions, who teaches classes and organizes field trips for OLLI.

[Being, Becoming, Belonging: Enriching/Rewarding Women's Support Group](#)

Subject Area: DIY/Self-Help

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 10

Course Description

This group is a safe haven and cozy spot to share with each other. A beautiful container is created where we can just be ourselves, be vulnerable, tell the truth, feel our feelings, and allow ourselves the opportunity to be genuine. Judgment, condemnation, attempting to do it "right" are not welcome here. YOU are welcome here!

I have a myriad of tools to use to help us in this endeavor, all done with compassion and competency. We'll journey together. This is a support group which means there's no lecturing or information giving, just sharing and being with each other as we sit in a circle. Let's enrich each other's lives!

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Instructor: Krysta Kavenaugh

Krysta Kavenaugh passionately provides a compassionate container for gentle transformation as a means to create the lives we truly want. One tool she uses is Family (Systemic) Constellation Work: a simple yet effective methodology that focuses on solutions, not problems, as grace flows through one's life and heals issues with tangible results that are immediately usable.

She has a double MA in counseling, is a certified Master Life Coach, certified Holistic Healthcare Professional, and a writer. She was editor-in-chief of MARRIAGE for 20 years. She's spoken to over a third of a million people on personal, professional, and spiritual topics.

[Buddhism in Turbulent Times](#)

Subject Area: Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 50

Course Description

Shakyamuni, the historical Buddha, shaped his teachings to address the anxieties of people unsettled by the rapid social and economic changes of 5th century BCE India. That makes his Buddhadharma especially valuable to Americans in need of inner peace and clarity at this moment in our history.

Our classroom work together will focus on core Buddhist ideas and practices that we can personally apply day to day, especially meditation. Those looking for a primarily academic understanding of "what Buddhism is" will be disappointed. Instead, expect collective discussion of Buddhist insights relevant to our shared personal challenges. Each class will begin with fifteen to twenty minutes of

seated meditation and move on to slides, video clips and short lectures to stimulate discussion.

Instructor: Merrill Collett

Merrill Collett has been a long-term resident at San Francisco Zen Center and its monastery, Tassajara Zen Mountain Center. He is the author of *At Home With Dying, A Zen Hospice Approach*. After thirty years in print journalism, he retired from The San Francisco Chronicle to live year-round in Tucson. He has degrees in history from Stanford and in international relations from Johns Hopkins.

[Mexican Literature—Pedro Páramo](#)

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language

Tuesdays: 3 Sessions 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 5/27/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

Over the course of three sessions, this course will read Juan Rulfo's 130-page 1954 novel *Pedro Páramo*, a classic of Mexican and world literature. The novel was both made into a Netflix series and re-translated in 2024, so it is of very current interest. It's a fascinating, supernaturally odd novel that can be read again and again with new interest every time.

Instructor: Caroline Tracey

Caroline Tracey is a writer whose work focuses on culture, water, and migration in the Southwestern US, Mexico, and their borderlands. She holds a PhD in Geography from the University of California–Berkeley. Her first book, *Salt Lakes*, will be published by W.W. Norton in 2026. Her reportage has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *New York Review of Books*, the *Guardian*, the *Nation*, and in Spanish

in Nexos. She speaks Spanish and Russian and lives between Tucson, Arizona and Mexico City.

[Jazz. 1958. A Great Day in Harlem. Music! Photos! Videos! \(May 20\)](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture

Tuesdays: Single Session 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/20/25 **End:** Tue 5/20/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 80

Course Description

“A Great Day in Harlem” or “Harlem 1958” is a black-and-white photograph of 57 jazz musicians in Harlem for Esquire magazine. The spiritual quality of this photo inspires generations of jazz artists. Count Basie. Marian McPartland. Dizzy Gillespie. Gene Krupa. Thelonious Monk. Lester Young. Sonny Rollins. And 50 more jazz legends. We will have videos, recordings, and stories featuring jazz greats in the photo of this epic era in New York jazz.

We offer two dates of the same single session course, so sign up for one to reserve your place in jazz history.

Instructors: John "Nemo" Nemerovski, Robert Wright

John Nemo is a lifelong musician and educator who immerses himself in folk, early rock, blues, jazz, and classical music. He plays guitar and provides a fascinating playlist for his music appreciation courses.

Robert Wright is a lifelong jazz listener, and student of the history and culture of jazz.

[Cutting the Cord To Save Money](#)

Subject Area: DIY/Self-Help

Tuesdays: 2 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM **Start:** Tue 5/20/25 **End:** Tue 5/27/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

The traditional cable entertainment package is rapidly going away, driven by much lower cost alternatives and rapidly changing viewing habits. This process is called cord cutting. 5G, fiber and satellites are competing with the cable, bringing lower costs and/or higher speeds. Streaming and User Generated Content (UGC) are taking millions of eyeballs from linear TV. What we watch, when we watch and how much it costs are all changing rapidly. The cost of cellphone service is also coming down fast. This class is a focused look at what you watch and how much you pay for it. Monthly savings of \$50 to \$150 are easily achieved for most cable subscribers and cell phone users. Most users only have to make three decisions to cut the cord. Practical and specific recommendations will be made.

Instructor: Loring Green

Loring Green has taught a variety of classes over the last 20 plus years. This class is based on his personal experience that involved the saving of over \$2,000 per year.

Movie Themes

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Tuesdays: 3 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 6/3/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

The theme in movies is the film's central, unifying concept. It evokes a universal human experience and can be stated in one word or short phrase (for example, "love," "death," or "coming of age"). The theme may never be stated explicitly, but it is exemplified by the film's plot, dialogue, cinematography, and music (like the telling Batman theme song). When choosing between different possible plot developments as you write, you can ask yourself, "Which option relates more to my theme?" For the audience, the theme provides a universal way to engage with the film's specific subject matter. For filmmakers, the theme is the main idea and a guide during the creative process. When choosing between different possible plot developments as you write, you can ask yourself, "Which option relates more to my theme?"

Instructors: Arnie Bianco, Debbie Bianco

Arnie is a long time retired educator as a teacher, school principal and adjunct instructor at Chapman University, NAU, Brown Mackie College, and Brookline College. Arnie is an active OLLI member. He has been a teacher for a number of years and has done relationship workshops in more than 10 states. He is a published author who has always loved to teach. His wife is presently a teacher.

Debbie is an experienced teacher who teaches 5th grade at Castlehill School.

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History of Stock Market Crashes

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Tuesdays: 2 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM **Start:**

Tue 6/3/25 **End:** Tue 6/10/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

The dreaded stock market drop. Nobody wants to see it, but they are an inevitable part of our history...and our future. In this two-session course, we will cover notable market crashes from the Panic of 1907 through 2022, and what to keep an eye on in the future. We will discuss market crash patterns, their catalysts, and their economic impacts. Can we learn from the past to prevent them? Or are they an unavoidable part of economic cycles? We will also discuss ways that those with stock market exposure should mentally and financially approach market volatility.

Instructors: Richard Munding, Ashlyn Tucker
Richard Munding, CFA, with four decades of experience, provides expert investment management to private clients at RMH. A Total Investment Return approach underpins RMH's investment philosophy. As a CFA charterholder, Richard has a network of CFA contacts across the US and globally. Richard's extensive expertise makes him a reliable financial advisor. His commitment to community service is demonstrated through his volunteering with the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona, where he served the Board, Investment, Finance, and Building committees.

Ashlyn attended the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management and Honors College on a full tuition academic merit scholarship. She graduated in three years with her Bachelor of Science in Finance in 2022. Ashlyn went on to graduate from Eller's Master of Science in Finance

program in 2023, and from there she joined RMH Investment. Ashlyn is a CFA Level III candidate.

[OLLI Talks: How the Drug War Really Operates](#)

Subject Area: Arizona History/Culture, Civic Engagement/Community/Government, Health/Wellness, History/Current Events, Social Sciences

Tuesdays: Single Session 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Start: Tue 6/3/25 **End:** Tue 6/3/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

Speaker: Professor Brint Milward

President Trump often mentions, “The extraordinary threat posed by illegal aliens and drugs, including deadly fentanyl...”. But is it illegal immigrants that are bringing in the fentanyl? And if not, what is really going on with drug cartels, immigrants, and the flow of fentanyl and other drugs into the United States? To answer these, our speaker is one of the nation’s leading experts on drug smuggling, Professor Brint Milward, to bring us up to date on research about the drug trades actual operations. Brint holds the Melody S. Robidoux Fund Leadership Chair at UA and has taught at the U.S. Military Academy and the Naval Postgraduate School. His exciting research on “dark networks” (illegal social networks) has led to his participation in research grants worth over \$10,000,000 since 2009. He will address the issues of who really brings drugs across the border; why aren’t Mexican cartels interested in controlling the drug trade within the U.S; why isn’t arrest, convict, and incarceration effective in stopping the drug trade; and the surprising way the drug trade is financed? I think it’s fair to say we are all concerned about the horrible personal effects addiction and the social

problems that it produces, and we have many voices telling us what’s going on and what we should do about it. In this regard, I can think of no better place to begin than with a fact-based understanding of the specifics of today’s drug trade that you will hear from Professor Brint Milward.

Instructor: Al Bergesen

Al Bergesen is an emeritus professor of sociology at UA with a wide range of interests and passions, who teaches classes and organizes field trips for OLLI.

[Jazz. 1958. A Great Day in Harlem. Music! Photos! Videos! \(June 10\)](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture

Tuesdays: Single Session 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 6/10/25 **End:** Tue 6/10/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 80

Course Description

“A Great Day in Harlem” or “Harlem 1958” is a black-and-white photograph of 57 jazz musicians in Harlem for Esquire magazine. The spiritual quality of this photo inspires generations of jazz artists. Count Basie. Marian McPartland. Dizzy Gillespie. Gene Krupa. Thelonious Monk. Lester Young. Sonny Rollins. And 50 more jazz legends. We will have videos, recordings, and stories featuring jazz greats in the photo of this epic era in New York jazz.

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fascinating playlist for his music appreciation courses.

Robert Wright is a lifelong jazz listener, and student of the history and culture of jazz.

Wednesdays

[Confronting Current Healthcare Issues: Strategies for Survival](#)

Subject Area: Health/Wellness, History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 5 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/11/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

Steven Burke has 50 years of experience in the healthcare industry and experienced most of the changes to Medicare since its inception in 1965. He has a B.A. from Northeastern University and an MBA from Suffolk University. He co-authored a book on healthcare regulations and authored numerous articles on health care contemporary healthcare issues. He also developed and implemented compliance plans to ensure facility compliance with the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Fraud & Abuse Rules and HIPAA standards. The course will address the many challenges to providing healthcare in 2025 and subsequent years. It will give an overview of the coming changes, availability, accessibility, cost, and reimbursement. One of the Project 2025 goals is to shift emphasis from traditional Medicare enrollment to Medicare Advantage enrollment. Although Medicare Advantage programs fill some of the service gaps in conventional Medicare, there are financial considerations for the nation and individuals. The course will also address physician shortage and access issues, prior authorization denials,

immigration policy and its impact on staff shortages, and the ability to provide health care services. Finally, the course will discuss the latest trends in public health, disease prevention, and approaches to epidemics and pandemics.

Instructor: Steven Burke

Steven Burke has 50 years of experience developing and managing healthcare facilities, including skilled nursing, assisted living, and independent living facilities. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Northeastern University and a Master of Business Administration from Suffolk University. He has provided long-term care regulatory compliance, financial management, census development, marketing analysis, training, and management.

[Sharp as a Tack: A Senior Game](#)

Subject Area: Social Sciences

Wednesdays: 3 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 5/28/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

Dr. Fields has developed "Sharp as a Tack", a new senior game.

This nostalgic game focuses on the experiences of "baby boomers" growing up in the 1960s. The game has the general knowledge approach of Jeopardy, the reasoning skills of Trivial Pursuit, and the fun "out of the box" questions similar to the radio show Wait, Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me.

Be a contestant or an audience member and see if you too are "Sharp as a Tack", while enjoying a fun session.

Instructor: Richard Fields

Richard Fields, PhD has over 40 years of experience as a private psychotherapist, author, and presenter.

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He is a dynamic, engaging, and creative group leader, and speaker. He is the author of the college textbook, *Drugs in Perspective*, 10 editions published, and the 2024 Revision Edition, McGraw Hill, 2024. He is also the author of *52 Compassion Quotes*, FACES Publishing, 2015.

[The Other Side of History: Daily Life in the Ancient World \(Part One\)](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 6 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

This is the Great Courses "The Other Side of History: Daily Life in the Ancient World" by Dr. Robert Garland, Professor of classics at Colgate University. Author of eleven history books, he shows the depth of what we know about daily life of ordinary people. We'll look at his lectures in Summer and Monsoon sessions. The Summer session will cover Egypt and Greece. Lectures include Being Egyptian, Belonging to an Egyptian Family, Being a Dead Egyptian, Being an Egyptian Worker, Practice Egyptian Religion, Being Greek, Being a Greek Slave, Growing up Greek, Relaxing Greek Style, Being a Greek Women, Being an Old Greek and Being a Dead Greek, among others. He presents fascinating portraits of the people of those eras.

Instructor: Kathleen Reeve

Kathleen Reeve has taught a range of OLLI classes from book discussions, as James Shapiro's "Contested Will" to Colin Woodard's "American Nations" to Jon Mecham's "The Soul of America", to a series on the American west in the 19th century, to "Love at the Movies". She was a photojournalist

for the Chicago Sun-Times and loves living in Tucson.

[A Musical Film Fest](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture

Wednesdays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

I will present the first film for discussion, and following weeks you will be able to choose a movie to present, from any time frame, as long as we can watch it on Amazon Prime or Netflix ahead of the class meeting.

Instructor: Barbie Adler

Barbie Adler is an avid film watcher and discussor in OLLI's film class. She has taught the Summer session for two years and looks forward to summer 2025 with you.

[News and Views](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

News and Views is an exciting class with many views about issues (topics) we discuss in class.

This is a class participation format.

We learn from each other and have a bit of fun.

Instructor: Curt Matuna

The Labor Movement

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

I would like to show half of each documentary each week with a half hour afterwards for discussion. I would also like to show the half hour documentary, "The Inheritance", from 1964, about the history of the ILGWU, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Instructor: John Rider

John Rider is a retired longshore worker from Seattle. He has lived in Tucson since 2019.

Amazing Astronomy (Without Any Math)

Subject Area: Science/Math/Technology

Wednesdays: 6 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 45

Course Description

Amazing Astronomy is a visually stunning and utterly mind-blowing series of six separate audio-visual programs covering an exceptionally broad range of topics in astronomy, astrophysics and space exploration. From our home here on Earth to the edge of the visible universe, visuals and information are presented in a captivating, layman-oriented, nontechnical manner.

1. Cruising Through the Solar System.
2. Cruising Through the Cosmos.
3. The Evolution of the Telescope.

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4. Cruising to the Moon.
5. Here Comes the Sun!
6. Cruising to the International Space Station.

Instructor: Fred Cink

Fred J. Cink is a former Army Aviator and retired Naval Aviator with thousands of hours of flight time in both rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft. His lifelong interest in military aviation is matched by a passion for all things related to astronomy and space exploration. In 2018 he was hired by AURA, the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy in Tucson, Arizona, to share his knowledge of astronomy with visitors at Kitt Peak National Observatory.

T'ai Chi Chuan, First Part, 37-Position Form for Health

Subject Area: Health/Wellness, Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Wednesdays: 3 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM **Start:** Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 5/28/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

This class will be offered from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM AND repeated from 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM. Please choose to attend one session to allow students to spread out.

T'ai Chi Ch'uan (TCC) is circular movement. Circulation of breath, ch'i or energy, occurs naturally in doing TCC form. Even when one is not doing everything perfectly, doing TCC not fully correctly still conveys great benefits for one's balance, flexibility, and de-stressing.

Correct circularity of movement, posture and balance, and de-stressing are subtle and cannot be imparted via Zoom or books. These subtle corrections are generally optimally directly conveyed by an experienced practitioner as part of

OLLI-UA Summer 2025 – Central Tucson Campus

class teaching. Those comfortable with gentle physical correction may opt in for that, if they wish. Although not vigorous, if at any time class practice becomes a bit too much, class members are strongly encouraged to stop and take a break.

TCC is taught as the traditional 37-position form of Cheng-Man Ch'ing, the practice of which has numerous recognized health benefits. The whole 37-positions form can be broken up and taught in several shorter sections. TCC form exercise can further be enhanced and extended as gentle push hands dual cultivation. This more advanced practice is in no way a martial arts class but cultivates sensitivity and reinforces previous teachings of the 37-positions form.

TCC has also always traditionally been a study of Tao. Although some discussion might well be mentioned, that is not, however, its primary focus. Our primary aim is correct practice of the form from which health and other benefits naturally flow.

Instructor: Norman Guberman

Norman is a retired independent scholar, recently resettled to Tucson. He is a longtime practitioner and teacher of traditional T'ai Chi Chuan, for nearly 60 years. He is a lifelong student of Far Eastern and Indo-Tibetan studies.

[WhereAZ ... Where to Go, What to See in Southern Arizona](#)

Subject Area: Travel/Entertainment

Wednesdays: Single Session 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 5/14/25

Location: Ocotillo Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 65

Course Description

There are all sorts of things to see, do, hear, touch, taste, experience, and absorb that make Tucson and southern Arizona a unique and special place in the

world! This WhereAZ class provides a top-level pictorial overview. Class participants will have a website (WhereAZ.com) to use as a quick/easy reference for planning their own adventures. Host: Jim Jindrick (40+ year resident of southern Arizona)

Instructor: Jim Jindrick

Jim Jindrick co-developed WhereAZ.org, a website and app focused on presenting the highlights of Tucson and southern Arizona ... Where to go, what to see.

[Purpose, Meaning, and Change for Better Well-Being](#)

Subject Area: Social Sciences

Wednesdays: 2 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Wed 6/4/25 **End:** Wed 6/11/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

Dr. Fields will explore components of enhancing purpose and meaning in later years. Topics will include: Hope, optimism and pessimism, stages of change, relapse prevention, and mindfulness.

Instructor: Richard Fields

Richard Fields, PhD has over 40 years of experience as a private psychotherapist, author, and presenter. He is a dynamic, engaging, and creative group leader, and speaker. He is the author of the college textbook, *Drugs in Perspective*, 10 editions published, and the 2024 Revision Edition, McGraw Hill, 2024. He is also the author of 52 *Compassion Quotes*, FACES Publishing, 2015.

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[The Federal Reserve](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 2 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Start: Wed 6/4/25 **End:** Wed 6/11/25

Location: Saguaro Room (Hearing Loop Enabled) **Class Size:** 55

Course Description

Join us for a two-session course where we discuss the Federal Reserve throughout history and today. The class covers the formation, composition, and duties of the Federal Reserve. We will discuss monetary policy and transmission mechanisms, open market operations, and the Federal Reserve's relationship to interest rates and inflation. This course will also touch on how the Federal Reserve influences the stock and bond markets, the broader economy, and you as an individual.

Instructors: Richard Munding, Ashlyn Tucker

Richard Munding, CFA, with four decades of experience, provides expert investment management to private clients at RMH. A Total Investment Return approach underpins RMH's investment philosophy. As a CFA charterholder, Richard has a network of CFA contacts across the US and globally. Richard's extensive expertise makes him a reliable financial advisor. His commitment to community service is demonstrated through his volunteering with the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona, where he served the Board, Investment, Finance, and Building committees.

Ashlyn attended the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management and Honors College on a full tuition academic merit scholarship. She graduated in three years with her Bachelor of Science in Finance in 2022. Ashlyn went on to graduate from Eller's Master of Science in Finance program in 2023, and from there she joined RMH Investment. Ashlyn is a CFA Level III candidate.

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[Creative, Artistic, Simple Ways To Support Others Who Are Living With Dementia](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture, Health/Wellness

Wednesdays: Single Session 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Start: Wed 6/4/25 **End:** Wed 6/4/25

Location: Palo Verde Room **Class Size:** 10

Course Description

At this 90 minute one-day session we will discuss memory and cognitive care for people living with disabilities. The group will be doing hands-on, simple art projects as we talk about the possible results. The class is limited to 10. Students need to bring a pencil, a few pieces of drawing paper, scissors and a straight edge (a ruler in your junk drawer at home works great).

Instructor: Janet Oravec

For almost 30 years, Janet Oravec has been working with a variety of clients in art therapy. She utilizes projects that help with cognitive ability, memory care and confidence building. Janet's MA is in Interdisciplinary Arts. Her greatest accomplishments are being married to Jon for 40 years and home schooling 2 kids.

Online Classes

Tuesdays

[Music of the Movies](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Classical music has been with us for centuries. While there are many modern and contemporary styles of music that have developed, some composers now specialize in film scores. Specifically, many of the Hollywood composers in the 20th century were European classical music composers who met the film industry's need for orchestral music. This course will present the evolution of films and film music. We will discuss the various styles of this genre and the composers who are responsible. This multimedia presentation will familiarize you with films and film scores. It will be both informative and entertaining.

Instructor: Lee Kaufman

Lee Kaufman has taught in continuing education for Parkway School District, St. Louis Community College, Chautauqua Inst., Olli classes at Washington University, Univ. of Cincinnati, and Univ. of Utah. He is the secretary and founder of The Elgar Society, North Am. Chapter, Co-producer of "George Gershwin Alone, Monsieur Chopin, Beethoven as I knew Him." He lives in St. Louis and tutors second graders in Clayton Schools. Before retirement Lee owned his own company in the floorcovering business for 33 years.

[Beginning Spanish](#)

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 45

Course Description

This class is for those who have had little to no experience with Spanish. We will review the alphabet and numbers, move on to everyday vocabulary, read some easy short stories, and introduce the present tense.

Instructor: Josephine Kelleher

Dr. Josephine Kelleher is a retired educator who has been studying Spanish for the past several years at OLLI. In addition to teaching at the university level, Dr. Kelleher has been a science and mathematics teacher at the middle school level, a high school assistant principal and principal, and superintendent of schools in three school districts. Dr. Kelleher earned a bachelor's degree in science and mathematics education and a Master of Arts in teaching in biological sciences from Rhode Island College, and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Connecticut.

[Exploring Our Favorite TV Comedies](#)

Subject Area: DIY/Self-Help, Health/Wellness

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 2 **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

We live in a world where we witness and experience so much pain, violence, and animosity through the immediate and ongoing lenses of social media and

24/7 news cycles. A positive way to mitigate feeling overwhelmed is to utilize humor.

Last summer we discussed the healing benefits of humor. During this Summer I session, we will focus on a specific genre of humor: the situation comedy. We will introduce and discuss some of our favorite situation comedies spanning the last 75 years.

Please join us to share your favorite comedies, to laugh a lot, to discuss why you find such comedies funny, and how these shows can help us to cope with the stresses of our present world. Bring your knowledge, experiences, insights, and wisdom to share in our discussions.

Instructor: Mary Ellen Klawiter

Mary Ellen lived her first fifty years in Philadelphia Pennsylvania where she worked as an Educator, a Director of Religious Education, and a Hospice Chaplain. Her undergraduate work was in history and theology, and her graduate theological studies spanned both Religious Education and Clinical Pastoral Education.

Mary Ellen moved to Sahuarita in February of 2010. While living in the Tucson area, she returned to school and received an M.S. in Mental Health Counseling. She counseled at risk teens, preteens, and older adults struggling with losses in life. Since joining OLLI, Mary Ellen has offered at least one in person or online discussion class each semester.

Mary Ellen completed an intensive Transformational Coaching Course in July of 2024 and is working toward her coaching certification. She moved back to the Philadelphia area to be closer to her young grandson, son, and daughter-in-law in August of 2024.

[Separation of Church and State: Vital in 1787, Critical Now](#)

Subject Area: Civic

Engagement/Community/Government

Tuesdays: Single Session 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 5/13/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 3 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

The presentation starts in 1680 with the Divine Right of Kings and shows how thinkers at that time evolved the idea of separation of church and state. We then look at how the Founding Fathers adopted this idea and included it in our Constitution. We will look at court decisions over time that supported separation. We conclude with a look at how separation has more recently been eroded by various legal actions and court decisions and how this impacts our education, health care, civil rights and the rights of women, minorities, and LGBTQ individuals.

Instructors: Jay Avner, Mike Goldman

Jay Avner has a degree in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA. He is a retired health care executive where he negotiated provider contracts. He is active in the leadership of Congregation Beth Adam, a humanistic Jewish congregation in Cincinnati. Jay's interests include history, politics, religion, and culture.

Mike Goldman holds a degree in playwriting and has considerable experience in local political activism and campaign management.

[Introduction to Hinduism: History, Religion, Culture, Philosophy](#)

Subject Area: Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Tuesdays: 6 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM **Start:**
Tue 5/13/25 **End:** Tue 6/17/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:**
300

Course Description

This introductory course will provide an overview of Hinduism, the religion of India that originated about 3000 years ago. It will include a brief history about the origin of Hinduism and the contributions to it from different sources, the Religion of Hinduism and its many components, the different philosophies that underpin the religious practices, including the non-dualism of Vedanta, and the interactions between Hinduism and Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Also covered in the course are the rituals, practices, customs and festivals related to Hinduism.

Instructor: Pravin Soni

Pravin Soni is a native of India and immigrated to the US in 1973. He has been a student of the Hindu Philosophy of Vedanta for the past 35 years. He has a PhD in Polymer Science and Engineering and has been involved in early stage biotech companies for over 25 years.

Wednesdays

[Wolf Hall Trilogy: A Study in Power](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events,
Literature/Writing/Language

Wednesdays: 4 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/4/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 60

Course Description

Hilary Mantel wrote the Wolf Hall Trilogy (Wolf Hall, Bring Up the Bodies, and the Mirror & the Light). The first two books won the prestigious Man Booker prize, and the last book was shortlisted for the 2020 Women's Prize for Fiction and won the 2021 Walter Scott Prize for historical fiction. The three books are primarily about the relationship between Thomas Cromwell and Henry VIII, but they are also a remarkable study in power; who wields it, how it is lost, how it is gained, and what happens to those who gain and lose power.

Although the action takes place in the early 1500s, the books provide many lessons for today's leaders, whether in democracies, autocracies, or dictatorships. We will use the trilogy to study how power is wielded, who exercises power, and how it changes over time due to both internal and external circumstances. We will also discuss *The Hollow Crown* by Eliot Cohen, an insightful look at how the concept of modern power and politics were shaped by Shakespeare. A number of Shakespeare's plays were performed for Queen Elizabeth I, Henry VIII's daughter. Mantel's trilogy, as well as Shakespeare, provides an excellent cautionary tale about the risks that are posed to those who both hold and those who are close to power.

Instructor: Stephen Berardo

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Stephen Berardo has a bachelor's degree in English literature, a master's degree in public administration, and is a lifelong fan and student of history and historical fiction. Steve has had several careers, including as an adjunct and full-time college faculty member teaching courses in business and public administration. He has taught a variety of courses at OLLIs around the country for more than six years.

[Four Topics From 20th Century Philosophers](#)

Subject Area: Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Wednesdays: 4 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/4/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

I've selected four papers from the second half of the twentieth century. Each proved to be an important contribution to its area. The first three are by American philosophers; the fourth British.

After Warhol: What is Art? ("The Artworld" by Arthur Danto)

What is Consciousness? ("What is it Like to be a Bat?" by Thomas Nagel)

AI: Can machines think? ("The Chinese Room" by John Searle)

Is there free will? ("Freedom and Responsibility" by Peter Strawson)

Instructor: Robert Yanal

Robert Yanal, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., taught Philosophy, mainly Philosophy of Art, at Wayne State University, in Detroit, Michigan, for 37 years. He published 18 articles and 4 books, including "Hitchcock as Philosopher". He is retired, living in Tucson.

[Chen Village Tai Chi](#)

Subject Area: Health/Wellness, Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Wednesdays: 6 Sessions 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Wed 5/14/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 2 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

No previous Tai Chi experience is necessary. All the movements are slow and gentle, and no martial arts applications will be taught or practiced in this study group. These methods may help lessen body pain, correct spinal misalignment, cultivate a sense of internal energy, and rest the mind.

Participants can wear comfortable roomy or stretchy clothing and some soft tai chi shoes or socks to wear on their feet.

Instructor: Randall Krause

Randall Krause served many years as an attorney and conflict resolution facilitator. Later, he studied counseling and received an M.A. in interdisciplinary consciousness studies with an emphasis in holistic health counseling, was certified and served as a personal coach and mentor. He studied Effective Communication intensively and studied The Gremlin Taming Method for more than 10 years. In addition, Randall is a senior mentor and teacher in the Himalayan yoga meditation tradition and is registered with Yoga Alliance (YA) as an Experienced Yoga Teacher and a Continuing Yoga Education Provider.

[So You Want to be a Writer?](#)

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language

Wednesdays: Single Session 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Start: Wed 5/21/25 **End:** Wed 5/21/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 3 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Have you ever, like many of us, found yourself wanting to be an author? Join our discussion as we begin with your initial idea and follow various routes to publication. We will consider many different genres and formats (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, textbook, technical, essays...). By the end of our interactive session, you will have the tools to research your idea and transform it into words. Hopefully, you will then be prepared for the hard part: getting your work published. We will discuss various avenues to do so, and the challenges associated with each. We will also consider different avenues to market your work. Bring your ideas, your problems, and your enthusiasm to write!

Instructor: Ed Linz

Ed Linz, a 1965 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, is the author of five books, including recent works on The Great Depression and the Vietnam War. He was the Commanding Officer of a Ballistic Missile submarine and holds advanced degrees from Oxford University and George Mason University. He lives in Maine and Virginia and is the grateful recipient of a heart transplant in 1994.

[Aspects of Math That Are Mind Expanding and Fun](#)

Subject Area: Science/Math/Technology

Wednesdays: 2 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Start: Wed 6/11/25 **End:** Wed 6/18/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

The idea of infinity enters math and science in several ways. I'd like to explore the ways this happens and how it is useful. There is also a very useful extension of the number system that I will discuss. No knowledge of math is needed for this class, just a willingness to expand your mind a little bit. It should be great fun.

Instructor: Carl DeVito

Carl Devito is an emeritus professor at the University of Arizona. Lately he has been active in the conceptual aspects of astro-biology and participated in conferences on these matters over the past few years.

Thursdays

[Gentle Energizing Movement, Relaxation, and Meditation](#)

Subject Area: Health/Wellness, Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Thursdays: 5 Sessions 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Start: Thu 5/15/25 **End:** Thu 6/12/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Let go of stress and come home to yourself. Over millennia, the sages of the Himalayan Yoga

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Tradition developed highly effective methods of movement, relaxation, and meditation. In this study group you will learn foundational practices from the Himalayan Yoga Tradition. Each session will have three phases: gentle movement and breathing, deep relaxation, and meditation. Members can expect to leave this class refreshed. Please note that the movements taught in this study group are not acrobatics. They are suitable for people with no yoga experience. If you've attended yoga classes and found them to be too strenuous or otherwise challenging, this study group is for you.

Instructor: Randall Krause

Randall Krause served many years as an attorney and conflict resolution facilitator. Later, he studied counseling and received an M.A. in interdisciplinary consciousness studies with an emphasis in holistic health counseling, was certified and served as a personal coach and mentor. He studied Effective Communication intensively and studied The Gremlin Taming Method for more than 10 years. In addition, Randall is a senior mentor and teacher in the Himalayan yoga meditation tradition and is registered with Yoga Alliance (YA) as an Experienced Yoga Teacher and a Continuing Yoga Education Provider.

[Atlas of the Heart: The Language of Human Experience](#)

Subject Area: DIY/Self-Help, Health/Wellness, Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion

Thursdays: 5 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Thu 5/15/25 **End:** Thu 6/12/25 - **No Class June 19**

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 30

Course Description

The New York Times bestselling author Brene Brown writes “If we want to find the way back to ourselves and one another, we need language and the

grounded confidence to both tell our stories and be stewards of the stories that we hear. This is the framework for meaningful connection.” Brown shows her readers ways to understand their stories through naming their experiences.

The more a person can give meaning to the words s/he uses, the more one is able to connect and hold sacred space for connection to hear another’s story.

Utilizing Brene Brown’s Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connection and the Language of Human Experience, we will delve into several of the eighty-seven segments Brown breaks open in her latest work. Brown explores emotions and experiences as varied as anxiety and awe, hopelessness and joy, shame and self-compassion, love and lovelessness, trust and betrayal.

Please join us for these six classes to help rediscover our hearts, to remember the impact of our words, and to re-experience the value of connection within and between our spirits.

Bring your knowledge, experiences, insights, and wisdom to share in our discussions. While reading the book is not required, it could be helpful in furthering participants’ understanding of this transformation.

Please know that this discussion group is not intended to replace your own psychological therapeutic work.

Instructor: Mary Ellen Klawiter

Mary Ellen lived her first fifty years in Philadelphia Pennsylvania where she worked as an Educator, a Director of Religious Education, and a Hospice Chaplain. Her undergraduate work was in history and theology, and her graduate theological studies spanned both Religious Education and Clinical Pastoral Education.

Mary Ellen moved to Sahuarita in February of 2010. While living in the Tucson area, she returned to school and received an M.S. in Mental Health Counseling. She counseled at risk teens, preteens,

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and older adults struggling with losses in life. Since joining OLLI, Mary Ellen has offered at least one in person or online discussion class each semester.

Mary Ellen completed an intensive Transformational Coaching Course in July of 2024 and is working toward her coaching certification. She moved back to the Philadelphia area to be closer to her young grandson, son, and daughter-in-law in August of 2024.

[Reading and Discussing The New Yorker](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture, Health/Wellness, Literature/Writing/Language, Science/Math/Technology, Social Sciences

Thursdays: 5 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Start: Thu 5/15/25 **End:** Thu 6/12/25 - **No Class June 19**

Location: Online Zoom Offering 2 **Class Size:** 45

Course Description

The New Yorker magazine is a rich resource for current, historic, cultural, and scientific information. To get the most out of this resource each week we discuss five current articles. The class chooses an article for next week's group discussion, then four different class members volunteer to provide an introduction into other articles. Each class starts with a group discussion. Then the volunteers' introductions are used to provide the basis for the four additional weekly discussions. All members are encouraged to make presentations and participate in discussions.

Instructors: Ronald Peterson, John "Nemo" Nemerovski

Ron Peterson has been a UA OLLI-UA member since 2012 following a career as a broker and investment banker in Washington, DC. He served as a VP at Paine Webber and Prudential Securities and headed

a financial futures unit for Merrill Lynch. He is the author of "Solomon's Wishes," a book on investment strategies and tactics and two other books, won two investment contests and lectured on markets for banks and individual investors. He holds two masters' degrees and four graduate certificates.

John Nemo is a member of our tech host and presentation team here in Reading and Discussing The New Yorker.

[Spanish Divertido](#)

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language

Thursdays: 5 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Start: Thu 5/15/25 **End:** Thu 6/12/25 - **No Class June 19**

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 60

Course Description

Dive into Spanish with ease and enjoyment! This 6-week course is specially designed for beginning Spanish students who wish to continue immersing themselves in the language in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. Through a variety of engaging activities, you'll enhance your skills without the pressure of grammar drills and academic expectations.

What to Expect: Translating Song Lyrics (Discover the meaning behind Mexican songs of various genres); Language "Chunks" (Master common phrases and expressions to boost your conversational confidence); Pronunciation Practice (Improve your speaking skills with guided pronunciation exercises); Stories and Fables (Enjoy listening to and watching elementary-level short stories and fables, bringing the language to life).

Whether you've just completed a beginning Spanish course or want to maintain and refine your skills, this summer session offers a fun and gentle immersion experience. Join us for a summer filled with music, stories, and language exploration!

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Instructor: Camellia Watters

Camellia (“Millie”) has been an OLLI member since 2020. As an OLLI student, she has taken beginning, intermediate and advanced levels of Spanish. She has also done tech hosting for all three levels. Prior to joining OLLI, she volunteered as a tutor in the California Adult Literacy Program, where she taught individuals and groups of native Spanish speakers to read English. Camellia started as an SGL for the Spanish for Beginners class in the fall of 2024. In spring 2025 she added a second course, Spanish for Beginners 2. Her Summer/Monsoon class is “Spanish Divertido.”

[Dream Group Class](#)

Subject Area: Social Sciences

Thursdays: 5 Sessions 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Start: Thu 5/15/25 **End:** Thu 6/12/25 - **No Class June 19**

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 20

Course Description

Learn how to access the valuable information in your dreams! Attendees share texts of their nighttime dreams and are invited to contribute their associations and insights on others’ dreams. Various techniques of interpretation will be demonstrated, such as “If it were my dream.” The group format opens multiple perspectives and layers of meaning. “Aha’s” of recognition follow as we unpack the dream. In this process we learn to listen to our intuition, increase compassion for others, discover deeper aspects of ourselves and receive guidance.

Instructor: Helen Landerman

Dr. Landerman has been curious about the meaning of her dreams and writing them down for decades. She has continuously participated in dream groups and facilitates dream groups. Because dreams speak a language of visual symbols, her Harvard Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literatures has enabled

her fascination with metaphors and archetypes. She has 15 years of experience teaching at the college level. She is certified by Jeremy Taylor's Marin Institute for Projective Dream Work and is a long-time member of the International Association for the Study of Dreams and of the Southern Arizona Friends of Jung.

Fridays

[News and Views with Sherry and Doug](#)

Subject Area: Civic

Engagement/Community/Government, History/Current Events

Fridays: 6 Sessions 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM **Start:** Fri 5/16/25 **End:** Fri 6/20/25

Location: Online Zoom Offering 1 **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Every week we pick and vote on topics to discuss. We like to discuss news from many different angles. So all civil opinions/views are welcome.

News and Views Guidelines:

- 1 - We begin the class by soliciting topics from the students for possible discussion. Sometimes topics can be combined.
- 2 - A list of all of the topics is created in order of suggestion.
- 3 - A vote is taken for each suggested topic. Students can vote for as many topics as they wish to discuss.
- 4 - The voting results will be immediately shown.
- 5 - Topics are discussed by vote total (most to least) and in the event of a tie, either in order of suggestion or by SGL or group decision.

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6 - The person who suggested a topic will be given 1-2 minutes to present their topic, either in advance of the vote if the topic is not clear, or when the topic is up for discussion.

7 - Important: We ask that everyone please keep your comments succinct - less than three minutes. Don't ramble and please refrain from repeating yourself or others. We want everyone to be able to speak.

8 - Everyone will get a chance to speak before someone is called on again for a given topic.

Instructors: Sherry Goncharsky, Doug Syme

Sherry Goncharsky worked at IBM as a programmer and systems engineer after studying computer science at the University of Illinois. As a retirement job, she spent time “teaching computers to behave for their owners.” Soon after joining OLLI, the pandemic hit, and she became an active part of the tech hosting community and is also part of the AV Committee. Her hobbies include reading and crocheting.

Doug Syme was born and raised in Dublin. He graduated in 1972 in Mechanical Engineering from Trinity College, Dublin University. He was recruited in 1983 to establish manufacturing of a Weighing and Batching System in New Jersey after the system was bought from the company for which he was working in Ireland. He is a Naturalized Citizen of the United States. Doug lived and worked in NJ for 8 years and lived in PA for 25 years. He worked in small firm providing Equipment and Services to Commercial Swimming Pools. Doug retired in 2016 and moved to Green Valley. He served on the board of Esperanza Estates HOA. He is a World Rugby Licensed Educator and teaches Rugby Refereeing. He volunteers with Sahuarita Food Bank. He also enjoys Choral Singing and participates in a number of Choirs in the area. He is an active student and Tech Host with OLLI.

Shared Online Classes

Mondays

[Alexander's Great City](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Mondays: Single Session 8:15 AM - 9:45 AM

Start: Mon 4/21/25 **End:** Mon 4/21/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Rochester Institute of Technology**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE, the city of Alexandria stood for many years as the cultural and intellectual center of the Mediterranean world. Today when we think of Alexandria, we probably focus on its legendary library and great lighthouse. This class will provide more details on its structures and the people whose lives have contributed to the city's reputation throughout history.

Instructor: Chris Ryan

Chris Ryan, a retired librarian, loves to study history and enjoys sharing the results of her explorations with others.

Tuesdays

[Vaccination](#)

Subject Area: Science/Math/Technology

Tuesdays: 8 Sessions 8:15 AM - 9:45 AM

Start: Tue 4/15/25 **End:** Tue 6/3/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Rochester Institute of Technology**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Vaccination is a major successful public health measure. Smallpox is gone; polio is on its way out; and the incidence of the childhood diseases that the older of us had is way down. We'll look at the history of many infectious diseases, their causes and their vaccines, how the immune system works, and how vaccines work (in cooperation with the immune system). We may digress into other public health issues, and we'll spend a day or so on the connection between vaccines and autism (spoiler: there is none). Let's agree to avoid politics!

Instructor: Roger Gans

Roger Gans is Professor Emeritus at the University of Rochester. He has led several science-based courses at Osher at RIT over the past decade.

[Flickstory: Tales from the Soviet Union](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events, Travel/Entertainment

Tuesdays: 8 Sessions 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Start: Tue 4/15/25 **End:** Tue 6/3/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Rochester Institute of Technology**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

We will look at four films that document the struggles of the soviet people. Mr. Jones (2019) is based on the true story of the British journalist Gareth Jones who uncovers the truth of the devastating famine ('Holodomor') in 1933 Ukraine. The Way Back (2010) is about four prisoners who escape from a Soviet gulag in WWII. Bridge Of Spies (2015) is set during the Cold War and tells the story of lawyer James B. Donovan who is entrusted with negotiating the release of Francis Gary Powers in 1960 in exchange for Rudolf Abel, a convicted Soviet KGB spy held by the US. K-19: The Widowmaker (2002) focuses its story on the 1961 tragedy of the Soviet Hotel-class submarine K-19. Instructors: Robert Schlosky, Mike Maxwell, Gene Clifford, and Dick Scott

Robert Schlosky, Mike Maxwell, Gene Clifford, and Dick Scott are experienced course leaders who have led numerous Osher at RIT classes.

[Let's Keep Knitting](#)

Subject Area: Crafts/Cooking

Tuesdays: 10 Sessions 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Start: Tue 4/22/25 **End:** Tue 6/24/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Chico State CA**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Knitting with others is a wonderful learning environment. This class is designed to give knitters who have mastered the basic stitches of knit and purl a chance to work on a project of their choosing while we chat and share ideas online with other knitters. All levels of ability are welcome! Gale contributes to the class by offering tips and suggestions for patterns, yarn, and tools based on her years of knitting experience.

Instructor: Gale Ulvang

Gale Ulvang, a lifelong knitter, has made a hobby out of collecting odd bits of information and techniques she can use to improve her knitting projects. She promotes using internet resources to find patterns and expand skills and loves sharing that knowledge with others. She learned the Fibonacci sequence as a scheme for striping in hats and scarves and was inspired to learn more about how it can improve artistic composition.

[Armchair National Park Tour](#)

Subject Area: Science/Math/Technology, Travel/Entertainment

Tuesdays: Single Session 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Start: Tue 5/6/25 **End:** Tue 5/6/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Chico State CA**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Take a national park tour with full-color photos, stories, park information, animal sightings, and

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vacation planning information about the following national parks: Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Grand Teton, Glacier, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Arches, Canyonlands, Acadia, Great Smoky Mountains, Olympic, Rocky Mountain, and Badlands, as well as Mount Rushmore National Monument. This armchair tour will leave you wanting to head immediately to that national park!

Instructor: Mike Graf

Mike Graf has written numerous books about national parks with over 95 published works. His national park adventure series, Adventures with the Parkers, has 13 books taking place in Sequoia/Kings Canyon, Zion/Bryce, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, the Great Smoky Mountains, Olympic, Glacier, the Rocky Mountains, Arches/Canyonlands, Mount Rushmore/Badlands/Wind Cave, Acadia, and Grand Teton National Parks. The series has received national attention and awards. He has also published several nonfiction books about national parks, including the recently released Pop-Up & Build: National Parks.

[Taking and Editing Photos on Your iPhone](#)

Subject Area: DIY/Self-Help, Science/Math/Technology

Tuesdays: 2 Sessions 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Start: Tue 6/3/25 **End:** Tue 6/10/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Chico State CA**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

This class will introduce you to basic foundational skills in establishing a composition for a photo, using the rule of thirds, and considering the values in a photo. This content will be followed by an introduction to the many photo editing tools available on an iPhone and how to use them with the photos you have taken. If you have taken this

course previously, you are welcome to take it as a refresher.

This class is for iPhone users with an iPhone XS or higher. The iPhone should have the most current operating system and recent updates on it.

Instructor: Cris Guenter

Cris Guenter is both an artist and an educator. She is professor emerita in the School of Education at Chico State and was named the 2008 National Art Educator of the Year by the National Art Education Association. She has been exhibiting her artwork in regional, national, and international exhibitions since 1972. She is currently serving as chair of the National Art Education Foundation.

Wednesdays

[Catastrophic Volcanic Eruptions Through History](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events, Science/Math/Technology

Wednesdays: 4 Sessions 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Start: Wed 4/16/25 **End:** Wed 5/7/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Rochester Institute of Technology**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Catastrophic volcanic eruptions around the globe have impacted our world through changes in paleoclimate, geography, fauna and flora, and, later, human life. We will study several of these historic volcanoes, their origin and magnitude, and the changes wrought by their eruptions. Can we predict future eruptions?

Instructor: Jane Eggleston

Jane Eggleston has been an Osher at RIT member since 2013 and loves it! In addition to taking a wide

variety of courses, she relishes the research required to organize and lead courses. She particularly enjoys ancient geological and human history. Her 40-year career in geology included 28 years with the USGS, in research, publishing, and outreach.

[Imprisoned Without Trial: Japanese Incarceration in WWII](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 2 Sessions 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Start: Wed 4/16/25 **End:** Wed 4/23/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Arizona State University**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

This course covers the history of Japanese incarceration during WWII, discussing how anti-Asian sentiment led to imprisonment and how such events can inform current societal issues.

Instructor: Denny Kato

Born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, Denny Kato is third generation Japanese American, or Sansei. He graduated from Walnut Hills High School, received a BA from the University of Cincinnati in 1971, and served in the US Army as a 1LT in military intelligence. After retirement from restaurant management, what started out for Denny as curiosity about his family history, grew into thoroughly researching how people of Japanese descent were forced from their homes during World War II and placed in internment camps.

[The Future of Health, Medicine, and Biotechnology: Part 7](#)

Subject Area: Science/Math/Technology

Wednesdays: 8 Sessions 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Start: Wed 4/16/25 **End:** Wed 6/4/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Rochester Institute of Technology**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

We will continue to explore the new developments in medicine and biotechnology and how they impact our health and wellbeing. Participation in previous parts of this course is not a pre-requisite.

Instructor: Alex Marcus

Alex Marcus is a retired physician who has been leading courses at Osher at RIT for over 20 years on subjects relating to medicine and neuroscience. He has training and experience in internal medicine, neurology, and psychiatry.

[Will: An English Playwright in Times of Radical Change](#)

Subject Area: Literature/Writing/Language, Travel/Entertainment

Wednesdays: 10 Sessions 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Start: Wed 4/23/25 **End:** Wed 6/25/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Chico State CA**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

It was a time of radical change, a time of violence. England was under siege internally and externally. Being on the wrong side, politically or religiously, could result in torture and death. Into this confusing and disordered world strode a young married man who had left his home of Stratford-upon-Avon to attempt his hand at playwriting for the London

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stage. His name was William Shakespeare. Join us for a discussion of the TV show Will, described as "Shakespeare on sex, drugs, and rock and roll."

Class members will watch episodes on their own outside of class. The TV show is available to stream with a subscription or purchase on TNT, YouTube, Apple TV+, Amazon, and other streaming services.

Instructor: Lynn H. Elliott

Lynn H. Elliott is professor emeritus and former chair of English at Chico State. In addition to his prose and award-winning plays, he is a multiple award-winning national and international screenplay writer.

[The Arts and People of Japan](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture, History/Current Events

Wednesdays: 10 Sessions 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Start: Wed 4/23/25 **End:** Wed 6/25/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Chico State CA**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

To understand the arts is to know the mind and spirit of the people. In this class, we will explore Japan's artistic history through its profound and elegant creations. We will explore Japan's best contributions to the visual arts from prehistory, the earliest Buddhist temples, Shinto shrines, and sculpture and paintings until the time of the last feudal ruler. In so many creative fields, Japan's artistry has greatly influenced artists in our modern world. It is important to identify and credit those absorbed influences.

Instructor: Katherine Harper

Katherine Harper has a PhD in the art history of India from UCLA. She retired from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles after 37 years. She has lived and traveled extensively throughout Asia.

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Thursdays

[By Hook or By Crook: True Stories of Disabled Pirates](#)

Subject Area: History/Current Events

Thursdays: 2 Sessions 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Start: Thu 4/17/25 **End:** Thu 4/24/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Arizona State University**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

Dr. Powell explores the realities of disability among pirates during the Golden Age, including historical attitudes toward disability.

Instructor: Dr. Manushag Powell

Manushag "Nush" Powell, a literary historian and public scholar most recently at Purdue University, is a professor and chair of the Department of English. Powell studies 18th-century British literature and culture, including publishing, women's periodicals and piracy narratives. She is author or editor of four books and of the Wondrium "The Real History of Pirates" course. Her essay on pirates and hook prosthetics recently appeared in the Digital Defoe journal.

[Law in the News](#)

Subject Area: Civic Engagement/Community/Government, History/Current Events

Thursdays: 8 Sessions 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM
Start: Thu 4/17/25 **End:** Thu 6/5/25 - **Shared from OLLI at Rochester Institute of Technology**

Location: Online Zoom Offering **Class Size:** 300

Course Description

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Each week we are inundated with local and national news articles involving the law. We will review recent cases as they appear in the news and learn how the case was brought as well as the reasoning behind the outcome. Members of the class will be encouraged to suggest newsworthy cases, and guest speakers will shed additional light on them.

Instructors: Mike Schnittman, Sue Stewart

Mike Schnittman is a retired lawyer who has been an Osher at RIT member since he retired in 2011 and has led courses in law (Law 101) and literature (Roth, Hemingway, Salinger, and Orwell). Sue Stewart, also a retired lawyer, has been an Osher at RIT member since 2018 and has previously co-led Law in the News.

Field Trips

[Field Trip to the Rolling Thru Time Auto Museum](#)

Subject Area: Arts/Culture, History/Current Events, Science/Math/Technology

Thursdays: Single Session 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Start: Thu 5/15/25 **End:** Thu 5/15/25

Location: Rolling Thru Time Auto Museum

Class Size: 30

Additional Costs: General Admission is \$12, Seniors (55+) are \$10

Course Description

The "Rolling Thru Time" Auto Museum in Tucson was opened in October 2024. It contains approximately 250+ vehicles and displays housed in the 77,000 square foot air conditioned, former Davis Kitchen factory. The museum includes a Ford Model-T assembly line recreation, every year and almost every model of Ford Model-T vehicles, a Fire Engine collection, a Caterpillar, John Deere, and Ford tractor collection, additional vehicles ranging from a 1909 Buick up to a 2013 Ford Mustang Stage 3 Roush, Schwinn Bicycles, a Barbie Doll collection, a Beanie Baby collection, a working paint shop, mechanics bay, and machine shop. General Admission is \$12, Seniors (55+) are \$10, Children (age 6-12) are \$6, Age 5 and under are free, Military/First Responders are \$10, Students are \$10.

Instructor: Steve Felde

Steve is a retired mechanical engineer who worked for IBM, RainBird, and a small machine shop. Steve retired in 2015 and joined OLLI almost immediately.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

What are Special Interest Groups?

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are ongoing groups that meet and socialize regularly around a topic. It's easy to join, and you can do so at any time. You register just like you do for a class. There is a menu for special interest groups on the [Browse Classes](#) menu of the website, or you can register on the links below. Want to start a special interest group at OLLI? It can be online or in-person. Let us know your ideas: email us at ollimail@arizona.edu

In-Person SIGs

[Creative Fun](#)

One Saturday per Month: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Location: Central Tucson Campus and Online
OLLI-UA In-Person Special Interest Group for all members**

SIG Description

This Special Interest Group is designed to help our students learn/do/complete interesting creative projects while enjoying a social atmosphere. We are offering this class as a hybrid – online and in person. All OLLI-UA members, friends and family are welcome to join and experience the fun and creativity that OLLI can offer.

Our group will offer a variety of creative opportunities, including scrapbooking & card making, painting, needlework, beading, and much more in a casual, social setting. Bring your suggestions, unfinished projects to finish, learn new

activities, and/or provide your knowledge to the group.

We have scheduled to meet at least one Saturday per month from 10am-2pm. We can order lunch to be delivered or bring your own.

We anticipate eventually doing a larger scale project, such as a quilt for donation to charity. The possibilities are endless! Future dates for group sessions vary and are determined by the group.

[Community Service Special Interest Group](#)

Location: Varies

OLLI-UA In-Person Special Interest Group for all members

SIG Description

This is an ongoing, self-managed offering; join at any time.

Group Lead: Connie Lowy

Volunteer in the Community

OLLI Programs have a long tradition of giving back to the communities they serve. Join this group if you are interested in being part of a team dedicated to various community service initiatives. It is a great way to meet fellow members and give back to the community we live in. If you're interested in volunteering, join this SIG today! New volunteer opportunities will be added as they become available. Past projects have included helping at the Tucson Community Food Bank and the Tucson Festival of Books.

Online SIGs

[Fun with Games](#)

Every Sunday: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Location: Online Zoom Offering

OLLI-UA Online Special Interest Group for all members

SIG Description

What a great way to start your week! If you enjoy playing different games that will exercise your brain, as well as allow you to laugh and have fun with friends, please join your local members and members from other states each Sunday at 3 PM (Arizona time). I have a large collection of trivia and board games that I have adapted to use in the online zoom setting. All you need to bring each Sunday is a desire to have fun. If you are interested in joining in the fun, sign up today!

Spend an hour in the virtual lounge playing popular board games that have been adapted to online.

Two games will be played each session: one with teams competing and one with individual scoring.

Just show up: we provide the online games! This is a friendly competition with lots of fun & laughter to be shared!

Hosts: Frankie Harris & Susan Williams

[AI for Us 50+](#)

Every Tuesday: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Location: Online Zoom Offering

OLLI-UA Online Special Interest Group for all members

SIG Description

Are you curious about AI but not sure where to start? **AI for Us 50+** is a welcoming Special Interest Group (SIG) designed for OLLI-UA learners who want to explore and understand the fascinating world of Artificial Intelligence (AI)—especially Generative AI like ChatGPT, image creators, and voice assistants.

Although our primary focus will be how to talk to AI to get what you want, this group is a space for all AI-related discussions. Members are welcome to present their own topics, including ethical or societal concerns, new AI developments, or any other AI-related subject they'd like to explore. If there's interest in a specific topic, the facilitators may also prepare presentations upon request.

This is not a class—it's a fun, interactive community where we learn together, share experiences, and discover AI's possibilities in everyday life. Whether you're brand new to AI or already experimenting with it, this group is for you!

What to Expect

- Friendly, no-pressure discussions about AI in a way that's easy to understand.
- Engaging presentations and hands-on demos of AI tools useful to seniors.
- Show & Tell sessions where members can share AI discoveries.
- Guidance on talking to AI effectively (also known as Prompt Engineering).
- A flexible format shaped by YOU! We adapt to what the group finds most interesting.

OLLI-UA Summer 2025 – Special Interest Groups

Possible Meeting Formats (You Decide!)

We want this group to be shaped by your interests!

Here are some ways we can structure our meetings:

- Presentations & Discussions – We share AI news, breakthroughs, and trends.
- Bring Your Own Topic – A member presents an AI-related topic of interest.
- Show & Tell: Talking to AI – Learn how to ask AI better questions (prompt engineering).
- Hands-On with AI – Explore and experiment with AI tools together.

No tech experience needed—just curiosity and a willingness to explore!

Come be part of this exciting journey into AI with us!

Hosts: Angela & Tom Hathaway