



Osher Lifelong  
Learning Institute  
Emory Continuing Education



## Upcoming Courses Feb/March 2025

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REGISTER NOW

### ONE DAY COURSES (FEBRUARY)

#### The Life and Legacy of Abraham Lincoln

**Instructor:** Wendy Venet

**Dates:** 2/12/2025 - 2/12/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

The year 2025 marks the 160th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's death. This one-day class examines the life and legacy of America's greatest chief executive. We will consider Lincoln's role in preserving the Union and ending slavery. Additionally, we will explore the changing historical interpretations of Lincoln's presidency since 1865 and the image of Lincoln in popular culture.

#### Black History Month Celebrates Formidable Women

**Instructor:** Jill Parks

**Dates:** 2/24/2025 - 2/24/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

This class will present five formidable women who faced challenges to make lasting contributions to the arts, education, and civil rights. You will learn about Viola Luizzo, a civil rights activist who was murdered; Hattie McDaniel, the first African American to win an Oscar, but she was so much more; Mary McLeod Bethune, an educator who laid the foundation for the civil rights movement; Fannie Lou Hamer, organized voter registration while being harassed, shot at, and threatened; and Misty Copeland, the first African American Woman to be promoted to principal dancer for the American Ballet Theatre, after facing years of discrimination

#### Cardiology - How the Healthy Heart Works and Why it Matters

**Instructor:** Emory Medical Students

**Dates:** 2/24/2025 - 2/24/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM **Method:** Hyflex

Join first year Emory Medical Students as they discuss, Cardiology - How the Healthy Heart Works and Why it Matters. This presentation is on the heart's vital role in maintaining overall health and well-being. This session will explore the intricate structure and function of the healthy heart, from its rhythmic beats to the complex circulatory system it powers. Learn about how the heart works seamlessly to supply oxygen and nutrients throughout the body and discover why heart health is essential for longevity and quality of life. We'll also touch on practical tips for maintaining cardiovascular health and the early warning signs of heart-related issues. Whether you're looking to deepen your understanding of cardiology or seeking ways to support a healthy lifestyle, this talk will leave you informed and inspired to care for your heart.

#### The Meaning of Hijab-Muslim Headscarf

**Instructor:** Heidi Tauscher

**Dates:** 2/18/2025 - 2/18/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

In Arabic, hijab means "curtain." So, how did this term come to be embodied as the Muslim women's headscarf? And, why has the Islamic veil become so controversial? This presentation will explore the evolution of the hijab as well as its changing meaning for both Muslims and Westerners today. From the Qur'anic directive for modesty to the many forms of Islamic sartorial coverings, many Muslim women have embraced hijab as a personal choice for piety, respect, and autonomy. Yet, Westerners have too often interpreted hijab as a sign of submission and oppression. We will explore these diverse perspectives with the aim of mutual understanding.

## [The Rosenwald Schools](#)

**Instructor:** Jeff Milsteen

**Dates:** 2/25/2025 - 2/25/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM **Method:** Hyflex

What happens when the Jewish president of Sears Roebuck and the leading African-American educator of his time combine forces to build thousands of schools for African-American children across the Jim Crow South? This is exactly what happened when Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington hatched a plan that some have called the greatest act of social philanthropy in history. Join Jeff Milsteen for this fascinating look at a movement that changed the lives of thousands of African-American children, including the likes of Maya Angelou, Medgar Evers and John Lewis.

## [You're the Top: 1930s Popular Culture as Elaborated by Cole Porter](#)

**Instructor:** Michael McDavid

**Dates:** 2/26/2025 - 2/26/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

One of Cole Porter's most enduring songs, You're the Top, offers a fascinating glimpse into the world of the 1930s. It catalogs a "list" of people, places, and things that were in the news, on people's minds, or newly introduced. Some of the "tops" remain well known today while others were ephemeral and are long forgotten. If you're interested in a fun look at life in the '30s in the US and want to know more about Irene Bordoni or what was that moon over Mae West's shoulder, come join us for this nostalgic romp into another time and era.

## [CDC OLLI Group Tour: Thursday, February 27, 2025, 1:45PM](#)

**Instructor:**

**Dates:** 2/27/2025 - 2/27/2025 **DOW:** Thursday

**Time:** 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM **Method:** Off-Site

Join OLLI Members for a docent led tour at the Atlanta CDC Museum, Thursday, February 27th at 1:45PM.

## MARCH

### MONDAY

#### [Turning Points in American Women's History](#)

**Instructor:** Wendy Venet

**Dates:** 3/3/2025 - 3/24/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Method:** Hyflex

This 4-week class will examine major turning points in American Women's History, from the time of European contact to the late 20th century. Topics include women's changing economic role, family life, legal and political rights, race relations, and the impact of wars on women's lives. This class will include famous women such as Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, and Margaret Sanger, and less well-known figures including Sarah Hale, Susie King Taylor, and Luisa Moreno.

#### [Chair Yoga](#)

**Instructor:** Nutan Ahuja

**Dates:** 3/3/2025 - 3/24/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Method:** Zoom

Chair Yoga is a way to Sit Your Way to Better Health. Chair yoga's therapeutic adaptive exercises work your body from head to toe. Simple and easy movements are great for people in any condition, to do anytime and anywhere. Chair Yoga promotes well-being through breathing correctly and stretching in ways that will open up your body on the path to peace. These classes are a GREAT entry point for students OF ALL AGES AND ALL LEVELS.

#### [Celebrating Women's History in Classical Music](#)

**Instructor:** Judith Costello

**Dates:** 3/3/2025 - 3/24/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM **Method:** Zoom

During Women's History Month 2025, join us in celebrating women's contributions to Classical music, from the medieval cathedral to the intimate salons of the 18th and 19th centuries to the modern opera house and concert hall. Over the course of four weeks, we'll hear works by the multi-talented 12th-century mystic, composer, and scientist, Hildegard of Bingen. We'll explore the musical legacies of two female prodigies — Anna Maria "Nannerl" Mozart, and Fanny Mendelssohn — whose lives and musical careers were greatly overshadowed by those of their

younger brothers. And we'll pay tribute to the distinguished career of Clara Wieck Schumann as both pianist and composer. We'll listen to pieces which were written, published, and performed during times when women were often discouraged from displaying their musical talents in public; and we'll put a spotlight on some of the leading female composers, performers, and conductors active in our own day.

## TUESDAY

### The Crisis of Loneliness and Isolation

**Instructor:** Robert Pawlicki

**Dates:** 3/4/2025 - 3/25/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Method:** Classroom

Loneliness is dangerous. We are all lonely at one time or another, but prolonged loneliness is another matter. And right now, clinical loneliness has reached epidemic and pernicious levels. Psychologist Robert Pawlicki shares the differences between loneliness and time alone, the pervasiveness of loneliness in the United States, the evolution of loneliness and why loneliness has become so common. The news is not all bad. Science has shown that clinical loneliness is preventable, and imbedded loneliness can be overcome. As we age, loneliness is perhaps our most formidable obstacle. A true understanding of its harm and the means of protecting ourselves from its damage is a very good investment.

### Ikebana: Japanese Art of Flower Arrangement

**Instructor:** Nutan Ahuja

**Dates:** 3/4/2025 - 3/25/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM **Method:** Classroom

Ikebana, is an ancient Japanese art of flower arranging, guided by the desire to create harmony between flowers and their surroundings. More than merely 'decoration', the Ikebana way of flower arranging encourages to fully express by infusing each arrangement with a sense of space, motion, season, rhythm and emotion.

### House Seats: Great Broadway Musicals and How They Were Created

**Instructor:** Bill Nigut

**Dates:** 3/4/2025 - 3/25/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Classroom

Using audio and video highlights, we'll explore the evolution of the Broadway musical, from Jerome Kern to Rodgers and Hammerstein to Stephen Sondheim and beyond. We'll go behind the scenes to discuss how a great musical is created, and how one song can make the difference between a flop and a hit. And we'll look at how one generation of composers and lyricists informed the next, in a thread that runs from Showboat to Oklahoma to Rent, Into the Woods, Hamilton and more.

### Civil War Naval Action

**Instructor:** Michael K. Shaffer

**Dates:** 3/4/2025 - 3/25/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM **Method:** Zoom

At the outbreak of war, the United States had a minimal number of ships, the Confederacy had none. Over the course of four years, both sides ramped-up their floating forces with each adopting different tactics. During this course, we will explore various actions on the high seas as the Federals attempted to strengthen the blockade and capture Southern ports, while the Confederacy deployed commerce raiders to wreak havoc upon Northern merchant ships. In addition, we will also look at various brown water naval engagements - action, which occurred on rivers instead of at sea. Book required. War on the Waters, James McPherson.

### The Pleasures of Cooking for One...or Two

**Instructor:** Jody Wheeler

**Dates:** 3/4/2025 - 3/25/2025 **DOW:** Tuesday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM **Method:** Classroom

It is easy to believe it is not worth the effort to cook for one or maybe two in your household. This course inspired by the book "The Pleasures of Cooking for One" by Judith Jones, will encourage students to find joy in cooking for themselves. Cooks of all levels and experience will enjoy learning and discovering how to embrace the value in making delicious meals at home. Lessons will include understanding the many benefits of cooking, the basic tools needed, second rounds vs. leftovers, food storage techniques and recipe ideas to try.

## WEDNESDAY

### [The Magic Mountain by Thomas Mann](#)

**Instructor:** Harl Pike

**Dates:** 3/5/2025 - 3/26/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Method:** Classroom

Thomas Mann's 1924 masterpiece, *The Magic Mountain*, is set in a sanatorium in Davos, Switzerland, and explores timeless themes such as life, illness, death, love, and even the nature of time itself. At over 700 pages, it may seem daunting, but don't be intimidated! Whether you're encountering the novel for the first time or revisiting it, this course will guide you through its depth and complexity. Interested in why this book is worth your time? Check out [thepearlreview](#) on YouTube for insights on why even a 4-hour course on *The Magic Mountain* is a rewarding experience. Join us for an engaging exploration of Mann's profound narrative and themes. Required: A COPY OF THE MAGIC MOUNTAIN.

### [Poets at "Home"](#)

**Instructor:** Jim Mengert

**Dates:** 3/12/2025 - 4/2/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM **Method:** Classroom

Dorothy was right: "There's no place like home," variously experienced. As we age, the idea of house and home takes on greater resonance, either as a repository of memories or a place we have left or may soon leave for a safer or smaller place. Many poets have taken up this central subject. We'll look at what they've written and perhaps share some of our own experiences of house and home.

### [The Black Death in 14th Century Europe: Calamity and Opportunity](#)

**Instructor:** Paul Tribble

**Dates:** 3/5/2025 - 3/26/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

In the mid-14th century, the medieval world experienced one of the most devastating pandemics ever to strike humankind: the Black Death. Between 1346 and 1353, this disease—commonly thought to be some form of bubonic plague—swept across Europe from the east in a clockwise motion, tightening around the medieval world like a noose. When it was finally over, at least half of the population was dead. Social structures, political and

economic infrastructure, familial relationships, religious institutions, and more were all dramatically affected and, in many cases, irrevocably altered. Indeed, many scholars believe that the plague served as the catalyst that began the process of transforming the medieval world into the modern one.

## THURSDAY

### [Canada: Our 51st State?](#)

**Instructor:** Clive Gillon

**Dates:** 3/6/2025 - 3/27/2025 **DOW:** Thursday

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM **Method:** Hyflex

Seeing as the USA may be acquiring Canada in the not too distant future. It may be a good time to learn more about our neighbor to the North. Topics will include: 1. Canadian Geography 101 – an exhausting compilation of facts and figures that will help students decide if Canada is even worth acquiring. 2. A review of the current good (until recently) relationship between the two countries 3. How might the USA accomplish this task? Has it been tried before? Has it already started? What could be the major stumbling blocks? 4. Discussion of the potential impact of an acquisition: Political, Economic, Social and Legal.

### [Discussing Topics We Disagree On - A Workshop](#)

**Instructor:** Alice Huang

**Dates:** 3/6/2025 - 3/27/2025 **DOW:** Thursday

**Time:** 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Method:** Classroom

Are you bothered about feeling like your relationships may be at risk whenever the conversation turns to topics you are passionate about? Do you wish there was a way to have those conversations without putting your relationships in jeopardy? Would you like to consider some ideas about how to talk constructively when you disagree passionately with your conversation partners? This is a workshop to explore what might help, and then to try out our ideas as we discuss some topics that many find difficult. We will consider the importance of learning about the perspectives of people who disagree with us and about the nuances of what we agree and disagree on, the effects of the common tendency to push people into mutually exclusive us-vs-them categories, and

the challenge of trying to learn from those we think are wrong.

### [Voices of Ireland: A Feast of Irish Short Stories](#)

**Instructor:** Bert Parks; Jill Parks

**Dates:** 3/6/2025 - 3/27/2025 **DOW:** Thursday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

Irish literature is renowned for its rich story telling tradition. The Irish short story evolved naturally from the ancient tradition of oral storytelling in Ireland. By the mid-nineteenth century Irish writers had begun to use the English language to record the lives, and to convey the thoughts of the ordinary people – mostly impoverished ones. Writers such as James Joyce, Claire Keegan, Frank O’Conner, and Frank McCourt are masterful examples of this legacy. Each of these writers brings unique insights into Irish life, culture and history, while their works explore universal themes that resonate with readers worldwide. Join us for this four week class where we will study such writers as James Joyce who revolutionized the short story form with his collection Dubliners; Claire Keegan, whose stories are known for their emotional depth and lyrical prose; Frank O’Connor, whose stories focus on ordinary people grappling with love, loneliness, and moral dilemmas; Frank McCourt whose descriptions of poverty, family dynamics, and the immigrant experience offer a look at hardship while celebrating resilience and humor. These are just a few of the storytellers we will tackle.

## **ONE DAY COURSES (MARCH)**

### [OLLI Meet Up: Atlanta Fernbank Planetarium March 1, 2025](#)

**Instructor:** Peter Edward Campos

**Dates:** 3/1/2025 - 3/1/2025 **DOW:** Saturday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Off-Site

The Sky Tonight (Great Alignment of 7 planets).Join your friends at OLLI for a visit to the Atlanta Fernbank Science Center's Jim Cherry Memorial Planetarium on March 1, 2025, for their show "The Sky Tonight" hosted by astronomer Mark Lancaster. Here's your opportunity to ask questions about astronomy and

celestial objects to a local expert. Of special interest to us will be the Great Alignment of 7 planets in our sky the night before; it should still be visible for a couple of days after Feb 28. Admission is only \$5 each person in our group of seniors, payable on site.

### [The Importance of Effective Communication](#)

**Instructor:** Thomas Peters

**Dates:** 3/3/2025 - 3/3/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Classroom

Students will learn a variety of communication techniques to assist them in dealing with different types of people, sometimes in difficult situations. The instructor will interject some of his real life career experiences to make the class more interesting. Class participation time will be allotted for students to interject some of their actual experiences with several scenarios offered as possible situations they may have faced.

### [A Tale of Two ? Notre Dame before 2019 and after 2019](#)

**Instructor:** Allan Hing

**Dates:** 3/5/2025 - 3/5/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

Much interest has been shown to the restoration of Notre Dame after the fire in 2019. Notre Dame will be presented as to why it is an important example of French gothic architecture and its comparison to other European gothic versions. Following will be a brief history to its beginning in 1163 to Viollet-le - Duc’s 1844 renovation. The last five years of rebuilding the burnt cathedral and its opening in December 2024 will finish the presentation.

## [Verdi's Macbeth Opera](#)

**Instructor:** John Bayne

**Dates:** 3/7/2025 - 3/7/2025 **DOW:** Friday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

Join us for an engaging presentation in preparation for the Atlanta Opera's upcoming performance of Verdi's *Macbeth*. This insightful session, led by John Bayne, will dive into the opera's themes, characters, and the music that brings this intense drama to life. Through video highlights of key scenes and arias, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the psychological complexity of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth as they spiral into ambition, guilt, and madness. The presentation will also showcase several unique artifacts, including a piano-vocal score, an Italian-English libretto, a CD, and even a kilt, providing a tangible connection to the opera's Scottish setting. Whether you're a seasoned opera lover or new to Verdi's work, this session will enrich your experience, giving you a richer perspective as you attend the live performance. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the world of *Macbeth* before the curtain rises!

## [Atlanta Contemporary Jewelry Show OLLI Meetup](#)

**Instructor:** Annie Nichols

**Dates:** 3/8/2025 - 3/8/2025 **DOW:** Saturday

**Time:** 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM **Method:** Off-Site

Join fellow OLLI members for a fascinating exploration of artistry and craftsmanship at the Seventeenth Annual Atlanta Contemporary Jewelry Show! This signature cultural event brings together renowned jewelry artists from over 20 states, showcasing exquisite, handcrafted designs in a stunning two-day exhibition.

**Location:** The Carter Center, 453 John Lewis Freedom Parkway NE, Atlanta, GA 30307

**Tickets:** Special OLLI Group Rate: \$7 per person **(registration with OLLI required)**

**Parking:** Free onsite parking with a complimentary shuttle service. A portion of proceeds benefits CERF+ (Craft Emergency Relief Fund), supporting craft artists in times of need.

## [Atlanta Opera - Macbeth, March 9, 2025 - 3PM](#)

**Instructor:**

**Dates:** 3/9/2025 - 3/9/2025 **DOW:** Sunday

**Time:** 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM **Method:** Off-Site

Join other OLLI Members as we meet-up for a performance of *MacBeth*, March 9, 2025 - 3PM at [Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre](#).

Registration deadline February 20th.

A powerful and emotional work, *Macbeth* is the opera Giuseppe Verdi declared to be "unlike any other!" No love story here ... just a darkly riveting scramble to grab power at any cost. Dominating the drama, Michael Mayes as Macbeth and Sara Gartland as Lady Macbeth bring their passionate and dramatic voices to this tightly paced work of magnificent music. More information online.

## [Chinese Ghosts](#)

**Instructor:** Charles Emmons

**Dates:** 3/10/2025 - 3/10/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Classroom

An exploration of the significance of ghosts in traditional Chinese culture, especially ancestor worship, from the perspectives of sociology, anthropology and parapsychology; based on fieldwork and survey analysis in Hong Kong in 1979-80, with recent updates and comparisons to ghost experiences in the Western world. Discussion encouraged.

## [Safety Council Defensive Driving](#)

**Instructor:** Jim Spano

**Dates:** 3/14/2025 - 3/14/2025 **DOW:** Friday

**Time:** 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM **Method:** Classroom

National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course: This course emphasizes the importance of personal responsibility in safe driving. Participants will learn the mental strategies and knowledge necessary to become defensive drivers. The class will cover the seven most common driving mistakes and strategies to avoid them, as well as the five key conditions that impact driving skills and reaction time. Completing the course may qualify participants for a discount on their auto insurance.

### [Fatherhood in the Machine Age, 1918-1941](#)

**Instructor:** Ralph LaRossa

**Dates:** 3/19/2025 - 3/19/2025 **DOW:** Wednesday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Method:** Hyflex

"Every once in a while, in the ebb and flow of human events, there is an era so significant, so cataclysmic, that it forever changes the heart and soul of a country and its people. Such a time was the Machine Age, which, in America, began when World War I ended and ended when World War II began. . . . Much has been written about the Machine Age: about the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression, about the technological innovation and the personal devastation, about the national euphoria following the 'war to end all wars,' and the collective anguish over having to fight another. But the Machine Age was also an important time in the history of American gender relations, particularly in the history of American fatherhood. Full discription online.

### [Abstract Woman: A Painting Celebration for Women's History Month](#)

**Instructor:** Sarah Gearhart

**Dates:** 3/28/2025 - 3/28/2025 **DOW:** Friday

**Time:** 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM **Method:** Classroom

Join us for a vibrant and inspiring painting class in honor of Women's History Month! In this workshop, we will celebrate the strength, beauty, and diversity of women by creating an expressive abstract painting of a woman. Using bold colors, dynamic brushstrokes, and creative techniques, you'll learn how to capture the essence of femininity in an abstract style. Whether you're a seasoned artist or a beginner, this class encourages creative exploration and personal expression. Through guided instruction and artistic freedom, you'll leave with a unique piece that reflects the power and spirit of women throughout history. Come paint, celebrate, and be inspired! All materials will be provided.

### [A Rare Interview with Dorothy Parker](#)

**Instructor:** Special Presenter

**Dates:** 3/31/2025 - 3/31/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM **Method:** Hyflex

You may think you know all about Dorothy Parker, the writer, poet, critic, screenwriter, and founding member of the informal literary group known as the Algonquin Round Table. You may be familiar with many of her witty and often acerbic remarks, but this is a rare opportunity to hear from her as she looks back on her remarkable life, as she sits for an interview, in the intimate setting of her New York apartment in a one-woman show by storyteller Audrey Galex, written by the late actor/writer, Gina Barrett.

### [WWII Through the Eyes of a Child](#)

**Instructor:** Special Presenter

**Dates:** 3/31/2025 - 3/31/2025 **DOW:** Monday

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM **Method:** Hyflex

This course involves a woman that lived in France during the Nazi occupation in WWII. She discusses how the Nazi's occupied her home and goes into great detail on how her young life was shaped at this critical part of history. She has written her autobiography. In addition to Anne Marie discussing her book detailing her childhood, her friend, Beth Ann Wise will discuss how you can publish your own autobiography.

**April courses coming soon!**