

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
**OLLI** *at* **SOU**  
Southern Oregon University



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SPECIAL**  
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Fee

**PRIORITY REGISTRATION BEGINS FEBRUARY 23**

## Spring 2026 Course Catalog

March 30 to June 5, 2026

[sou.edu/olli](http://sou.edu/olli) • 541.552.6048 • [olli@sou.edu](mailto:olli@sou.edu)

*Come for the Classes, Stay for the Connections*

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**Contacting  
 OLLI at SOU**

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 (Office and Classrooms)**  
 655 Frances Lane  
 Ashland, Oregon

**Academic Year Office Hours**  
 Monday–Friday  
 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Summer Office Hours**  
 Monday–Thursday  
 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



**On the Cover**

A monarch butterfly on a butterfly bush.  
 Cover photo by Bob Palermi and interior  
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**Catalog Staff**

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 & Anne Coleman, Co-Chairs  
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**SPRING 2026 Course Catalog**

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From the beloved cast that sailed the high seas in *OLLI Abroad* comes a sparkling new adventure that charts the way through the ages and stages of life itself!

**THREE SHOWS:**

- March 27 & 28, 5 p.m. (pre-show wine + appetizers included)
- March 29, 2 p.m. (post-show wine + appetizers included)

Visit [sou.edu/olli/musical](http://sou.edu/olli/musical) for tickets to go on sale **March 4!**

**Did you know?** Membership fees only cover about *half* of our operating costs!



# Give to OLLI at SOU



Donate online at  
[giving.sou.edu/olli](http://giving.sou.edu/olli)



Gifts to OLLI's Annual Fund support organizational operations and other areas of need.  
Thank you for your generosity!

# OLLI Leadership 2025-2026

## Council Directors

John Schuyler, President  
Sarah Tisch, Vice President and  
President-Elect  
Myrna Hall, Treasurer  
Mary Devlin, Secretary  
Colet Allen, Director  
Tony Davis, Director  
Fernando Gapsin, Director  
Ann Magill, Director  
Tom Woosnam, Director

## Standing Committees

Communications  
Chair TBA  
Curriculum  
Ginny Blankinship and Anne  
Coleman, Co-chairs  
Finance  
Myrna Hall, Chair  
Fundraising  
Dwight Wilson, Chair  
Leadership Development  
and Recruitment  
Chair TBA  
Membership  
Chair TBA  
Programs and Activities  
Karla Langland, Chair  
Venue and Technology  
Lorraine Vail, Chair

## OLLI at SOU Administration

Administrative Director  
Heather Inghram  
Program Assistant  
Linda Powell  
Program Specialist  
Megan Rutherford

# Greetings From the OLLI Council President

Welcome to the spring term of OLLI at SOU. As we enter the last portion of the academic year, this catalog offers a wide variety of high-quality courses to check out. As a community of curious adults, hopefully you find one or more courses that both motivate and intrigue you.

Besides the courses, spring also offers opportunities for social engagement, so tune into the weekly Newsflash for announcements of one-time presentations, Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) and other important events.

Speaking of events, here are a few items I want to share with you:

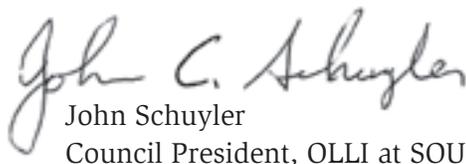
**OOOF Performances.** If you're like me, as the spring days got longer as a child, it meant time outside playing hide-and-seek. We would yell, "Olly, olly, oxen free!" to signal the end of the game, and a cadre of talented OLLI members is co-opting that phrase for a musical production. Join us from March 27-29 for a play that is guaranteed to be lots of fun.

**Council Election.** As a member-driven organization, spring sees the induction of three new council directors onto our governance structure and we say goodbye to three directors that have completed their terms. Please participate in this year's election as an informed voter — and better yet, as a candidate. No experience required — just the desire to see OLLI at SOU continue to thrive.

**Annual Membership Meeting.** Every year, we conduct a meeting to share past accomplishments, talk about the future, welcome incoming directors, enjoy a talk by a special guest and enjoy some ice cream. Mark your calendar for Friday, June 5, where we'll gather at Stevenson Union.

**Open House.** And lastly, another event to look forward to is our annual Open House. It brings together both current and prospective members, where we find out about upcoming courses, check out information from a variety of partners and partake in some great food. This year, we'll hold the Open House on Wednesday, August 12, 1-4 p.m. in the SOU Stevenson Union.

Sincerely,



John Schuyler  
Council President, OLLI at SOU



John Schuyler

# Join and register online at [sou.edu/olli](http://sou.edu/olli)

**1**

**Join OLLI at SOU** if you are not yet a 2025-26 member.

Visit the **Join/Renew** webpage or see page 63.



Find our registration tutorial videos at [www.youtube.com/@OLLIatSOU](http://www.youtube.com/@OLLIatSOU)

**2**

Submit up to your three most-wanted courses during **Priority Registration**.

*This increases the chances of getting what you want but is no guarantee. Enter requests in preferred order.*

**3**

Receive the status of your **Priority Registration** requests by email.

**4**

Register for any courses that have space during **Open Registration**.

## Important Dates & Closures

<b>Feb. 13</b>	Spring PDF Catalog posted online
<b>Feb. 17*</b>	Council Meeting 3:30–5:30 p.m.
<b>Feb. 23–Mar. 6</b>	Spring Priority Registration (begins 9 a.m.)
<b>Mar. 13</b>	Spring priority registration results emailed
<b>Mar. 13</b>	Winter Term ends
<b>Mar. 16</b>	Open Registration (begins 9 a.m.)
<b>Mar. 17*</b>	Council Meeting 3:30–5:30 p.m.
<b>Mar. 27–29</b>	“OLLI OLLI Oxen Free” Performances
<b>Mar. 30</b>	Spring Term begins
<b>Apr. 8</b>	New Member Social
<b>Apr. 19</b>	“A Man for All Seasons” Fundraiser
<b>Apr. 21*</b>	Council Meeting 3:30–5:30 p.m.
<b>May 1–31</b>	Fall course proposal period
<b>May 19*</b>	Council Meeting 3:30–5:30 p.m.
<b>May 25</b>	Memorial Day (closed)
<b>June 5</b>	Annual Membership Meeting / Spring Term ends
<b>July 1</b>	OLLI 2026–27 membership available

\* Council meetings are open to all OLLI at SOU members. Email [olli@sou.edu](mailto:olli@sou.edu) for the agenda and Zoom link.

# Course Identification for Registration

 **In-person** course numbers include a letter at the end that denotes where the course meets.

**A** = Ashland/Talent    **M** = Medford

 **Online** course numbers do not have a letter.

 **Hybrid** courses offer simultaneous in-person and online participation options. Register for the one option that you prefer. The in-person section has a letter at the end of the course number (SOC139A). The online section does not have a letter at the end (SOC139).

 Indicates the course requires a signed liability waiver.

## Primary Course Locations



### Ashland

SOU Campbell Center

655 Frances Lane

Street parking available; free parking in Lot 16 and at Grace Lutheran Church.



### Medford

RCC/SOU Higher Education Center

101 S. Bartlett Street

Metered and street parking available.



### Medford

Rogue Valley Manor Skyline Plaza

1 Skyline Drive

Free parking available in the Skyline Plaza parking lot.

Addresses for courses held at other locations are included in each course description.



Parking guides and directions are available on our website: [sou.edu/olli/about/contact](https://sou.edu/olli/about/contact).



Visit [sou.edu/olli/news-events](https://sou.edu/olli/news-events) for our calendar and event details.

# What's in Bloom This Spring

This spring, we continue the momentum that we started in winter term. In the coming weeks, you will hear a lot about “OOOF.” “OOOF” is short for “OLLI OLLI Oxen Free!,” our member-produced variety show. The cast of “OLLI Abroad!” comes together again to dazzle us with personal anecdotes and stories from various phases of life. This production will be hosted on campus in the Meese Auditorium of the SOU art building. Our November 2023 “OLLI Abroad!” production won an award for wow-ing and entertaining members at the Osher National Conference last April. Show your support for OLLI at SOU and our hardworking cast and crew by attending a performance on March 27, 28 or 29. Ticket details will be on our website and in our Newsflash.



Heather Inghram



Linda Powell

Over the past couple of months, an ad-hoc committee has been hard at work on shifting our approach to volunteer recruitment and engagement. Since its inception over 30 years ago, our OLLI has prided itself on being largely “member-run.” This organization continues to run on curiosity, connection and volunteers. Some roles are ongoing and collaborative; others are short-term, occasional or behind the scenes. The best fit is simply what matches your interests, energy and schedule. I encourage you to visit our revamped Get Involved webpage and fill out our volunteer interest form.

Lastly, I am pleased to introduce you all to our new OLLI administrative program assistant, Linda Powell. Linda comes to us from SOU’s Small Business Development Center, having served over six years at SOU. She is already proving to be an asset to our team. Linda enjoys traveling, visiting and learning about our great country and the different cultures within each state. Please be sure to welcome her to OLLI at SOU when you meet her!

Best,

Heather Inghram, Administrative Director, OLLI at SOU



## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

*Come for the classes,  
Stay for the connections*

- ▶ Attend members-only social events throughout the year.
- ▶ Partake in one-time presentations and exciting activities.
- ▶ Participate in Shared Interest Groups and Talk to Us interviews.
- ▶ Unlock access to 300-plus courses over three terms.
- ▶ Learn from passionate instructors without the pressure of tests or grades.
- ▶ Embark on local, national and international travel adventures.
- ▶ Check out SOU Hannon Library materials free through the one-credit program.
- ▶ Utilize the Student Recreation Center as a community member: [recreation.sou.edu](http://recreation.sou.edu).
- ▶ Purchase \$5 tickets to OCA theater performances by visiting [oca.sou.edu](http://oca.sou.edu) and choosing “OLLI” at checkout.
- ▶ Enjoy \$2 to \$8 tickets to SOU athletic events (ticket price varies depending on sport) at [souraiders.com](http://souraiders.com). Choose “OLLI” at checkout.
- ▶ Engage in OLLI at SOU to bring what you want to see!



Visit [sou.edu/olli/get-involved/join](http://sou.edu/olli/get-involved/join) for more information and to join today!

# OLLI COURSES SPRING 2026

Courses are listed by day of the week, then chronologically by start date.  
**Course descriptions begin on Page 11.**

**For the most up-to-date information on courses, visit the online course catalog at [sou.edu/olli](http://sou.edu/olli).**

In-person:  Online:  Hybrid: 

TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	START DATE	SESSIONS	PACIFIC TIME	INSTRUCTOR(S)	FORMAT	PAGE
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## Monday

College Admissions: A Guide for Mentors	SOC343A	3/30	5	9-10:30	Fisher		49
Gutenberg to TikTok: Media History and Its Impact	HIST313A	3/30	4	9-11	Meyer		21
Hiking Ashland's Trails With Your Canine Pal	MOV312A	3/30	6	9-11	M. Hall		33
Reading Mary Oliver Using Reader Response	LIT341	3/30	6	9-11	Pratt		30
Let's Tangle: Introduction to Zentangle	ARTS351M	3/30	5	10-noon	Cleckner		18
Automatic Writing: A Door to Creativity and Clarity	PERS369	3/30	7	11-12:30	Phillis		38
Chalk Pastel Artwork	ARTS370A-1	3/30	3	11-12:30	Wilkinson		19
Playful Art 1	ARTS311A	3/30	4	11-12:30	Fields & Esposito		19
The Role of Energy: Ecology and Economics	STEM204	3/30	8	11-12:30	C. Hall		48
Basic Acting: Finding What Lies Beneath the Words	ARTS399A	3/30	6	1-2:30	Fogle		16
Broadway Musicals, Small Hits and Near Misses, Part 3	ARTS363A	3/30	7	1-3	Fishel		16
Enneagram Type Panels: The Narrative Tradition	PERS129A	3/30	9	1-3	Marsak		39
Introduction to Color Work in Knitting	REC334A	3/30	4	1-2:30	Bailey & Colvin		43
Free the Ribs	MOV313A	3/30	6	2-3	Forest		32
Introduction to Tai Chi for Health and Longevity	MOV144A	3/30	6	3:30-4:30	Forest		33
Tai Chi for Health and Longevity: A Yang Short Form	MOV311A	3/30	6	5-6	Forest		34
Awaken to Living Unleashed: Your Life Your Way	PERS371A	4/6	4	9-10:30	Altman		38
Hanford, Oregon's Nuclear Neighbor	STEM301	4/6	3	9-10:30	Wyatt		47
Pickleball: Absolute Beginners	REC103A	4/6	5	2:30-4	Frank		44
Better Photos Through Post-Processing	ARTS368A	4/13	4	9-10:30	Palermi		17
Physics for Nonphysicists: Newton's Laws	STEM105A	4/13	6	11-12:30	J. Johnson		48
The Positive Power of Play	MOV318A	4/13	6	4:30-5:30	Joy		34
Home Transition: Sell, Buy or Move to Senior Care	LIFE305A	4/20	5	11-12:30	Berns		28
Radical Loving	PERS364A	4/20	4	11-12:30	Marcandonatou		40
OLLI Goes to the Ashland Independent Film Festival	ARTS121A	4/27	3	3:30-5:30	Vail & Ferguson		12
Pickleball: Advanced Beginners	REC137A	5/4	5	2:30-4	Frank		44

## Tuesday

Chalk Pastel Artwork	ARTS370A-2	3/31	3	9-10:30	Wilkinson		18
Hot News & Cool Views	SOC139	3/31	10	9-10:30	Vann		50
Comedy Through the Centuries	ARTS414	3/31	3	11-12:15	Engel		16
Best American Short Stories, 2025	LIT306A	3/31	8	11-12:30	Kelly		29
Home Maintenance and Repair	LIFE312A	3/31	8	11-12:30	Hrdlicka		27
How to Keep Your Marbles	PERS120A	3/31	7	11-12:30	Kalb		40

TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	START DATE	SESSIONS	PACIFIC TIME	INSTRUCTOR(S)	FORMAT	PAGE
U.S. Lesbians: As American as America the Beautiful	SOC346A	3/31	10	11-1	Felicity		52
Dancing Through Time	MOV316A	3/31	10	1-2:30	Stephens		32
Managing Your Cash Flow in Retirement	LIFE121A	3/31	3	1-2:30	Bleicker		28
Reconstruction: A Path to Understanding MAGA	HIST321A	3/31	7	1-3	Gapasin		22
The Power of the Consumer	SOC309M	3/31	8	1-3	Earley		51
Becoming a Refugee: Six Ukrainian Women's Stories	PERS315	3/31	6	1:30-3:30	Paré		38
Music Theory, Composition and Blues	ARTS395A	3/31	5	1:30-3	Broder		13
The Cyrillic Alphabet Over Time and Geography	LANG163	3/31	3	1:30-3	Levitt & A. Taylor		25
Cut-Up Poetry	ARTS276A	3/31	4	3:30-5	Ehrman		20
Un Decamerone di Conversazioni Italiane	LANG174A	3/31	5	3:30-5	George		25
The Comedy Classics of W.C. Fields	ARTS394A	3/31	5	3:30-5:30	Ferguson		12
Mindful Movement: Qigong and Stretching	MOV125	4/7	4	9-10:30	Raynolds		33
The Poetry of Resistance, Rebellion and Revolution	LIT342	4/7	3	9-10:30	L. Taylor		31
Introduction to Ceramics: Handbuilding	ARTS325A	4/7	8	9:30-noon	Klinger		53
Introduction to the Lathe	ARTS407A	4/7	4	9:30-noon	Weston		54
Passion for Printing	ARTS409A	4/7	8	9:30-noon	Godard		54
The Spanish Civil War: A 20th-Century Tragedy	HIST339	4/7	5	1-3	LaLande		22
Observational Astronomy	STEM319M	4/7	6	3:30-4:30	Laurenti		47
See Like a Geologist: The Landscape Around You	STEM203A	4/14	6	1-3	Grove		48
The Biology of Sexual Identity	STEM308	4/21	2	11-noon	Gordian		48
Snapshot: Shakespeare at OSF 2026	LIT339A	4/21	3	1-3	Stitham		31
Russian: Focus on Pronunciation	LANG170A	4/21	7	1:30-3	Levitt & A. Taylor		24
Ranked Choice Voting to Elect Community Leaders	SOC121	4/28	2	11-12:30	Klein		51
The Piano: A Musical Instrument and a Machine!	ARTS132A	4/28	3	11-12:30	Barasa		15
Stress Relief: Deep Relaxation and Wisdom Teachings	PERS309A	4/28	5	1-3	Hubler		41
AI, ChatGPT and Lifelong Learning	STEM330A	4/28	6	3:30-5	B. Evans		46
Communicating Peace, Through History and Today	SOC344A	5/5	5	9-10	Clennan		49
The Range of Light	NAT302A	5/5	4	9-10:30	Schuyler		36
Revocable Trusts, Wills and the Probate Process	LIFE313A	5/12	4	1-3	Good & Vaile		29
Musical Temperament, Theory and Applications	ARTS396A	5/19	3	11-12:30	Barasa & J. Johnson		14

## Wednesday

The Constitution in Everyday Life	SOC146-1	4/1	4	9-10	Massie		51
Immobile Home Parks: Solutions to Serious Problems	LIFE321	4/1	6	9-10:30	Bateman		28
Wild Writing Circle	PERS368A	4/1	4	9-10:30	Neuberger		42
A Beethoven Celebration: Symphonies 6-9	ARTS412	4/1	5	11-12:30	P. Evans		13
AI and the Imaginal Right Brain	PERS360A	4/1	6	11-12:30	Hermanson		37
Early Christian Art	ARTS405A	4/1	5	11-12:30	Renwick		18
English Country Dance	MOV106A	4/1	7	11-12:30	Friendly		32
Enjoy German!	LANG109A	4/1	4	11-12:30	Gorsch-Nies		23
Front Porch Music	ARTS307A	4/1	8	11-12:30	Hale		13
Knitting Your First Sweater	REC335A	4/1	5	11-12:30	Bailey		44

TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	START DATE	SESSIONS	PACIFIC TIME	INSTRUCTOR(S)	FORMAT	PAGE
The Constitution in Everyday Life	SOC146-2	4/1	4	11-noon	Massie		51
Ethics in an Age of Existential Crises	SOC314A	4/1	10	1-2:30	Kastenberg		50
Peter Jackson's 'Lord of the Rings' Films	LIT338A	4/1	3	1-3	Keeling		30
Reconstruction: A Path to Understanding MAGA	HIST321	4/1	7	1-3	Gapasin		22
Rediscovering Presence in a Screen-Focused World	SOC345A	4/1	6	1-3	Walker		51
Social Singing	ARTS318A	4/1	7	1-2:30	Friendly		14
The Joy Map	PERS366A	4/1	4	1-3	Miles		41
An Introduction to the Ancient Practice of Dowsing	PERS336A	4/1	6	3:30-5	S. & C. Bosbach		37
Bee Curious: Supporting Pollinators at Home	NAT327A	4/1	5	3:30-5	Brown		35
Two-Day Gelli Print Workshop	ARTS410A	4/1	2	3:30-6	Cavecche		19
Beginning PC Computers	STEM324A	4/8	8	9-10:30	H. Campbell		46
Adventures in Travel	LANG105	4/8	4	3:30-5	Davis		23
Four Questions: Histories of Science	HIST336	4/8	5	3:30-5	Drury		20
Cook Along: Let's Noodle Around	REC337	4/8	2	3:30-5:30	Schack		43
Variations on a Theme: Drawing, Painting and Collage	ARTS411A	4/8	6	3:30-5:30	Maitland-Gholson		19
AI: Harari's Warning in His Book 'Nexus'	SOC342A	4/29	5	9-10:30	Kohler		49
Wonder Everywhere: Cultivating Mundane Wonder	PERS370A	4/29	4	11-12:30	Chapman		42
Still Inching Toward Intermediate Spanish	LANG151A	4/29	5	1-3	Coppedge		25
Wines and Wineries of Southern Oregon	REC134A	4/29	5	3-5	Dawson		45
Nature Journaling in Your Backyard and Beyond	NAT319M	5/6	3	10-noon	Laidlaw		35
Writing a Legacy Letter	ARTS317	5/6	4	11-12:30	Sherwin		20
Art Journaling	ARTS402A-1	5/13	4	1-2:30	Wilkinson		17
Older Drivers and Safety	LIFE308M	5/13	2	1-4:30	Wise		29

## Thursday

Dance Is Happiness: Stretches at the Ballet Barre	MOV320	4/2	4	9-10	Gaumond Hyrst		32
Washington Watch	SOC154A	4/2	10	9-10	Runkel		52
How Sondheim Can Change Your Life	ARTS413	4/2	8	9-10:30	Caraher		13
How to Talk With Anyone	PERS362A	4/2	5	9-10:30	Mueller		40
Killing for Coal: The Ludlow Massacre	HIST337	4/2	6	9-10:30	Cannon		21
Shaw: The Second-Greatest English Dramatist	ARTS401A	4/2	7	9-10:30	Graybill		17
The Irish Hurricane Sessions of 1987	ARTS344A	4/2	4	9-11	O'Scannell		15
Walking Ashland's Trails	MOV147A	4/2	6	9-11	DeMerritt & Greenwood		34
Conscious Aging and the Enneagram	PERS322A	4/2	7	10:30-12:30	Widup		38
A Simple Explanation of the Gnostic Gospel	PERS345	4/2	10	11-12:30	Ropp		36
Songwriting	ARTS287	4/2	8	11-12:30	Caraher		14
Texas Hold'em Poker Advanced Strategies	REC336A	4/2	6	11-12:30	Stewart		45
Wines of the Old World	LANG176	4/2	5	11-noon	Eckert		26
Singing in French (by Ear)	ARTS397A	4/2	9	11:30-1	Kohler & Jacquot		14
Accessing Inner Guidance	PERS102A	4/2	4	1-2	Lash		37
Accessible Meditation	PERS308A	4/2	7	1-2:30	Huffman		37
'Les Misérables': A Tale for Our Time	LIT340	4/2	10	1-2:30	J. Campbell & Silbaugh		30

TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	START DATE	SESSIONS	PACIFIC TIME	INSTRUCTOR(S)	FORMAT	PAGE
Get Organized With Apple Apps and iCloud	STEM175	4/2	5	1-3	Strudler		47
Improv for Beginners: Yes, and ... With Friends	ARTS400A	4/2	5	1-3	Molacek		17
Steppe Nomads of the Classical Age	HIST338	4/2	10	1-3	Roby		22
The American War in Vietnam: Lessons Never Learned	HIST325A	4/2	6	1-3	Guy		22
A Baha'i Response to the Decline of Organized Religion	SOC341A	4/2	5	3:30-5	Young		49
Conversaciones	LANG161	4/2	5	3:30-5	Blankinship		23
Historic and Artistic Coins of the Ancient Greeks	LANG162A	4/2	5	3:30-5	Wetmore		24
Anthems for Outsiders	ARTS393A	4/2	5	3:30-6	Woosnam		12
Dyeing to Sew	ARTS404A	4/9	8	9:30-noon	Acord		53
Introduction to 3D Printing	STEM331A	4/9	4	9:30-noon	Schubert		53
Introduction to Stained Glass	ARTS406A	4/9	4	9:30-noon	R. Evans		53
Making Metal Clay Jewelry	ARTS408A	4/9	4	9:30-noon	Ruiz		54
Evolving Into Your Higher Consciousness	PERS361A	4/9	4	11-12:30	Gibson		39
John Quincy Adams: The Rest of the Story	HIST324A	4/9	5	1-3	Stitham		21
Animal and Fairy Stories	NAT326A	4/9	5	3:30-5	Shor		35
Pickleball: Round-Robin FUNdamentals Collective	REC313A	4/23	3	8:30-11:30	Frank		45
The Salon: A Women's Wisdom Circle	PERS367A	4/30	6	1-3	Decerrini		42
Care Circles: Informal Aging Support	LIFE300A	5/7	4	11-12:30	Bellegia & D. Johnson		26
Fanning the Female Flame After Menopause	PERS259A	5/14	4	1-3	Preslar		39

## Friday

A Virtual Tour of the Balkans	LANG175	4/3	3	9-10	J. & A. McCoy		23
DIY FUNdamental Stock Analysis: Beyond Beginners	LIFE141	4/3	8	9-10:30	Couey & Smith		27
Let's Play Pinochle	REC316A	4/3	8	9-11	Loftus		44
Washington Watch	SOC154M	4/3	10	9-10	Runkel		52
Sanskrit Chanting: Gayatri Mantras	PERS365A	4/3	6	11-12:30	Leviton		41
The Romantic Imagination	ARTS398A	4/3	6	1-2:30	Jaffe & Santourian		15
AI and You	STEM209A	4/3	5	1-3	Davis		46
Dig Deeper Into World Events and U.S. Foreign Policy	SOC204A	4/3	10	1-3	Vischer		50
Get Organized With Apple Apps and iCloud	STEM175A	4/3	5	1-3	Strudler		47
Crumb Quilted Projects	REC333A	4/3	3	3:30-5:30	Brantley		43
Nature Appreciation/Meditation	PERS363A	4/10	2	9-10:30	Hering		40
Introduction to Genealogy	REC128M	4/10	6	10:30-1:30	Billeter		43
Have Fun Learning About Birds	NAT130A	4/10	5	11-12:30	Rio		35
End-of-Life Preparation	LIFE107M	4/10	3	1-2:30	Wilson		27
John Quincy Adams: The Rest of the Story	HIST324	4/10	5	1-3	Stitham		21
Introduction to Teaching at OLLI at SOU	TEACH100A	4/17	3	9-10:30	Blankinship & Coleman		11
Civil Rights, Party Realignment and Neoliberalism	HIST335A	4/17	8	1-3	Gapasin & Ben-Baruch		20
Art Journaling	ARTS402A-2	5/15	4	9-10:30	Wilkinson		17

# Course Descriptions

One or more of these courses may present aspects of a matter of public debate. Views expressed by the instructor/facilitator are not necessarily those of OLLI at SOU or Southern Oregon University. Please read the course descriptions and notes carefully before registering and contact the OLLI office if you have questions or concerns.



indicates the course requires a signed liability waiver prior to participation

## Teaching at OLLI

### Introduction to Teaching at OLLI at SOU

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to teach an OLLI course? This three-session course is designed to answer that question and to help you prepare that course. We'll talk about OLLI demographics and the OLLI learner; hear from experienced instructors about teaching skills, course design, venues and online versus classroom teaching; the elements of a successful course and how to avoid pitfalls. Participants will also be introduced to the course

proposal form and have the opportunity to work on their course with committee members. Join us to see how your dedication to lifelong learning can include the creative endeavor of course design and teaching.

**NOTE:** Membership not required for this course. Contact the OLLI office for registration assistance.

**TEACH100A** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 25  
F · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/17/2026–5/1/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Ginny Blankinship, Anne Coleman



## SHARE YOUR PASSION!

### Teach with OLLI at SOU

- Use your special knowledge to connect with others.
- No teaching experience or membership required.
- Create your own course, on Zoom or in-person.

For details,  
scan the  
QR code.



### Fall 2026 Course Proposals Accepted May 1-31

To join the list of prospective instructors to receive course-proposal deadline notices and training information, email Anne Coleman at [apcoleman2019@gmail.com](mailto:apcoleman2019@gmail.com).

# Arts: Film/TV/Radio

## **NEW!** Anthems for Outsiders

Journey through five iconic films that use music as a catalyst for identity, resistance and unconventional community, as well as highlighting youth culture's impact on society and self-discovery. Their soundtracks do more than embellish; they drive the spirit and story of a generation. From the exuberance of new youth culture ("A Hard Day's Night") to the coming-of-age awakening ("The Graduate" and "American Graffiti") to the quirky embrace of outsiders ("Harold and Maude") and the pursuit of soul and belonging ("The Commitments") each film uses music to define identity, challenge convention and capture the hope and rebellion of its era. Explore how soundtracks shape, and are shaped by, personal and cultural transformation. We will watch the films together with discussion to follow.

**ARTS393A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
Th · 3:30–6:00PM  
4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tom Woosnam



## OLLI Goes to the Ashland Independent Film Festival

The 2026 Ashland Independent Film Festival returns to the Varsity Theatre April 23-26 with another outstanding slate of fine films from international and domestic filmmakers. OLLI members will view six preselected films over the four-day festival weekend. During the week following the festival, OLLI members will meet three times to discuss the films. The films are a mix of documentary and narrative films that have recently premiered at U.S. and international film festivals. The discussions will focus on the cinematic qualities of the films, with emphasis on the choices made by the filmmaker; the effectiveness of those choices; and the cultural, sociological and artistic content of the films.

**NOTE:** Students will purchase their tickets on the Ashland Independent Film website. It is expected the price will be \$12 per film.

**ARTS121A** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
M, W, F · 3:30–5:30PM  
4/27/2026–5/1/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Lorraine Vail, Dave Ferguson

## **NEW!** The Comedy Classics of W.C. Fields

W.C. Fields holds a unique place in film history. His humor was defined by a misanthropic persona: a hard-drinking, sarcastic egotist who held a biting contempt for societal norms. His style combined physical comedy, a unique raspy drawl and a grandiloquent vocabulary, allowing him to portray lovable curmudgeons and henpecked everyman characters with a sympathetic charm. As he famously said, "I am free of all prejudice. I hate everyone equally." We will view and discuss five classic W.C. Fields movies: "You're Telling Me," "It's a Gift," "Man on the Flying Trapeze," "You Can't Cheat an Honest Man" and "The Bank Dick."

**ARTS394A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 53  
Tu · 3:30–5:30PM  
3/31/2026–4/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dave Ferguson

# Arts: Music

## A Beethoven Celebration: Symphonies 6–9

This is the second in a six-course series on the music of Beethoven, in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of his death in 1827. We'll look at and listen to his last four symphonies, exploring how Beethoven expanded and changed the symphonic form from his earlier symphonies and how the spirit of Romanticism began to play a role. No previous knowledge is expected. The course will be mostly lecture, using PowerPoint and YouTube for musical examples.

**NOTE:** This course is part of an online share with OLLI at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**ARTS412** · 5 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/1/2026–4/29/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Peggy Evans

## Front Porch Music

We won't actually be playing on our front porches, but we will be playing the kind of music that's fun to play and sing at parties or informal gatherings with like-minded musicians. Students are invited to bring a song to teach to the group, and everybody will play it through. Songs should be easily accessible, easy to learn and fun to play! Instruments would typically be harmony instruments: guitars, banjos, keyboard, mandolins, ukuleles, harmonicas, basses and fiddles. Students are expected to be able to play chords in the basic keys of C, A, G, E and D and have a tuner for their instrument. A music stand is very helpful as well as a three-ring notebook. No music reading ability is required. New and former students are welcome.

**ARTS307A** · 8 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 10  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/1/2026–5/20/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Norman Hale

## **NEW!** How Sondheim Can Change Your Life

This course tracks the progression of Stephen Sondheim's career using as a guide the book "How Sondheim Can Change Your Life" by Richard Schoch. Every week we will take a deep dive into a different Sondheim musical, listening and then discussing the lyrics and the meaning of the work. I'm not sure anyone's life will be changed, but it will be a delightful journey. Familiarity with Sondheim's works is not required but would be helpful.

**ARTS413** · 8 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Th · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/2/2026–5/21/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Denny Caraher

## **NEW!** Music Theory, Composition and Blues

Using a combination of lecture, discussion, demonstration and participation, students will study the fundamentals of music theory, beginning with the notes, intervals and chords of the C-major scale. Each week we will work through exercises in the assigned workbook, progressing through major and minor scales, and chords and intervals. Students are invited to bring their own instruments to class. Participants will learn the basic blues chord progression, which is the foundation of American folk and popular music. The class will be relaxed and fun, and students will be encouraged to create their own songs and share them with the class.

**NOTE:** Required workbook: "Music Theory Workbook for all Musicians" by Chris Bowman, \$16.99, available on Amazon.

**ARTS395A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 16  
Tu, Th · 1:30–3:00PM  
3/31/2026–4/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Broder

## **NEW!** Musical Temperament, Theory and Applications

Tuning a musical instrument to the Western 12-note scale requires compromises in the “distance” between notes. Temperaments are tuning systems that incorporate these compromises by “tempering” (adjusting) the pitches to meet different musical needs. Various tuning systems achieve these compromises in different ways, resulting in different sounding chords. This course will demonstrate why the compromises are necessary, how they are achieved and how we perceive them. The course will present and demonstrate the physical properties of sound, the origin of the 12-note scale and a history of various temperaments that arose to tune those 12 notes, including Pythagorean, just, meantone, well and equal. What have we lost by using equal temperament since the 20th century, and what have we gained?

**NOTE:** The instructors will use PowerPoint, demonstrations and audio examples live and from the internet. Some knowledge of music will be useful for a full understanding of temperament.

**ARTS396A** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
Tu · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
5/19/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Barb Barasa, John Johnson

## **NEW!** Singing in French (by Ear)

Monsieur Louis (a French wannabe) and Monsieur Richard Jacquot (a true Frenchman in every respect) are back and ready to help you improve your French pronunciation and get you singing from the heart as only French songs can elicit! We will start with one or two songs for the first session, focus on pronunciation and meaning, and then begin singing. We will repeat and ideally add songs in subsequent sessions. Extra help will be available in the form of recordings of each song by Monsieur Louis. Guitar will be the main accompaniment instrument, but if we can get a room with a piano, we may find a pianist among us to add variety and interest.

**ARTS397A** · 9 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 26  
Th · 11:30AM–1:00PM  
4/2/2026–5/28/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Urban Kohler, Richard Jacquot

## Social Singing

Singing together is one of the more joyful things in life. Come sing in an informal session, no matter your experience or skill. We’ll sing traditional songs with fine choruses and refrains — sea songs, works songs, drinking songs, love songs, shanties, silly songs and easy rounds from the U.S., Canada and England. Some songs from previous terms may repeat — students who take this course more than once love old favorites — and some will be new. Chorus tunes will be taught by ear and all singing will be done a capella. Most chorus words will be provided.

**ARTS318A** · 7 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 63  
W · 1:00–2:30PM  
4/1/2026–5/13/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Brooke Friendly

## Songwriting

Anyone can write a song! Whether you are a seasoned lyricist or have never written a song at all, this course will help you create something totally new. Some class time will be spent listening to and analyzing songs that are well-crafted. We will discuss how the example songs can be used as guides and inspiration. Most of the class will be spent doing writing exercises that will result in the beginning of songs. Over the ensuing week, each student will expand and refine the in-class work to fashion a song. We will listen to and talk about the completed (or incomplete) songs the following week.

**NOTE:** The course will require significant time outside class. It is highly recommended that each student be able to play an instrument. No one has to be an accomplished player, but basic knowledge of chords is helpful.

**ARTS287** · 8 Sessions  
Online  
class size 8  
Th · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/2/2026–5/21/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Denny Caraher

## The Irish Hurricane Sessions of 1987

A frolicking jaunt through parts of Ireland forms the framework for this course. An epic eight-week tour of Ireland began days after the Great Hurricane of 1987, leveling trees in London and the Channel Islands. Dublin, Belfast, Cavan, Doolin, Galway and Sligo were the main destinations, and crazy adventures dotted the tour. Two Yank girls found themselves the objects of some interest as well. Details about the “session scene” in Ireland are given real flesh on the bone, as famous musicians and sessions, regional styles and terms such as the craic are explored. Students will have ample opportunity to ask questions and guide the lively and humorous narrative. Songs and tunes will be presented throughout for a thoroughly musical experience. The course ends — with a live session!

**ARTS344A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 53  
Th · 9:00–11:00AM  
4/2/2026–4/23/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Patricia O’Scannell

## **NEW!** The Piano: A Musical Instrument and a Machine!

We all know the piano is a musical instrument. But what is going on inside the piano? How is a piano different from a harpsichord? What does it mean to say a piano is “in tune” and how do you tell? Through lecture, Q&A and hands-on exploration, we’ll see the evolution from harpsichords to fortepianos to pianos, how the “machine” parts work and how pianos are tuned. We will look at a harpsichord, an upright piano and a grand piano and take parts out to see how different they are. This course will appeal to people interested in music and to those who like to know how things work. A complementary course this term offers the theory and practical application (including demonstrations) of different tuning systems (temperaments). Take them both for twice the fun!

**NOTE:** The second session of this course will be taught at the SOU Music Building.

**ARTS132A** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
Tu · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/28/2026–5/12/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Barb Barasa

## **NEW!** The Romantic Imagination

What is Romanticism? The term suggests artists, poets and composers who emphasize German emotion and yearn to be at one with nature. This course will specifically explore Romanticism, known for its complexity, contradictions and nuance. The music of Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn and late Beethoven will be presented in the context of such Romantic values as emotional intensity, expression of personal feelings, the use of nature, folklore and the supernatural as inspiration. Likewise, the great poets of that era, namely, Schiller, Holderlin, Heine and Novalis, will be considered in terms of their yearning, idealism and efforts to reconcile sensation with reason. Through lectures, presentations of music and poetry and Q&A, we will delve into the riches of German Romanticism.

**ARTS398A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 34  
F · 1:00–2:30PM  
4/3/2026–5/8/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Linda Jaffe, Asadour Santourian



# SAVE THE DATE

## OLLI at SOU Open House

Wednesday, August 12, 1–4 p.m.  
SOU Stevenson Union

Plan to attend our premier event  
of the summer!

Contact Megan Rutherford at  
olli@sou.edu to lend a hand.

# Arts: Theater

## **NEW!** Basic Acting: Finding What Lies Beneath the Words

What does it take to be an actor? Most of it is commitment — to the emotional life of the character you are bringing to life. It takes painstaking line-by-line analysis of the text, historical research and, more than anything, a courageous willingness to expose a bit of yourself while acting. The course will follow the belief of the famous acting instructor Stella Adler in the power of the imagination. We will also explore techniques actors use when they prepare for a role and learn some of the vocabulary with which most directors expect you to be familiar. Although this is not a class in how to act verse, we will talk about strategy when approaching verse. We will discuss what it takes to be committed and ways to manage stress when you are fully involved.

**NOTE:** No prior experience is needed. Each participant will know how much they can do in class, and no one will be pushed. Those with more experience can take on bigger challenges in terms of text and emotional commitment.

**ARTS399A** · 6 Sessions  
SOU Art Building – Meese Auditorium  
class size 16  
M · 1:00–2:30PM  
3/30/2026–5/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Leonie Mikele Fogle



## Broadway Musicals, Small Hits and Near Misses, Part 3

This course will review some Broadway musicals that were hits of their time that are rarely produced anymore or, conversely, were failures in their initial run but are now considered minor classics. Each session will feature a full-length video. Due to length, some productions will be divided into two sessions to allow time for in-class discussion. Whenever available, filmed productions of the original stage version will be used rather than less faithful Hollywood movie adaptations. Titles for this term will include: “Crazy for You” (Gershwin), “Me and My Girl” (Gay, Furber and Rose), “A Connecticut Yankee” (Rodgers and Hart), and “1776” (Edwards). Enrollment in Broadway Musicals Parts 1 and 2 is not a prerequisite.

**ARTS363A** · 7 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 53  
M · 1:00–3:00PM  
3/30/2026–5/11/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lee Fishel

## **NEW!** Comedy Through the Centuries

Explore the evolution of comedy from ancient Greek satire and medieval jesters to Shakespearean wit and today’s viral memes. This lecture course, which includes Power-Point and video clips, reveals how humor reflects culture, challenges norms and connects us across generations. In addition, explore why we laugh and what makes something funny. Perfect for comedy lovers and history buffs alike!

**ARTS414** · 3 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 11:00AM–12:15PM  
3/31/2026–4/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Robin Engel

## **NEW!** Improv for Beginners: Yes, and ... With Friends

This course introduces participants to the core principles and practices of improvisational theater. Designed for beginners, it emphasizes creativity, cognitive flexibility, collaborative communication and low-stakes play. Through a series of structured improv exercises, students explore “yes, and” thinking, character creation, spontaneous storytelling and social connection in a supportive, humorous environment. No prior improv or performance experience is needed. There are no required texts. Many exercises can be done seated, standing or adapted for mobility or comfort needs.

**ARTS400A** · 5 Sessions  
SOU Art Building – Meese Auditorium  
class size 17  
Th · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Larry Molacek

## **NEW!** Shaw: The Second–Greatest English Dramatist

Although he wrote the play “Pygmalion,” on which “My Fair Lady” was based, George Bernard Shaw would have hated the ending of the musical. Eliza Doolittle, he argued, must never marry Henry Higgins. In fact, the ending was an absolute betrayal of what Shaw believed to be the proper relationship between men and women. The purpose of this course is to strip away the cheap romanticism with which musical saddled poor Shaw and show him for what he really was: the most penetrating, enthusiastic and hilarious critic that Victorian society ever knew. Among the plays to be investigated will be “Mrs. Warren’s Profession,” “The Devil’s Disciple,” “Man and Superman,” “Heartbreak House,” “Saint Joan” and, yes, “Pygmalion.” Only Shakespeare is considered a greater English playwright.

**ARTS401A** · 7 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 53  
Th · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/2/2026–5/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Robert Graybill

# Arts: Visual Arts

## Art Journaling

Art journaling involves creating art in a blank journal, but it can be so much more. It is an exploration and reflection of our outer world and the impact it has on our inner world. Both Leonardo da Vinci and Vincent van Gogh kept art journals. In this course, students will learn what tools to use, what prompts and themes can be inspirations and what techniques are useful for covering a page. We will use a number of mediums and techniques: stencil, collage embossment, stamps, pastels, watercolor, acrylics, pencils, pens and markers. The journals students create may be the start of their creative journey or a continuation of it. The instructor will provide many art supplies or you may bring your own. This course is suitable for all levels of experience.

<b>ARTS402A-1</b> · 4 Sessions Campbell Center – Room A class size 25 W · 1:00–2:30PM 5/13/2026–6/3/2026	<b>ARTS402A-2</b> · 4 Sessions Campbell Center – Room A class size 25 F · 9:00–10:30AM 5/15/2026–6/5/2026
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**INSTRUCTOR:** Nancy Wilkinson

## Better Photos Through Post-Processing

Learn how to bring out the best in your photos using the tools and principles of digital photo processing. This beginner-friendly course introduces participants to the core concepts of editing: exposure, contrast, color, cropping and other techniques through instructor demonstrations using Adobe Lightroom Classic. While Lightroom will be the software used, many of the editing techniques and workflow covered will be applicable to other photo editing software. By the end, participants will understand how photos can be enhanced and refined, and how to export images with clarity and confidence. No editing experience is required.

**ARTS368A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 26  
M · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/13/2026–5/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bob Palermini

## Chalk Pastel Artwork

Drawing with chalk pastels offers a unique and versatile artistic experience with several appealing aspects, including richness and vibrancy of color and easy layering and blending. Pastels may be used for a wide variety of subjects, including landscapes, portraits, still lifes and abstract art. Many iconic artists such as Degas, Cassatt, Renoir and Picasso explored this medium. This course will offer students the opportunity and encouragement to learn how to draw with chalk pastels through warm-up activities, sharing of sample projects and step-by-step instructions for the session's project. There will be no out-of-class work required. No experience is necessary, and all skill levels are welcome. All art supplies will be provided; however, a small donation for the supplies is appreciated.

**ARTS370A-1** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 25  
M · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
3/30/2026–4/13/2026

**ARTS370A-2** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 25  
Tu · 9:00–10:30AM  
3/31/2026–4/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Nancy Wilkinson



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541.552.6245

@schneidermoca



## Early Christian Art

The Roman Empire was already faltering when Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity in 313 CE and moved the capital east to Byzantium, renamed Constantinople, in 330 CE. This transitional period in the West (Roman Italy) reveals the roots of all Christian art and architecture that follow. This course will look at the morphing of classical naturalism into symbolic abstraction in painting, sculpture and mosaics; the evolution of different church plan types; and the development of the codex (book) in manuscript painting. From the catacombs of Rome to Old St. Peter's to the Christians and Visigoths in Ravenna, we will follow the decline of the Western Empire to the origins of medieval art. This is a lecture course in which questions are welcome; however, there will not be time for discussion.

**ARTS405A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 53  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/1/2026–4/29/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Allison Renwick

## Let's Tangle: Introduction to Zentangle

If you can hold a pencil, you can do this. Zentangle comes from the words “Zen” and “tangle” (entangled, interwoven) and combines creativity with meditation. Zentangle is an easy method to learn because it consists of structured patterns. Stroke by stroke, simple lines are repeated onto paper. With every line, you can dive further into the world of tangles. In a short time, tangles turn into amazing 3D, graphic, elaborate and beautiful tiles. They are unplanned, abstract, black and white. The practice calms, relaxes and is fun.

**NOTE:** Students should be prepared with pens, other drawing supplies and Zentangle tiles. A complete materials list will be sent to registered students. Depending on personal preferences and supplies already owned, the cost could range from \$20 to \$45.

**ARTS351M** · 5 Sessions  
Rogue Valley Manor – Skyline Plaza  
class size 13  
M · 10:00AM–12:00PM  
3/30/2026–4/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Joann Cleckner

## Playful Art 1

Think you don't have artistic talent? We disagree! Surprise yourself with our fun, playful art exercises: Doodle, scribble, create Picasso-style animals and improve your eye-hand coordination with blind contour drawing. Enjoy the process and don't take your efforts too seriously. Bring your enthusiasm and willingness to explore and let your inner artist/child emerge. There will be no critiquing of your artwork. We provide ideas, suggestions and supplies. Students are encouraged to ask questions during class. A materials list and brief description of class content will be sent to registered students weekly. Watercolor brush pens, pencils, ink pens, card stock and watercolor paper will be provided.

**NOTE:** A materials fee of \$5 is due at the first class to offset supply costs. No acrylic or oil will be used in the classroom. No art experience is required.

**ARTS311A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 21  
M · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
3/30/2026–4/20/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Fran Fields, Geri Esposito

## **NEW!** Two-Day Gelli Print Workshop

Learn to create beautiful designs on paper by printing with a gel plate. The Gelli printing plate is made of a gel-like substance with a sensitive surface that invites endless experimentation and reuse. You'll have fun exploring your creativity and making several prints. We will use acrylic craft paints, brayers, brushes, stencils, masks and found flat objects to build up a depth of textures. You will have prints that can be used for designing collage, mixed-media art or greeting cards. A Gelli plate will be provided for use at the workshop but bring your own if you have one. A variety of papers will be provided, but you are highly encouraged to bring your own papers to experiment on. Open to beginners and advanced-level printmakers.

**NOTE:** A \$15 workshop fee includes the use of Gelli plates, paints, paper, stencils and tools.

**ARTS410A** · 2 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 12  
W, Th · 3:30–6:00PM  
4/1/2026–4/2/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jan Cavecche

## **NEW!** Variations on a Theme: Drawing, Painting and Collage

The arts have always been integral to human cultural development. They are also integral to individual physical, cognitive and emotional development — an alternative language when words fail us. However, if we insist on thinking that art is only for a gifted few, we miss out. This class is designed to rediscover gifts that satisfy the urge to communicate visually. Each student will identify a meaningful theme that will provide focus and inspiration for four activities: a drawing, a painting, a collage and a mixed-media artwork. Eventually, students will make a handmade scrapbook to house their artworks. The instructor will be a guide-on-the-side, demonstrating techniques, making suggestions, answering questions and fostering a supportive environment.

**NOTE:** All are welcome; no prerequisite art experience is necessary. This course will build week by week. For optimal satisfaction, weekly attendance (especially Week 1) is recommended. There will be a \$10 materials fee.

**ARTS411A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 25  
W · 3:30–5:30PM  
4/8/2026–5/13/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jane Maitland-Gholson



## Arts: Writing

### Cut-Up Poetry

Would you rather play Scrabble than Monopoly because you love the surprise of creating words from the letter tiles you choose? Magnify that joy and you'll have the experience of cut-up poetry. All participants receive an assortment of pages from a variety of books that range from poetry to recipes. Instead of choosing letter tiles, students pick words and phrases that speak to them from a page of text. Prompts and guidelines give students time to amass enough scraps to create a piece of writing. The juxtaposition available due to the different texts lends a certain nuance of magic to the creativity of the cut-up poem. Students may share their work with the class, but it is not required.

**ARTS276A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 23  
Tu · 3:30–5:00PM  
3/31/2026–4/21/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Sallie Ehrman

### Writing a Legacy Letter

A legacy letter (also called an “ethical will”) is a written document that allows people to share their life lessons, express their values and transmit their blessings to future generations. A legacy letter is shorter than a memoir, typically just a few pages. Writing one is a rewarding experience that creates an enduring gift for loved ones. This four-session online course includes discussion and brief writing exercises to help you examine your life history, explore your values and capture important insights. It offers advice, encouragement and a model structure to help you draft and complete your own legacy letter.

**ARTS317** · 4 Sessions  
Online  
class size 21  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
5/6/2026–5/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jay Sherwin

## History

### **NEW!** Civil Rights, Party Realignment and Neoliberalism

This is the fourth class in a series describing events that help to explain today's America. Learn how the Democratic Party turned to activism and civil rights advocacy. Witness the complete reversal of the Republican Party from its founding principles of equality to one that realigns itself geographically with the South and ideologically with states' rights and white, male supremacy. Explore how both parties embrace neoliberal ideology to diminish New Deal policies and culture. Two historically reminiscent movements conflict: The Civil Rights movement (called the Second Reconstruction) and a neoliberal movement fueled by anti-communism, white, male supremacy and unlimited accumulation of wealth for the few. We will understand what MAGA is and how to address the issues it poses.

**NOTE:** Attendance at prior courses in the series is not necessary. The course will have recommended readings from “Myth America: Historians Take on the Biggest Legends and Lies About Our Past,” edited by Kevin M. Kruse and Julian E. Zelizer, Basic Books (2022).

**HIST335A** · 8 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 53  
F · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/17/2026–6/5/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Fernando Gapasin, Benjamin Ben-Baruch

### **NEW!** Four Questions: Histories of Science

This course presents four mini-histories of science, each centering on a question that has intrigued humanity for millennia: 1) How old is the Earth? 2) Are there beings on the heavenly bodies? 3) Why do we get sick? 4) How do we find our way? In each session we trace the history of answers to one of the questions, from the Classical period to our present-day understandings. The trail leads to some fascinating nooks and crannies of both science and history. (Thomas Jefferson's obsession with mammoths, for one.) We also explore how scientific thought was shaped by nonscientific beliefs that answered these questions with radically different assumptions and logic. Class sessions will consist of lectures with PowerPoint presentations and time for discussion and Q&A.

**HIST336** · 5 Sessions

Online

class size 99

W · 3:30–5:00PM

4/8/2026–5/6/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** David Drury**Gutenberg to TikTok:  
Media History and Its Impact** 👥

In 2024, the average U.S. consumer spent about 12 hours and 42 minutes daily with media. Most people know very little about the history of media or its economic and societal impacts. Over four classes, students will learn about the evolution of media, from the invention of the printing press to everyone having a world of information at hand. No prior knowledge is required. There will be no outside assignments or required reading. Topics will include the origins of print, radio, TV, social media and the size of their audiences; how different types of media generate income; how media is or is not regulated; news versus journalism; and an attempt to forecast what might be in the future for media. Discussion will be encouraged, but the course will not be about blame, anger, grievance, opinions or entertainment.

**HIST313A** · 4 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room D

class size 53

M · 9:00–11:00AM

3/30/2026–4/20/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Phil Meyer**NEW!** John Quincy Adams:  
The Rest of the Story 👥 💻

Expanding upon a course presented in Fall 2025, we will continue the exploration of John Quincy Adams' extraordinary life, from 1800 onward. The child of two of America's founders, John Quincy personifies both the strengths and shortcomings of the new country, and his personal life and political career capture the triumphs and the tragedies of our nation in its formative years. As either an eyewitness or a participant in all of the major domestic and foreign events of our first 75 years, John Quincy provides us a unique lens through which to ponder the complexities of our own times through lecture, discussion and optional outside reading. It is not necessary to have taken the Fall 2025 course, as the instructor will provide some introductory background, timelines and articles for students new to the subject.

**HIST324A** · 5 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room D

class size 53

Th · 1:00–3:00PM

4/9/2026–5/7/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Susan Stitham**HIST324** · 5 Sessions

Online

class size unlimited

F · 1:00–3:00PM

4/10/2026–5/8/2026

**Killing for Coal: The Ludlow  
Massacre** 💻

The day after Orthodox Easter in 1914, Colorado National Guardsmen, who were secretly being paid by John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s Colorado Fuel and Iron Co., attacked and burned the tent encampment of striking coal miners and their families. The dead included women and young children. The Ludlow Massacre was the defining incident of the Colorado Coalfield War. Details of the strike will be examined along with the massacre, and why no one was ever held accountable for the deaths. The course will conclude with a look at current attempts by some of the richest people in America to prevent employees from forming unions and to roll back government enforcement of collective bargaining and worker protections.

**HIST337** · 6 Sessions

Online

class size 32

Th · 9:00AM–10:30PM

4/2/2026–5/7/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** James Cannon

## Reconstruction: A Path to Understanding MAGA

This is the foundation course for four courses of history that describe how current America was shaped. Two key events are covered: the idealistic founding of the Republican Party and Reconstruction that it created. After the Civil War, formerly enslaved people, women, abolitionists and radical Republicans courageously fought to create an interracial, nonpatriarchal democracy. In the face of a hegemonic white and male supremacist strategy of misrepresentation and terror, they succeeded in creating the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments, the legal basis for citizenship, equality before the law, voting rights for all men regardless of race and abolishing slavery. This is their story and the consequences of their defeat. Required is an interest in how historical events shaped today's America.

**NOTE:** Strongly recommended reading before the class: "The Fall of the House of Dixie: The Civil War and the Social Revolution That Transformed the South" by Bruce Levine (2013).

**HIST321A** · 7 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 21  
Tu · 1:00–3:00PM  
3/31/2026–5/12/2026

**HIST321** · 7 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
W · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/1/2026–5/13/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Fernando Gapasin

## **NEW!** Steppe Nomads of the Classical Age

Although the earliest forms of the ancient lifeway known as steppe nomadism first appeared in lands north of the Black Sea in the fourth millennium B.C., nomadic peoples (and their armies of horse archers) took on a central importance in Western history beginning many centuries later with the arrival from Central Asia of a nomadic people known as the Scythians. This OLLI Zoom course will examine the historical antecedents and development of these remarkable people as well as related nomadic groups to the east such as the Saka and, still farther east, the Xiongnu and the Yuezhi. Along the way we will consider topics such as horse domestication, copper metallurgy and how to use a bow and arrow on horseback. No background in this subject is needed, and weekly lecture notes will be provided.

**HIST338** · 10 Sessions  
Online  
class size 74  
Th · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/2/2026–6/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Ean Roby

## The American War in Vietnam: Lessons Never Learned

The American war of choice on Vietnam remains the most divisive conflict of the 20th century. This course will repeat in lecture and guided discussion the 1974 documentary "Hearts and Minds" by Peter Davis, taught at OLLI in Fall 2025. The course will also include new material from the 2017 PBS production of the Ken Burns and Lynn Novick film "The Vietnam War," as well as poetry by Vietnam veteran W.D. Ehrhart from his website, [wdehrhart.com](http://wdehrhart.com). The course will include a discussion of the two equally disastrous 21st-century American wars on Afghanistan and Iraq and conclude with a speculative look at the still looming specter of war with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**NOTE:** Course materials will include disturbing subject matter: violence, racism and some brief sexual content. Member discretion is strongly advised.

**HIST325A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 34  
Th · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/2/2026–5/7/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Daniel Guy

## **NEW!** The Spanish Civil War: A 20th-Century Tragedy

This course will present an overview of the Spanish Civil War, identifying its causes, describing the chronological course of the war itself and discussing its manifold effects, nationally and internationally. Although specific important battles will be covered in a general way, this will not be a strictly "military history" of the war. It will deal with political, economic and social aspects, as well as the absolute brutality of the conflict. In the first class, it will plumb some of the deep currents of the pre-20th-century history of Spain that, over the centuries, contributed to the profound divisions that led directly to this war. Although the instructor is far more sympathetic to the Republican side of the conflict, both sides will be covered.

**HIST339** · 5 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/7/2026–5/5/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jeff LaLande

# Languages and Cultures

## **NEW!** A Virtual Tour of the Balkans

Participants will learn about the natural and the human-developed environment of the Balkans. Bulgaria and the rest of the Balkan countries have had a rich history predating the Greeks and the Romans, continuing through the Crusades and the Ottoman occupation. This history is reflected in the many historic sites and the beautiful architecture of the region. The city of Plovdiv, a former regional capital under Roman occupation, has been the site of a continuous human settlement for 8,000 years. This will be a narrated slide show of photos and brief videos of the region.

**LANG175** · 3 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
F · 9:00–10:00AM  
4/3/2026–4/17/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Jan McCoy, Amy McCoy

## Adventures in Travel

This course will offer four presentations about various travel experiences. (There is no single theme this time as in previous terms.) We'll hear about visiting Antarctica, kayaking in Palau, traveling in rural Turkey and going on safaris in southern Africa. Each presentation will be about 90 minutes via Zoom, and there will be opportunities for questions and discussion.

**LANG105** · 4 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
W · 3:30–5:00PM  
4/8/2026–4/29/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tony Davis

## Conversaciones

Enjoy an opportunity to speak and listen to Spanish in a comfortable, nonjudgmental atmosphere. This course is for those who already speak Spanish with some fluency and would like more chances to converse in the language. Each week, students will be provided with questions, readings and song lyrics to stimulate conversation on the week's topic. This term includes careers, buildings, myths and more, but it's OK to stray from the theme. Grammar and vocabulary questions that arise will be answered, but the class is about enjoying conversation in Spanish. Students should spend some time with the materials supplied before each class. During class, we'll talk in a whole group and in breakout rooms with three or four.

**NOTE:** This is not a Spanish course per se, and it won't work for beginners; it's meant for those who have achieved enough fluency to listen to others, converse freely, and enjoy readings and songs that reflect Hispanic culture. Translations are provided for readings and song lyrics, but not discussion questions. Those who have been in previous Conversaciones courses will find new material.

**LANG161** · 5 Sessions  
Online  
class size 19  
Th · 3:30–5:00PM  
4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Ginny Blankinship

## Enjoy German!

This is a previously taught course with new content that aims to broaden a student's vocabulary and understanding of today's spoken German. The etymology of certain words will be discussed, and the rules of grammar will be explained on request. This term we will read the instructor's memoirs from 1992 and later. Occasionally, we will read and analyze German poetry or other culturally appropriate material.

**LANG109A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 16  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/1/2026–4/22/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Udo Gorsch-Nies

## Historic and Artistic Coins of the Ancient Greeks

We will study the culture of the ancient Greeks as reflected in their coinages, which were a primary means of civic and artistic representation in those distant times. Our story begins in about 650 B.C. and proceeds for about 500 years until Greece was subsumed by Rome. We will view how major aspects of ancient artistry, as reflected in the archaic style and the later classical and Hellenistic styles, frequently found their full and magnificent representation in coinage. The world we will study will include the ancient Greek world, which included Greece, Asia Minor, islands in the Mediterranean and southern Italy and Sicily. Course participants will view coins — some 2,500 years old — from the instructor’s collection.

**LANG162A** · 5 Sessions  
 Campbell Center – Room D  
 class size 32  
 Th · 3:30–5:00PM  
 4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bob Wetmore

## **NEW!** Russian: Focus on Pronunciation

This course will focus on speaking Russian so that Russians can understand you; it should also help you understand a bit of Russian. In addition to absorbing the alphabet, students will practice speaking simple Russian and its sounds and intonations. Relevant sections of the free online textbook “Mezhdru Nami” will provide materials for use in class and at home. This class may be useful to people just starting Russian or for those wanting to refresh their knowledge. Beginners would benefit from taking the OLLI course The Cyrillic Alphabet, but it is not a prerequisite. Supplemental songs, poetry, AI jokes from Russia, classic cartoons and a friendly atmosphere should make the class fun and useful for more advanced students.

**LANG170A** · 7 Sessions  
 Campbell Center – Room B  
 class size 19  
 Tu · 1:30–3:00PM  
 4/21/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Marcus Levitt, Alice Taylor



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## Still Inching Toward Intermediate Spanish

You've studied Spanish for longer than you care to admit and have some basic vocabulary and understanding of mostly present-tense verbs. You can create very simple sentences. You can get around and converse hesitantly, asking only critical questions. Yet, you wish you were more comfortable, confident and fluent. Take this class! Here we'll build stories together, one sentence at a time, with lots of interesting, comprehensible input, repetition and questions. We will speak in manageable chunks of language wherein students become part of the story. Students' additions may enhance the story we create, one that each person will retell. We also write the story and read it. We emphasize high-frequency language. Active participation is required and absences are discouraged.

**NOTE:** New students as well as those from the Fall 2025 class are welcome. The format will be similar, but the stories are always new. Students should have a basic understanding (like Spanish 1 or 2) of elements of grammar, present-tense verbs, a bit of past tenses and vocabulary of common everyday situations. Strong intermediate or advanced students are encouraged to continue their studies elsewhere.

**LANG151A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 32  
W · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/29/2026–5/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Teri Coppedge

## The Cyrillic Alphabet Over Time and Geography

People with a healthy curiosity are welcome to join us for this introduction to the Cyrillic alphabet, used by Russian and about 50 other modern languages. No special preparation is needed. The course will begin with a brief historical survey of the alphabet's creation, its place in European geography and culture, and its transformations from the ninth century until today. We will then take a close look at the letters of the Russian alphabet and examine the vowels and how they affect pronunciation of Russian words. With just a little practice participants will be able to sound out this beautiful, exotic tongue!

**NOTE:** This course would be helpful preparation for the OLLI course Russian: Focus on Pronunciation.

**LANG163** · 3 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 1:30–3:00PM  
3/31/2026–4/14/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Marcus Levitt, Alice Taylor

## **NEW!** Un Decamerone di Conversazioni Italiane

The focus of this course will be on maintaining and improving spoken Italian. There will also be reviews of conjugations and vocabulary. Students should be conversant in the present tense and be able to express events in the past and future. Following Boccaccio's model for the Decameron, we will tell a total of 10 stories, two per week. The topics will reinforce the tenses we are practicing, such as *indicativo*, *introdurre se stesso* and *raccontare una barzelletta*. The prompts will be provided in advance. A typical class will consist of a brief grammar refresher, taking turns reading aloud to loosen the tongue, and conversing in small groups and then as a class. After a break, there will be a second prompt for informal chat and sharing with the class.

**NOTE:** Dictionaries, phrase books and other aids are encouraged but not required. Mistakes in Italian are preferable to slipping into English.

**LANG174A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 16  
Tu · 3:30–5:00PM  
3/31/2026–4/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Matthew George

**Thank you for allowing OLLI at SOU  
to use the Rogue Valley Manor  
facilities for classes.**



ROGUE VALLEY  
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## Wines of the Old World

If you've always been curious about Old World European wines but were afraid to try, this lecture course is for you. Conversely, if you've had lots of experience with European wine, this course is for you too. In addition to the famous regions, a few lesser-known regions that have something special to offer will be included. We'll discover wines country by country over the course of the lectures. How to read wine labels in French, German and Italian will be discussed. Wine production in the Middle East and East Asia will be touched upon. In addition, students will be encouraged to share tasting experiences after hearing those of the instructor. No reading, writing or purchasing required, just curiosity and an interest in wine.

**LANG176** · 5 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Th · 11:00AM-12:00PM  
4/2/2026-4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Thomas Eckert

## Life Planning

### Care Circles: Informal Aging Support

Do you want to remain independent as long as possible? There are many challenges: an age-skewed demographic, an overwhelmed health care system, increased cost of living and disruptions to an individual's anticipated support network. Discover how an intentionally formed and member-directed Care Circle can avoid or delay the need for paid help or assisted living by increasing one's knowledge of resources, spurring development of actionable care plans, encouraging the formation of prequalified practical supports and facilitating personal centering. Lectures, handouts and stories from those who have benefited from a Care Circle will provide a road map for forming a customized circle. Not a group person? The course includes tips and resources that can benefit those who prefer a do-it-yourself approach.

**LIFE300A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 50  
Th · 11:00AM-12:30PM  
5/7/2026-5/28/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Anne Bellegia, Debra Johnson



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## DIY FUNdamental Stock Analysis: Beyond Beginners

Take your stock studies to the next level! Evaluate high-quality growth stocks selling at a fair price using the BetterInvesting (BI) online SSG PLUS tools. See [www.betterinvesting.org](http://www.betterinvesting.org). Find companies to study that meet BI guidelines. Learn shortcuts for collecting company research. Find essential information in 10-Ks and 10-Qs; skip the boilerplate. Present a stock to classmates using trend analysis, business modeling and revenue analysis. We require BI membership at the SSG PLUS level (\$12.08 a month). This course is part lecture, part activity workshop, with outside reading and tools practice. A PDF copy of “The Stock Selection Guide & Portfolio Management Magic” is provided. This class is a prerequisite for next term’s DIY Stock Portfolio Management class.

**NOTE:** DIY FUNdamental Stock Analysis for Beginners is a prerequisite for this course. Equities are for educational purposes only; no recommendations will be made. We do not present alternate investment strategies, such as technical analysis. We do not discuss penny stocks, ADRs, ETFs, index funds, bonds, mutual funds, cryptocurrencies or foreign stocks; nor do we recommend financial advisers. Newer Windows or Mac OS versions only. No iPads. BI SSG PLUS runs best on Google Chrome, and students are encouraged to download it before class begins.

**LIFE141** · 8 Sessions  
Online  
class size 25  
F · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/3/2026–5/22/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Marcia Couey, Michael Smith

## End-of-Life Preparation

This course will explore healthy preparation for end-of-life planning. Each of the three sessions will be led by an expert on different aspects of end-of-life preparation, palliative care and hospice care. The course will use an informational format with ample time for discussion and questions. Topics will include: 1) importance of planning for end-of-life and communicating with those important in your life; 2) importance of caregiver health, support and use of resources during this difficult time; and 3) utilization of services such as hospice and palliative care. There will be a tour of Celia’s House, a hospice facility in Medford. Participants should be prepared to share their experiences regarding this stage of life.

**LIFE107** · 3 Sessions  
Online  
class size 20  
F · 1:00–2:30PM  
4/10/2026–4/24/2026

**LIFE107M** · 3 Sessions  
Celia’s House – 217 S.  
Modoc Ave., Medford  
class size 20  
F · 1:00–2:30PM  
4/10/2026–4/24/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dwight Wilson

## Home Maintenance and Repair

This course is designed for those with little or no knowledge of maintaining and repairing a home. You’ll learn how water, gas and electricity enter a home and how to shut them off; how to change the filter in your furnace; and how to clean the coils on your refrigerator. We’ll talk about how to replace a light switch and outlet, fix door problems, plumbing and electricity, and what tools to have. You’ll learn what to watch for outside the home, such as clogged gutters, water leaks, siding damage and invasive vegetation. We’ll discuss the advantages and disadvantages of buying through big-box stores versus independent merchants, how to choose a contractor and not get cheated, and much more. We’ll talk about what class members want to know about maintenance and repairs at home.

**LIFE312A** · 8 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 34  
Tu · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
3/31/2026–5/19/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mitch Hrdlicka

## Home Transition: Sell, Buy or Move to Senior Care

An article in Psychology Today stated that moving “is a top stressor”! Learn how to avoid such stress when looking to buy or sell a home. This course will be a combination of lecture and roundtable discussion and will deal exclusively with residential real estate with an emphasis on owner-occupied homes. We will also discuss senior living alternatives, such as residential assisted living, continuous care living and more. Discussion includes other people’s buying and selling experiences along all points of the process. Students need not have any background or experience in buying or selling real estate. The instructor is passionate about making your move successful!

**LIFE305A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 34  
M · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/20/2026–5/18/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jim Berns

## **NEW!** Immobile Home Parks: Solutions to Serious Problems

If you are experiencing serious problems in your manufactured home community, read on. This course is designed for residents of manufactured and floating homes in Oregon, especially those age 55-plus. Using lecture discussions, videos and interviews, the instructor will provide the 10 steps to form a tenants’ association and familiarize students with Oregon Rental Statutes (ORS). Mediation and small claims information will also be provided. The instructor is not a lawyer, and this class is not intended to replace legal advice. The material will be presented in everyday language. Students are expected to come prepared to work.

**NOTE:** A PDF of ORS, Oregon Rental Statutes (Chapter 90) and the organizing forms discussed in class will be provided. Students must have the necessary software to use these items. No OSTA (Oregon State Tenants Association) membership is required for this class.

**LIFE321** · 6 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
W · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/1/2026–5/6/2026

**LIFE321A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 50  
W · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/1/2026–5/6/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bill Bateman

## Managing Your Cash Flow in Retirement

If you are in retirement or getting ready for retirement, you must manage your income, investments and expenses to ensure that your money will last throughout your life. This course will help with identifying your sources of income (Social Security, pensions, investments and personal real estate) and coordinating your investments and retirement savings to cover expenses over time. Instruction will help you identify future cash flow needs and learn how to best supplement income with portfolio withdrawals.

**NOTE:** Having taken the OLLI course Retirement and Your Money: What You Should Know, is recommended, though not required.

**LIFE121A** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 25  
Tu · 1:00–2:30PM  
3/31/2026–4/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kenji Bleicker



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## Older Drivers and Safety

Using research-backed strategies, the AARP Smart Driver course has been shown to significantly reduce the risk of accidents, help you become more proficient in the current rules of the road, improve your defensive driving techniques and help you with safe vehicle operation in today's demanding driving environment. This course will focus on the vital relationship between the driver, vehicle and road, and look at how factors such as aging, medications and alcohol can impact driving. You'll also learn about the latest vehicle safety features and technological advancements. Importantly, you will learn how to identify when it's no longer safe to drive and how to find alternative travel options. This course may qualify you for a multiyear discount on your auto insurance.

**NOTE:** A required materials fee of \$20 to \$25 (discount for AARP members) includes a comprehensive 120-page Participant Guide. Both days are required for course completion and the insurance discount. The fee will be collected on the first day by cash or check made out to AARP. Credit cards will not be accepted.

**LIFE308M** · 2 Sessions

Medford Higher Education Center – Room 118  
class size 26

W, Th · 1:00–4:30PM

5/13/2026–5/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Daniel Wise

## Revocable Trusts, Wills and the Probate Process

An overview of broad legal concepts for Oregon estate planning, this course will explain differences between simple wills and revocable trusts as well as the probate process. Students will learn how wills and trusts relate to probate, estate taxes and distribution to beneficiaries. Discussion on the probate process, including its purpose, time frames, notices and associated legal obligations, will be highlighted. In addition, the purpose and function of the legal documents that accompany a simple will and a revocable trust will be discussed. Participants will better understand the use of a will or trust, durable powers of attorney and advance directives. The instruction method will be lecture with student interaction encouraged.

**LIFE313A** · 4 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room A

class size 25

Tu · 1:00–3:00PM

5/12/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Robert Good, Sarah Vaile

## Literature

### **NEW!** Best American Short Stories, 2025

Enjoy a deep dive into some of the finest short stories published last year. Contributing authors include Elizabeth McCracken and Sarah Braunstein. Before each session, students will read three designated submissions from the book “The Best American Short Stories 2025: An Anthology of Award-Winning Literature,” which will then be discussed in warm, comfortable and inclusive surroundings. This collection explores a wide variety of settings, characters, styles and intentions — all stunningly contemporary. This is a highly interactive class. Be ready to speak up and engage in dialogue about all the stories so that everyone can enjoy and learn from the text and from each other.

**NOTE:** A copy of “The Best American Short Stories 2025: An Anthology of Award-Winning Literature,” edited by Celest Ng, is required.

**LIT306A** · 8 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 25

Tu · 11:00AM–12:30PM

3/31/2026–5/19/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Timothy Kelly



## Shared Interest Groups



Create community around what you love! Start a SIG and connect with others who share your interests. Visit the website to join our newest SIGs!

## **NEW!** ‘Les Misérables’: A Tale for Our Time 🖨️

Introducing one of the most famous characters in literature, Jean Valjean, “Les Misérables” ranks among the greatest novels of all time. Victor Hugo takes his readers deep into the Parisian underworld, immerses them in a battle between good and evil, and carries them to the barricades during the uprising of 1832 with a breathtaking realism that is unsurpassed in modern prose. Within his dramatic story are themes that capture the intellect and the emotions and speak to the universal desire to escape the prisons of our own minds. In the words of Victor Hugo, “Wherever men go in ignorance or despair, wherever women sell themselves for bread, wherever children lack a book to learn from or a warm hearth, ‘Les Misérables’ knocks at the door and says: ‘Open up, I am here for you.’”

**NOTE:** We will use Christine Donougher’s 2015 Penguin Classics translation of “Les Misérables,” which is 1,456 pages long. Widely praised for its readability and fidelity to Hugo’s original French, this unabridged translation offers a rich and immersive experience for English-speaking readers.

**LIT340** · 10 Sessions

Online

class size unlimited

Th · 1:00–2:30PM

4/2/2026–6/4/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Jerry Campbell, Morgan Silbaugh



## **NEW!** Peter Jackson’s ‘Lord of the Rings’ Films 🧑🧑🧑

Peter Jackson’s Oscar-winning three “The Lord of the Rings” films are a great, though not flawless, adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien’s novels. Jackson and his team brought what had been considered an unfilmable story to screen as live-action movies, a monumental achievement, accomplished in part by Jackson’s innovative film technology. We will focus on one of Jackson’s films each week, discussing how Jackson’s team adapted the novels for the demands of film as a medium, the impact of Jackson’s changes on the story’s themes, and the filming techniques and their impact on audience experiences of the final film.

**NOTE:** Previous experience reading Tolkien’s novels is important, as much of our discussion will be a comparative analysis of the books and films. Participants will need to view the films on their own before class. The extended editions of the films are strongly recommended over the theatrical releases, though either version will serve for discussion.

**LIT338A** · 3 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room D

class size 53

W · 1:00–3:00PM

4/1/2026–4/15/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kara Keeling

## **NEW!** Reading Mary Oliver Using Reader Response 🖨️

Mary Oliver’s poetry invites us to see the natural world — and our inner lives — with renewed attention. In this course, we’ll share selected poems by Oliver through the perspective of Louise Rosenblatt’s Reader Response theory, which emphasizes the active, personal relationship between reader and text. Rather than seeking a single “correct” interpretation, we’ll explore how each poem speaks uniquely to our experiences, memories and imaginations. Participants will be encouraged to share responses; reflect on how meaning is made; and consider how Oliver’s work fosters empathy, mindfulness and a sense of belonging in the natural world.

**NOTE:** Students will be expected to access Mary Oliver’s poetry, either in hard-copy books or online. They also will be expected to post work and respond to other students’ work every week on OLLI’s Raider Moodle, an easily accessible communication platform.

**LIT341** · 6 Sessions  
 Online  
 class size 26  
 M · 9:00–11:00AM  
 3/30/2026–5/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** John Pratt

## **NEW!** Snapshot: Shakespeare at OSF 2026

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 2026 season will include three Shakespeare plays: two comedies, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The Taming of the Shrew," and a history/political play, "Henry IV, Part 1." This three-session course will provide an overview of each play, including highlights of plot, character and theme; points to watch for in the upcoming OSF production; and time for questions and discussion. The instructor will arrange an opportunity for interested class members to discuss their responses to all three plays after early June, when "Shrew" and "Henry" open at the Allen Elizabethan Theatre.

**LIT339A** · 3 Sessions  
 Campbell Center – Room A  
 class size 34  
 Tu · 1:00–3:00PM  
 4/21/2026–5/5/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Susan Stitham

## **NEW!** The Poetry of Resistance, Rebellion and Revolution

For National Poetry Month, this course will look at the inspiring poetry that has sought to influence social and political change in the U.S. and worldwide. Through videos and live readings, the course will explore poets who used their platforms to spark activism in social movements. We will examine the social contexts and the impact of compelling words written by Phillis Wheatley, Pablo Neruda, Martin Niemöller, Pedro Pietri, Julia de Burgos, Amiri Baraka, Audre Lorde, Sonia Sanchez, Gil Scott-Heron, Maya Angelou and many others. Each writer will be profiled, and students will have opportunities to read their words aloud. Amateur poets in the class may bring in their own poetry to share.

**NOTE:** No previous experience with writing or poetry is required. All class materials will be provided by the instructor.

**LIT342A** · 3 Sessions  
 Online  
 class size 50  
 Tu · 9:00–10:30AM  
 4/7/2026–4/21/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lorenzo Taylor



Barry Vitcov      John Ferris

# Talk to Us

Conversations With  
 Southern Oregon Changemakers

Join us for lively conversations that inform and inspire. New guests are added each term—see the OLLI website for the latest schedule.



# Movement

These are physically active classes. Please consult your doctor before beginning any new program of physical exercise. All movement courses require a signed liability waiver before participating.

## **NEW!** Dance Is Happiness: Stretches at the Ballet Barre

The ballet barre is how professional dancers start their day. Often referred to as a “warm-up,” it brings blood flow to the small and large muscles of the body. A simple ballet barre, including stretches, will bring students to a new level of wellness, body awareness and confidence. During the four sessions, participants will learn the eight progressive elements of barre work, including ballet stretches focusing on posture, strength, flexibility and artistry using household items as a ballet barre. While practicing the ballet stretches, the instructor will share notions specific to ballet, including French ballet terminology from the Opera de Paris, discuss ballet history of the 20th century and share techniques in the art of ballet from around the world. No prior experience is necessary.

**NOTE:** Participants should be able to stand on their feet for 45 minutes and have a mat or blanket for floor stretches. All students are encouraged to practice at their own pace. An optional book is recommended: “Ballet Dictionary” by Thalia Mara.

**MOV320** · 4 Sessions  
Online  
class size 13  
Th · 9:00-10:00AM  
4/2/2026-4/23/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Diane Gaumont Hyrst

## Dancing Through Time

During this course, students will learn and practice dances from the Renaissance, Baroque and Regency eras. At each class, participants will actively engage in a physical warm-up and targeted dance techniques, and have ample time to practice the dance movements as they are taught. The warm-up is to prepare the body to move and dance. The techniques taught will cover basic Baroque dance steps that form the basis for 17th- and 18th-century dances. The course will begin with Renaissance dances from England, France and Italy and progress into the 17th and 18th centuries. The course will finish with early 19th-century waltz and quadrille dances. Previous students will find some old favorites as well as new dances to enjoy. A partner or prior dance background is not required to participate.

**NOTE:** This is an active, physical class. We will be on our feet for the duration of the 1½-hour class. Know your own limitations.

**MOV316A** · 10 Sessions  
The Grove, Gymnasium – 1195 E. Main St.  
class size 21  
Tu · 1:00-2:30PM  
3/31/2026-6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Daniel Stephens

## English Country Dance

From lyrical to lively, silly to sublime, English country dance dates from the 1600s. Discover dances of Jane Austen’s time as well as newly composed dances. Learn about the cultural aspects and history of this joyful living tradition as you enjoy moving to beautiful music. This is an “on-your-feet” and social class. No partner is necessary.

**MOV106A** · 7 Sessions  
DanceSpace – 280 E. Hersey St., #10  
class size 42  
W · 11:00AM-12:30PM  
4/1/2026-5/13/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Brooke Friendly

## Free the Ribs

This course explores the structure and primary movements of the 24 ribs and how they are connected to the entire skeletal system. Each class features a lesson involving gentle movements, done slowly with minimal effort, while paying attention to one’s own experience. Students will be guided through easy, novel movement sequences, exploring and discovering ways of moving that activate the neuroplasticity of the brain. The lessons are safe, fun puzzles for the nervous system and brain designed to create new patterns of behavior. Benefits may include improved breathing, less neck and shoulder pain, fewer backaches, improved ability to manage anxiety and stress, better circulation and a sense of comfort and ease throughout the whole self. It is beneficial to repeat this course.

**MOV313A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 20  
M · 2:00-3:00PM  
3/30/2026-5/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Moondance Forest

## Hiking Ashland's Trails With Your Canine Pal

If you've wanted to take an OLLI hiking class to explore some of Ashland's amazing trails but also need to exercise your dog, this course provides opportunity for both. Join us as we explore together Emigrant Lake, Oredson-Todd Woods, the Lithia dog-approved Loop, Hald-Strawberry and the Talent Irrigation Ditch trail, Riverwalk/North Mountain Park and a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail. Information on the physical characteristics and history of each trail and driving and parking instructions will be provided weekly. Hikes will last about 1½ hours, usually with less than a 200-foot elevation gain, with one exception.

**NOTE:** Canine participants (one per hiker) must be well-socialized, well-trained and vaccinated. Canine owners should come supplied with a 6-foot leash and a pocket full of poop bags. The Emigrant Trail hike is the only one where dogs will be allowed off leash. Signing the SOU-required waiver of liability and proof of pooch vaccines will be required on Day 1. Limit: 10 humans, 10 dogs. There is no class on Monday, April 27.

**MOV312A** · 6 Sessions  
Field Trip  
class size 11  
M · 9:00–11:00AM  
3/30/2026–5/11/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Myrna Hall



## Introduction to Tai Chi for Health and Longevity

Learn a complete tai chi form for health and longevity that can be done anywhere and is adaptable for all ages, body types and abilities. No previous experience is necessary. Reduce pain and stress, improve balance, increase focus and find comfortable ways to move while gaining benefits from this 3,000-year-old Chinese movement form. When students finish the course, they will have three tools for dealing with change, transition and life in general. These tools include the Tai Chi 17 Form (movements from a Yang short form), a martial arts sequence called Finished the Form, and a basic knowledge of tai chi and the martial arts. Each time students take this previously offered course, a deeper understanding of this lifelong practice can be gained.

**MOV144A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 20  
M · 3:30–4:30PM  
3/30/2026–5/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Moondance Forest

## Mindful Movement: Qigong and Stretching

This course is an introduction to qigong and simple stretching patterns. Movements will be taught both as physical and energetic exercises and as methods for improving present moment awareness and mindfulness of subtle perceptions. No special clothing or experience is required. Come as you are, ready to have fun with others! Although qigong can be studied for a lifetime, this brief series will provide a taste of the practices. Over the course of the classes, students will learn a set of simple movements that can be integrated into a daily routine. Students will also have access to videos on the instructor's YouTube channel, and a DVD and digital material are available for purchase. The exercises will challenge and enhance flexibility, balance and coordination.

**NOTE:** Classes consist mostly of active movement and will not be recorded. Students must be prepared to take complete responsibility for their own physical well-being. The course will include social time with other students using breakout rooms.

**MOV125** · 4 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/7/2026–4/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Nando Reynolds

## Tai Chi for Health and Longevity: A Yang Short Form

The physical benefits to one's health, which the practice of t'ai chi ch'uan affords, are well documented. It improves flexibility, concentration, confidence and builds muscle strength gradually. Tai chi takes the joints gently through their range of motion, while the emphasis on breathing and inner stillness relieves stress and anxiety. Yang Short Form 36 will introduce new ways to organize yourself to move with ease and comfort. Given its low impact and evidence that it improves balance and reduces pain, tai chi is gentle enough for all abilities, ages and body types. The moves in this form are more involved than in the Introduction to Tai Chi course. In this course, you will learn a Yang Short Form 36, specifically, Ch'ang Style T'ai-Chi-Ch'uan Modified Short Form by Chi-Hsiu D. Weng, 1987.

**NOTE:** If you have taken Introduction to Tai Chi, you will already have parts of the moves in your repertoire to build on. In Yang Short Form, different from Intro to Tai Chi, one must be able to move hands and feet separately and be comfortable with learning new complex sequences of moving. It is important to take this class more than once to deepen understanding of each movement and the entire form.

**MOV311A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 20  
M · 5:00–6:00PM  
3/30/2026–5/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Moondance Forest

## **NEW!** The Positive Power of Play

We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing! This adult play shop offers an opportunity to reawaken your inner child, reduce your stress level, exercise your body, sharpen your mental and physical reflexes and laugh a lot. Drawing on New Games and Playfair games as well as other movement game sources, this is an opportunity to have fun through interactive movement games; use your creativity, wit and voice; stimulate your brain with quick-thinking mind challenges; and sharpen your ability to respond quickly. All this helps keep our brains sharp! No competition, no judgment, no losers — just taking time out to laugh, play and have fun. Play and laughter are part of health and healing. Call out your playful child. It's recess time again!

**NOTE:** Good health and the ability to move well and get up and down are requirements for this class, which will

involve a lot of movement and some spurts of running. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to embrace the spirit of playfulness.

**MOV318A** · 6 Sessions  
Bellview Grange – 1050 Tolman Creek Rd.  
class size 42  
M · 4:30–5:30PM  
4/13/2026–5/18/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Pamala Joy

## Walking Ashland's Trails

If you are curious about the walking trails around Ashland and enjoy walking with others, this course is for you. Each week we will walk for about two hours, covering three to four miles. The trails will be mostly dirt paths with some elevation gain. While the walks are not intended to be aerobic, it is important that participants are reasonably fit and have good balance. Directions on where to meet will be emailed each week. Trails that may be explored include North Mountain Park/Riverwalk Loop, Emigrant Lake, Bear Creek Greenway, Talent Irrigation Ditch trail, Lithia Park hillside trails, Hald-Strawberry Park trails and Oredson-Todd Woods. We will walk rain or shine.

**NOTE:** The trails we are walking are the same as in the previous walking courses. Only humans may participate; dogs will need to stay at home.

**MOV147A** · 6 Sessions  
Field Trip  
class size 10  
Th · 9:00–11:00AM  
4/2/2026–5/7/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Diane DeMerritt, Liz Greenwood

# Nature

## **NEW!** Animal and Fairy Stories

This course invites you to relax, have fun and enjoy heartfelt stories about animals — both domestic and wild. Through these tales, you'll experience the unique love, wisdom and presence that animals offer, while possibly reconnecting with meaningful encounters from your own life. Intuitive messages from animals will be shared, and you will be guided through gentle visualizations to help you access your own inner connection with animals. Together, we'll explore these experiences through group discussions and Q&A, creating a supportive space for reflection. You'll also hear lighthearted fairy stories that use animal characters as metaphors for life's lessons. This class is designed to awaken the soul, spark curiosity and deepen your appreciation for the many ways animals touch our lives.

**NAT326A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 26  
Th · 3:30–5:00PM  
4/9/2026–5/7/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Barbara Shor

## **NEW!** Bee Curious: Supporting Pollinators at Home

Discover the remarkable world of pollinators, including native bees and honeybees and the vital roles they play in our ecosystems. Learn the basics of bee biology, behavior, habitat needs and the challenges pollinators face in the Pacific Northwest. The course also offers an overview of beginning beekeeping for those considering keeping bees. Participants will learn how to support pollinators in their home gardens and landscapes. The course will combine illustrated lectures, guided discussions, short film clips and optional hands-on demonstrations. The course presents a practical and ecological perspective, emphasizing science-based information about bees and pollinator health. An optional field trip is possible.

**NAT327A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 26  
W · 3:30–5:00PM  
4/1/2026–4/29/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Deborah Brown

## Have Fun Learning About Birds

PowerPoint presentations are accompanied by facts, anecdotes, stories and poetry about mostly local birds and local places, with new photos and information every term. This spring course will emphasize migrating birds, breeding behaviors, baby birds and spring bird sounds. No prior knowledge is necessary. This course invites an optional interactive approach, as we all can learn from one another. Come for the beauty of the photos and the fun of learning about the birds that live around us.

**NOTE:** There is no class on Friday, April, 24.

**NAT130A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
F · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/10/2026–5/15/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Shannon Rio

## Nature Journaling in Your Backyard and Beyond

Slow down, tune in and be amazed: Join us to experience the magic of nature journaling using a simple, flexible framework that you can use anywhere, any time. Whether you're art-phobic or you're a plein-air painter, whether you're a scientist or a poet or both or neither, this course is for you — this approach to journaling is accessible to everyone! The course includes three two-hour sessions. The first session will be indoors on the Rogue Valley Manor campus, with a short trip outside. The second and third sessions will be primarily outdoors on the RVM campus, with gentle walks to find journaling subjects. Each session will include a mix of interactive lecturing, instruction, “follow-along” demonstrations, journaling time and group discussion.

**NOTE:** This course will include walking outdoors on the RVM campus. Participants will need to be able to dress comfortably for outdoor conditions and sit on benches or in a camping chair while journaling.

**NAT319M** · 3 Sessions  
Rogue Valley Manor – Skyline Plaza  
class size 25  
W · 10:00AM–12:00PM  
5/6/2026–5/20/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tara Laidlaw

## The Range of Light

From afar, the Spanish conquerors of the 18th century saw them as a snowy mountain range. Up closer, John Muir coined the phrase “the Range of Light.” Whether composed of snow or light, the Sierra Nevada is the backbone of California in many ways. It is also a barrier — capturing moisture coming from the Pacific but also a barrier to pioneers coming from the east. The mountains provide the state with most of its water. They are key to outdoor recreation, including attractions such as Yosemite National Park and Lake Tahoe. They played a key role in providing the lumber used to build much of the nation’s most populated state. This course looks at the geography, natural history, human history and challenges facing the single largest mountain range in the Lower 48.

**NAT302A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 34  
Tu · 9:00–10:30AM  
5/5/2026–5/26/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** John Schuyler

## Personal Exploration

### A Simple Explanation of the Gnostic Gospel

This course will introduce students to the gnostic philosophy and theology of one of the Nag Hammadi codices. Our focus will be on the ancient text called the Tripartite Tractate, an early Christian adaptation of Gnosticism that was purged from the Christian religion around A.D. 350 and is considered a heresy by modern churches of all denominations. Because of its exclusion by Emperor Constantine, the material remains controversial to this day. This theology answers many of life’s most important questions and will be presented from a positive point of view with practical applications to one’s life. Because of the inherent controversy surrounding Gnosticism, discussions will be handled with respect for all points of view.

**NOTE:** The book “A Simple Explanation of the Gnostic Gospel” by Cyd Ropp, PhD, is suggested but not required.

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Fill out the Volunteer Interest Form on our webpage or contact Megan Rutherford at [olli@sou.edu](mailto:olli@sou.edu), 541-552-6048.



**PERS345** · 10 Sessions

Online

class size unlimited

Th · 11:00AM–12:30PM

4/2/2026–6/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Cyd Ropp**Accessible Meditation** 

This seven-week course for the novice as well as for seasoned meditators is designed to be user-friendly, devoid of any ideological framework and meant to make the practice of meditation accessible. For some, this may entail “un-learning” rigid doctrines and expectations. For others, it’s an invitation to quiet, to better regulate your nervous system, release tension and follow your curiosity down the yellow brick road of your inner world, as well as to better understand how we all create our subjective experience. Each class will include discussion, guidance and lengthening periods of meditative practice. No meditation experience is required, only a curiosity around how you put your world together.

**PERS308A** · 7 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room A

class size 26

Th · 1:00–2:30PM

4/2/2026–5/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Thomas Huffman**Accessing Inner Guidance** 

Everyone can access their inner guidance. This course offers focusing techniques and coaching to support access to the intuitive part of you that holds wisdom and information that is beyond the conditioned mind — your inner guidance. Being able to access clear inner guidance can support you in more easily navigating day-to-day life. You can develop a deeper understanding around decisions you must make, as well as correct action with respect to areas such as family issues and relationships. Inner guidance can help you gain insight into your personal growth path, why you are having certain experiences and what you can do to transform your experience. This course will be fun and experiential, with lots of discussion, coaching and feedback.

**PERS102A** · 4 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room B

class size 16

Th · 1:00–2:00PM

4/2/2026–4/23/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Stephanie Lash**NEW!** AI and the Imaginal  
Right Brain 

Many people use AI simply as a tool, but individuals who think in images, metaphors or other nonlinear ways often experience something different. They feel “seen” by AI, finding that it helps them clarify ideas, translate intuition into language, follow metaphor or make sense of complex thoughts in ways the linear world hasn’t supported. This course will explore why AI resonates so deeply for nonlinear minds. Through examples, discussion and simple guided activities, we’ll examine right-hemisphere modes of knowing — imagery, intuition, metaphor, spaciousness and “felt” sense — and how these ways of knowing are supported by AI.

**NOTE:** Participants are invited to bring a laptop, tablet or smartphone with access to the free version of ChatGPT. No purchase is required. No technical background is needed. Those without a device or account may pair up or observe.

**PERS360A** · 6 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room A

class size 25

W · 11:00AM–12:30PM

4/1/2026–5/6/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kim Hermanson**An Introduction to the Ancient  
Practice of Dowsing**  

Dowsing has been referred to as witching for water, divining, pendulum use and doodlebugging. It taps into an intuitive side of our consciousness and structures the response to make it usable. The course will cover its history, its development and the practical use of dowsing in everyday life. You will learn to access your intuition in a structured format and practice using different instruments that amplify the slight subconscious movements you make. In order to progress in dowsing ability, practice is essential, and proving our results will be part of the exploration process. This is a science-based inquiry and practice. There are no prerequisites except for an open, inquiring mind and the confidence to try something new that may challenge conventional understanding.

**PERS336A** · 6 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room B

class size 19

W · 3:30–5:00PM

4/1/2026–5/6/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Stephen Bosbach, Crystal Bosbach

## **NEW!** Automatic Writing: A Door to Creativity and Clarity

This course introduces the history, science and practice of automatic writing. Students learn a safe, grounded method for exploring creativity, intuition and the unconscious through a structured practice workbook. The course covers how to set sacred space, use intention-based rituals adapted to individual beliefs and understand automatic writing from five perspectives: scientific, religious, spiritual, quantum and metaphorically cosmic. No experience is required, only an interest in self-discovery. The workbook for this course is free. Students only need a computer or pen and paper. No prior spiritual practice or experience with automatic writing is needed, just basic writing skills. Weekly sessions offer time for questions, guidance and steady progress. Beginners are welcome.

**PERS369** · 7 Sessions

Online

class size 16

M · 11:00AM–12:30PM

3/30/2026–5/11/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Trent Phillis

## **NEW!** Awaken to Living Unleashed: Your Life Your Way

In a world that tells us we need to constantly improve ourselves, this course offers the radical perspective that we are already enough exactly as we are. Drawing from Sydney Banks' Three Principles, we'll explore how peace, clarity and creativity arise naturally when we live from our true nature. Through engaging discussions and short videos featuring Banks, Michael Neill and George and Linda Pransky, we'll rediscover the joy and wisdom that comes from within. As we live more fully in our own peace, contentment and well-being, we affect all around us, at a personal, community and global level. Banks reminded us that the world only changes when one person at a time looks deep inside and touches a moment of pure consciousness.

**PERS371** · 4 Sessions

Online

class size 21

M · 9:00–10:30AM

4/6/2026–4/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dan Altman

**PERS371A** · 4 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room B

class size 21

M · 9:00–10:30AM

4/6/2026–4/27/2026

## Becoming a Refugee: Six Ukrainian Women's Stories

What is the journey of a Ukrainian woman refugee? What was the experience of growing up in Soviet Ukraine? What is the impact of the transition from communism to a free Ukraine on the life of a Ukrainian woman and her family? Becoming a refugee involves a change of identity, loss of status and economic stability, and a descent into another unknown world. Through the stories of six Ukrainian refugee women living in Ashland, these questions will be explored within the larger context of Ukrainian history, women's spirituality and the refugee experience as a path of spiritual transformation. The course will include reflective writing and/or journaling in response to the readings.

**NOTE:** Text choices: "Women and War: Letters From Ukraine to the Free World" by Aurélie Bros or "Displaced: The Ukrainian Refugee Experience" by Tamar Jacoby.

**PERS315** · 6 Sessions

Online

class size 26

Tu · 1:30–3:30PM

3/31/2026–5/5/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Louise Paré

## Conscious Aging and the Enneagram

This course will investigate the concepts of aging and personality using the Enneagram system as the framework. It will explore topics such as: 1) how our personality evolves as we age and what we can do to facilitate this with knowledge of the Enneagram, self-awareness and presence-based practices; 2) how aging supports and challenges our connections with and use of our primary gifts and qualities; and 3) what the key learnings are from the Enneagram that relate to and support conscious aging. This course will build on some of the material that was offered in prior programs but will apply those principles specifically to aging, adult development and growth models. It is as much a discussion group as a class.

**NOTE:** It is expected that students understand the fundamentals of the Enneagram and have a sense of the personality type they are working with. We will be referencing the book "The Wisdom of the Enneagram" by Don Richard Riso and Russ Hudson. Students will need access to this book.

**PERS322A** · 7 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 25  
Th · 10:30AM–12:30PM  
4/2/2026–5/14/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** David Widup

## **NEW!** Enneagram Type Panels: The Narrative Tradition 🧑🧑

The Enneagram (“nine points or letters”) is a sacred nine-pointed symbol that describes nine distinct and universal personality types, their interrelationships and different paths of spiritual development. Study and practice of this profound and powerful system helps one to identify and move beyond nonproductive habits of body and mind, increases compassion for self and others and effectively integrates psychological and spiritual life. The first class includes an overview of the Enneagram. The following classes include a short, guided meditation, teachings, video clips and a Type Panel that demonstrates and explores the personality type of the week. There are handouts and optional homework assignments.

**NOTE:** Required book: “The Essential Enneagram,” by David Daniels, MD, and Virginia Price. \$9 on Amazon. There is no class on Monday, May 25.

**PERS129A** · 9 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
M · 1:00–3:00PM  
3/30/2026–6/1/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Carl Marsak

## **NEW!** Evolving Into Your Higher Consciousness 🧑🧑

Embrace the power of your higher consciousness so that you can purposefully expand into greater peace and harmony. In this highly interactive guided wisdom-sharing course, you’ll learn how you can more constructively apply your formerly repressed free will to transform scarcity into abundance, judgment into compassion, limitations into freedom and negativity into love. We will explore the multitude of pathways of perception that open when you blend loving consciousness with spirituality in your heart, mind and soul. Discussions will include nurturing your courage, healthy ego, integrity, forgiveness, intimacy, mindfulness, spiritual awakening, oneness and a deeper understanding of oneself in unity consciousness. Potentially sensitive issues may be discussed.

**PERS361A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 19  
Th · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/9/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Gibson

## Fanning the Female Flame After Menopause 🧑🧑

There are multiple hormonal changes that occur with menopause and with aging that affect a woman’s well-being and bedroom life. Some of these changes become obstacles around which women need to navigate. Women’s hormonal symptoms have often not been given focused medical attention, and many women do not know about available options. The good news is that there is no better time in history than today to be a postmenopausal woman who wants to have great intimacy. We will use PowerPoint as the backdrop support for discussing all the options for dealing with menopausal changes. This will include tips to increase the power in your day-to-day connection with your partner.

**PERS259A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 21  
Th · 1:00–3:00PM  
5/14/2026–6/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Susan Kay Preslar



## How to Keep Your Marbles

Your brain is the most complex object in the known universe. Fortunately, caring for your brain is not that complicated! We are getting older but our brains age at different rates. Let's explore what the latest science says about this range of function, from subjective cognitive decline to mild cognitive impairment and on to Alzheimer's. After reviewing basic brain function and defining terms, we'll look at myths, realities and breakthroughs in brain health. We will then consider the therapeutic lifestyle choices (TLC) that prevent or slow cognitive loss, including exercise; nutrition; mental, emotional and social connection; sleep; and stress resilience. Finally, we'll look at happiness and beyond: wisdom and self-transcendence. We will use full-color slides, lecture, discussion and Q&A.

**NOTE:** The instructor's book "Keep Your Marbles: Your Game Plan for a Healthy Brain" is recommended for this course. It is available on Amazon but will be available at a discount at the first class meeting.

**PERS120A** · 7 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 53  
Tu · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
3/31/2026–5/12/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** John Kalb

## **NEW!** How to Talk With Anyone

Although we appear to be as polarized as ever, the reality is that people are desperate to be seen, heard and understood! According to David Brooks, author of "How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen," it doesn't take much to start a conversation with someone new. The best attitude is to be open and confident, feel safe, possess a desire to connect, be curious about who someone is, show yourself (share a vulnerability), listen and remember. You will also learn how to handle tough conversations. The course will primarily rely on the books by Brooks and Patrick King, a conversation coach. Reading is optional. The course will be taught over five sessions. Each lecture will rely on a PowerPoint presentation. Optional conversational exercises will be provided.

**PERS362A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 19  
Th · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tysen Mueller

## **NEW!** Nature Appreciation/ Meditation

This course is designed for a deepening of our innate connection with nature. Being in nature has been shown to help humans increase their well-being. Time will be given to participants to be in silence. They also will be asked to contemplate various aspects of the natural community around them. They will be given time to write if they choose and then gather again to share their thoughts and ideas. All classes will be at a local park where, depending on weather, a shelter is near. Participants will be expected to dress appropriately for the weather and be able to walk on mostly level ground. There could be slight inclines, but no steep hills. Participants may bring a notebook and pen, but it's not required.

**NOTE:** This course will take place at North Mountain Park, 620 N. Mountain Ave., Ashland. This class and its activities will be based on the book "The Healing Magic of Forest Bathing" by Julie Plevin Oliansky, a local who started Forest Bathing Clubs in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**PERS363A** · 2 Sessions  
Field Trip  
class size 8  
F · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/10/2026–4/17/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kathleen Hering

## **NEW!** Radical Loving

Radical loving is about being home with our wounded world. We will visit broken, abandoned or distressed places in our area, such as the Alameda fire corridor, Golden and Buncom ghost towns and clear cuts. During our visits we will listen deeply with our loving presence. We will share ideas about where other such places might be that are close by, accessible and of interest to us all. From those encounters we might want to create what our souls are calling us to bring forth: a piece of writing, painting, music, movement, sculpture or anything that moves our hearts. Our creation can become part of an altar at our homes honoring those areas and beyond. In essence, this course is about slowing down, being present with and, as you are moved, responding creatively to beauty, gratitude and love.

**PERS364A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 8  
M · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/20/2026–5/11/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Nitsa Marcandonatou

## **NEW!** Sanskrit Chanting: Gayatri Mantras

The famous Rig Veda Gayatri mantra to the sun is the most used Vedic Sanskrit chant. Did you know there are multiple Gayatri mantras in the Vedas, and that the word Gayatri refers to a specific chant meter as well as the goddess Gayatri? Let's explore this as we learn several Vedic Gayatri mantras. We will use Sanskrit phonetics and pronunciation using IAST (International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration) with familiar English/Roman characters. Handouts are provided for this experiential course. Basic knowledge of Sanskrit pronunciation is encouraged but not required. Chanting is not singing and does not require any musicality. You will be taught everything you need to chant these beautiful mantras and experience enhanced overall well-being!

**PERS365A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 16  
F · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/3/2026–5/8/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Peggy Leviton

## Stress Relief: Deep Relaxation and Wisdom Teachings

Come and enjoy stress melting away with guided deep relaxation, integrated with recordings of great contemporary spiritual teachers such as Alan Watts, Ram Dass, Eckhart Tolle and Shinzen Young. The focus will be on cultivating equanimity with challenging circumstances, both personal and collective, and connecting to your own inner resources for letting go when holding on is too difficult. Deep relaxation also greatly helps with accessing and trusting your inner wisdom and intuition for healing and peace of body and mind. No previous experience with meditation or a belief system is necessary. Participants are free to bring a yoga mat, a small pillow and an eye cover to lie down, recline on a mat or across chairs to get really comfortable and go deep.

**PERS309A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 45  
Tu · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/28/2026–5/26/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lisa Hubler

## **NEW!** The Joy Map

The Joy Map is a gentle, creative and heart-centered four-week experience designed to help participants learn practical tools for emotional self-regulation, heart-coherence, stress reduction and cultivating everyday joy. Each session blends short instruction with experiential activities such as guided heart-coherence practices, reflective writing, music appreciation, nature connection, movement, expressive art and meaningful group conversation. This program weaves all of these elements into an accessible, uplifting experience — the kind that nourishes the heart, mind and spirit. No prior artistic or mindfulness experience is required; all levels are welcome. Each participant will create a personal Joy Map, a living document and visual guide for purposeful, joyful living.

**NOTE:** Participants will need a journal and various art supplies, including art paper, colored pencils, markers, glue and other supplies of their choosing. Be prepared to go outside for short movement and mindfulness activities. The cost will depend on supplies to which the participant already has access.

**PERS366A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 13  
W · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/1/2026–4/22/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Anna Miles

*Travel*  
with

**OLLI at SOU**

Discover the local  
and regional trips   
we have planned by visiting  
[sou.edu/olli/offerings/travel](https://sou.edu/olli/offerings/travel)



**NEW!** The Salon: A Women’s Wisdom Circle 

Share ideas, make new friends and celebrate women in an updated answer to the salons of the French Enlightenment. Find common ground and camaraderie with other women via conversation and intellectual stimulation using modern pop culture as the catalyst for discussion — like a book club, but with films. Students will jointly select five themes, ranging from angels to zeitgeist, deep diving into topics that touch women across ages, cultures, communities and circumstances. Weekly emails with current film titles for home viewing (from Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc.), along with links to quotes, articles, visual artistic works and music will become touchstones to recall personal stories and insights to share in discussions. Classes may include a short meditation.

**NOTE:** Students will watch one or two films weekly at home before class, chosen from current selections on Netflix, Amazon Prime and/or other popular streaming services available via free trials.

**PERS367A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 13  
Th · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/30/2026–6/4/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Juliann Decerrini

**NEW!** Wild Writing Circle 

Wild writing is about coming home to ourselves, a loose and freeing technique to write about what is authentic in our lives. It’s a safe harbor where members will write to prompts from three easily understood poems. The instructor will read a poem, offer a few jump-off lines, read the poem again and ask students to write as freely as possible, the pen never leaving the page, and just say yes to whatever arises. Participants will write for up to 15 minutes per poem, and then they will read what they have written. Students will listen to one another without any comment, critique or cross talk. What’s written in the room will stay in the room. It’s a come-as-you-are party, whether one has lots of creative writing experience or none at all, a place where perfectionism is left at the door.

**PERS368A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 8  
W · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/1/2026–4/22/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Steve Neuberger

**NEW!** Wonder Everywhere: Cultivating Mundane Wonder 

In this second course, let’s go deeper into cultivating wonder-mind by examining the Four Foundational Elements that enlarge our capacity to attend to the wonder that is always present, everywhere. Learn to notice mundane wonder — wonder even in the boring, mundane or “negative” moments of your life — the most ordinary, everyday moments. That’s where the juice is! This class will encourage you to explore the foundations of wonder-mind and deepen your capacity to remain open to mundane wonder.

**PERS370** · 4 Sessions  
Online  
class size 15  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/29/2026–5/20/2026

**PERS370A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 10  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/29/2026–5/20/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Beata Chapman

## Programs & Activities

### MORE TO EXPLORE:

Beyond the classroom, OLLI offers talks, outings and activities that inform, inspire and connect. Visit the OLLI website for the latest opportunities!




# Recreation

## **NEW!** Cook Along: Let's Noodle Around

Cook along and let's noodle around together! We'll explore making a basic egg pasta from scratch and experience two delicious cuisines. From the Mediterranean we'll make a traditional Sicilian pasta with broccoli or cauliflower, and then send our taste buds to the Far East to sample pan-Asian hoisin garlic noodles. Each day will feature side dishes to complete a meal. You'll cook in your kitchen and I'll cook in mine; I'll provide recipes, demonstrations and support. Students should be comfortable in the kitchen and have basic cooking skills.

**NOTE:** There will be vegetarian options, but gluten-free cooking will be on your own.

**REC337** · 2 Sessions  
Online  
class size 34  
W, F · 3:30–5:30PM  
4/8/2026–4/10/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Barbara Schack

## **NEW!** Crumb Quilted Projects

Come make a crumb quilt into something useful! A crumb quilt is a patchwork made by sewing together tiny fabric scraps into blocks that in turn are pieced together to create new fabric. We'll spend two weeks making a crumb quilt large enough to cut a pattern for a pouch, wallet, pencil case, eyeglass holder or something else you choose. During the third class, we'll assemble our creations. This is a fun process, at the end of which you'll have something functional to use.

**NOTE:** Students should bring their own sewing machines to class. You should be able to wind a bobbin and sew a curved line. You will need about \$20 worth of fabric and supplies, but the scraps for your crumb quilts will be supplied. A list of supplies will be sent to registered students.

**REC333A** · 3 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 8  
F · 3:30–5:30PM  
4/3/2026–4/17/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kathy Brantley

## **NEW!** Introduction to Color Work in Knitting

This course will teach knitters how to work more than one color in a row in their knitting. At the end of the course students will have made a multicolor hat and have learned how to knit in the round with more than one color, fix mistakes, read a pattern, follow a chart and finish a project. Students will learn tips, techniques and resources for knitting the hat that are applicable to other knitting projects. Students should already know how to cast on, knit, purl, bind off and decrease in knitting. This course is not suitable for those who do not know how to knit comfortably.

**NOTE:** Beginning knitting will not be taught. Students will need to purchase yarn, needles and stitch markers. Students will be given a pattern and instructions for purchasing yarn and needles prior to the first class.

**REC334A** · 4 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 12  
M · 1:00–2:30PM  
3/30/2026–4/20/2026

**INSTRUCTORS:** Jessica Bailey, Penny Colvin

## Introduction to Genealogy

This introductory course, taught by four instructors at the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Library, is designed to give a solid foundation for pursuing genealogy and researching your family and ancestors. The classes will cover: conducting research online and in libraries, organizing research, the U.S. census and researching digitized newspapers as well as how to use Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org. There will be two assignments: filling out an Ancestor Chart for personal use and preregistering for a free FamilySearch.org account before class 4. Instruction will be 1½ hours, including a 30-minute break, followed by a one-hour hands-on practice session. RVGS has computers available for the practice sessions, but students are encouraged to bring their personal laptop.

**NOTE:** The Rogue Valley Genealogical Society Library has a kitchen, and students are encouraged to bring their own lunch or snack to eat during the half-hour break.

**REC128M** · 6 Sessions  
Rogue Valley Genealogy Library – 3405 S Pacific Hwy.,  
Medford  
class size 24  
F · 10:30AM–1:30PM  
4/10/2026–5/15/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Anne Billeter

**NEW!** Knitting Your First Sweater 

Students taking this course will make a child's sweater and, by doing so, will learn how to read a pattern, ensure that a sweater will fit, select appropriate yarn, increase and decrease invisibly and fix mistakes. Students will also learn about key knitting resources. This course is for advanced beginners: Students should know how to cast on, knit, purl and bind off in knitting. If you want to take your knitting to the next level and learn how to make a sweater that fits, this course is for you!

**NOTE:** This course is designed for someone who knows how to knit but wants to learn how to knit a sweater. Students will be given a pattern and instructions for purchasing yarn and needles prior to the first class.

**REC335A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 12  
W · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/1/2026–4/29/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jessica Bailey

Let's Play Pinochle 

Pinochle is a trick-taking card game for two to four players, usually played with a 48-card deck. The game is played in three phases: bidding, melds and tricks. Players score points by winning tricks and by forming combinations of cards into melds. It's a fun way to exercise your thinking as it requires strategizing to win. At the first session, we'll become familiar with the rules and procedures and begin to play. Written instructions will be provided. Bring your fun brain and a positive attitude. The classroom will be a safe space to meet new friends, and questions will be welcomed. A deck of pinochle cards will be provided for every class member.

**REC316A** · 8 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 17  
F · 9:00–11:00AM  
4/3/2026–5/22/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mitzi Loftus

Pickleball: Absolute Beginners  

This course is designed for the person who wants to learn the fundamentals of the fastest growing sport in America. It is played by all age groups and physical abilities in recreational or tournament play. Join the fun led by experienced instructors from the Ashland Oregon Pickleball Club. We will meet for 1½ hours for five consecutive afternoons. Beginning players will learn the basics: choosing a paddle, paddle position, serving, return of serve, dinking, drills, scoring and calling "out balls." You might meet "Nasty Nelson"! An emphasis will be placed on safety, court etiquette and sportsmanship. AOPC will provide the paddles, balls and instruction. If we have inclement weather, the class will be canceled. Information on courts in the Rogue Valley will be included.

**NOTE:** Please wear court shoes and a hat or visor, and bring a hydrating drink. Protective eyewear is recommended.

**REC103A** · 5 Sessions  
Lithia Park Pickleball Courts – Winburn Way  
class size 20  
Daily · 2:30–4:00PM  
4/6/2026–4/10/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Cori Frank

Pickleball: Advanced Beginners  

This course is designed for students who have taken the Absolute Beginners Pickleball course or have a rudimentary knowledge of the game. It will be taught by seasoned instructors who are experienced players. They are members of the Ashland Oregon Pickleball Club. Expect to build on the basic game to include advanced strategy in play. We will meet at Lithia Park pickleball courts for 1½ hours a day for five consecutive days. There will be an emphasis on safety, playing by USA pickleball rules and sportsmanship. This skill-building course will focus on serves; third-shot drops or "drop shots;" drives; lobs; partner communication; types of scoring; and understanding Bert, Ernie and Nasty Nelson. The last day will be a fun, fast-paced round-robin in which all players will rotate.

**NOTE:** Please bring your favorite paddle, wear court shoes and a hat or visor, and bring a hydrating drink. Eye protection is recommended. If we have inclement weather, the class will be canceled.

**REC137A** · 5 Sessions

Lithia Park Pickleball Courts – Winburn Way  
class size 20

Daily · 2:30–4:00PM

5/4/2026–5/8/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Cori Frank

## Pickleball: Round-Robin FUNdamentals Collective

This fun and active course is for pickleball players who understand and play the game and want to meet players through a rotation/competitive type of play. All levels of players are welcome. There will be three classes during the term, each with 3½ hours of play. Players will learn format, partnering, stacking, hand signals, types of scoring, byes, types of pickleballs and when to utilize them. Timing and numbering of rotations will be taught with an emphasis on safety. Six games will be played in each class, with frequent rest breaks. You will be an active participant and connect with your partner in strategizing your game plan. This course is taught by experienced local players from the Ashland Oregon Pickleball Club.

**NOTE:** This course will be at Lithia Park pickleball courts; courts 1 to 4 have been reserved for 8 a.m. to noon. Bring your favorite paddle and a hydrating drink, and wear court shoes and a hat or visor. Eye protection is recommended. In the event of inclement weather, we will cancel. There is a \$3 fee for pickleballs payable to the instructor.

**REC313A** · 3 Sessions

Lithia Park Pickleball Courts – Winburn Way  
class size 10

Th · 8:30–11:30AM

4/23/2026, 5/14/2026, 5/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Cori Frank

## **NEW!** Texas Hold'em Poker Advanced Strategies

So you think you know how to play poker? Your skills will be displayed in this advanced poker class focusing on No Limit Texas Hold'em. Students must have a good understanding of poker rules and etiquette to take this course. You will learn all the following: basic betting strategies, fold equity, bluff tactics, bluff equity, bluff catching, game theory and game theory optimal, exploitive theory, poker math and, finally, luck and how it affects the game. There will be an in-class poker tournament using chips (no money) to exercise students' poker skills.

**NOTE:** Students must have a good understanding of poker rules and etiquette. Students who have taken Bon Stewart's Beginning and Winning Poker class should have this

knowledge base as would those who play poker for real money outside OLLI.

**REC336A** · 6 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 25

Th · 11:00AM–12:30PM

4/2/2026–5/7/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bon Stewart

## Wines and Wineries of Southern Oregon

Are you interested in wine and the wineries of Southern Oregon? Do you enjoy learning about the nuances of growing and winemaking? In this course, we will visit four Rogue Valley or Applegate Valley vineyards and wineries to hear talks from the staff. Topics could range from the factors contributing to vineyard loss to how prices are determined. At each venue, the talk will be followed by a directed tasting where students will be guided to sense the differences and characteristics of the wines presented. Come enjoy the bounty of Southern Oregon!

**NOTE:** The first session of this course will meet from 5:30–7:30 p.m., at the Campbell Center, Room A. If you've taken this course before, some winery visits may repeat, but new topics will be covered. A \$72 fee covers tastings. Students must be able to walk on uneven ground and stand for the full two-hour class. First-class attendance is mandatory. Enrollment is limited to 20 with no guests, and students provide their own transportation. Enrollment for partners isn't guaranteed.

**REC134A** · 5 Sessions

Field Trip

class size 20

W · 3:00–5:00PM

4/29/2026–5/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dan Dawson



# Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

## AI and You

Artificial intelligence has burst into prominence in the last few years. It is poised to transform our lives in many ways: how we use our devices; our interactions with businesses; our notions of trust, privacy, intellectual property and decision-making; the nature of education and jobs; and ultimately, how it will feel to live in a world with artificial, autonomous agents. AI technologies can improve our lives but could also reduce personal choices and freedom. We'll examine the technologies behind AI and discuss their broader effects, which depend not only on technical issues, but on political, social and economic power. Who controls how AI is used? Will it leverage those with power and influence, or empower those not in a dominant position? Classes include lecture and discussion.

**STEM209A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 53  
F · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/3/2026–5/1/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tony Davis

## **NEW!** AI, ChatGPT and Lifelong Learning

Artificial intelligence is reshaping how we think, write and learn. This hands-on course explores how tools like ChatGPT can serve as a tutor, guide and personal learning companion. Participants will experiment with prompts, compare AI and Google searches, co-write short pieces, explore multiple perspectives and design a personal learning plan. Each session combines short presentations, live demonstrations, small-group activities and reflection. Topics include how AI “learns,” effective prompt writing, creativity, research and ethics. No experience with AI or technology is required — just curiosity and a willingness to explore how intelligent tools can extend lifelong learning.

**NOTE:** Students must bring a laptop or tablet computer to use during class.

**STEM330A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 25  
Tu · 3:30–5:00PM  
4/28/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bruce Evans

## **NEW!** Beginning PC Computers

Do you feel frustrated and ready to give up learning how to use your computer? Then this course is for you. The course will start with the basics, exploring the parts of a computer, including ports, the keyboard, the screen and the mouse. Students will learn to use and personalize the Windows desktop, icons and taskbar; to move and resize windows; and how various keys on the keyboard (such as home, end, backspace, delete, shift and tab) function. They will learn to download and save files, organize files into folders and subfolders, find lost files using Search and File Explorer, use Task Manager and safely access the internet. Students will be introduced to word processing and spreadsheet programs. There will be time for practice during class and optional assignments for review at home.

**NOTE:** Students must have a PC-based laptop with MS Windows and bring it to class. Students will use a mouse while in class. If they do not have a mouse, one will be provided by the instructor.

**STEM324A** · 8 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 11  
W · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/8/2026–5/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Holly Campbell

## **NEW!** Get Organized With Apple Apps and iCloud

This course will help Apple users stay organized using three essential apps — Calendar, Reminders and Notes. Participants will learn how these tools work individually and together to manage appointments, tasks, lists and personal information across their devices. The course examines similarities and differences among the applications and helps participants choose which apps may be especially useful for their particular needs. Sessions include demonstrations and guided walkthroughs, with optional hands-on activities for follow-up practice using the resources provided. Guidance on using iCloud to keep everything synced is also included.

**STEM175** · 5 Sessions

Online

class size 53

Th · 1:00–3:00PM

4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**STEM175A** · 5 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room C

class size 34

F · 1:00–3:00PM

4/3/2026–5/1/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Neal Strudler

## Hanford, Oregon’s Nuclear Neighbor

A few miles north of the Oregon border on the Columbia River lies the Hanford Nuclear Reservation — the site of the world’s largest and most complex environmental cleanup. This course traces Hanford’s evolution from the World War II Manhattan Project, through the Cold War expansion of plutonium production, to reactor shutdowns and remediation. Hanford’s legacy includes millions of gallons of radioactive waste, spent fuel and widespread soil and groundwater contamination. In the years ahead, thousands of radioactive waste shipments will cross Oregon to disposal sites in Utah and Texas. The course examines the immense costs and technical, political and environmental challenges of managing a \$500 billion nuclear liability and how renewed nuclear ambitions may shape the future.

**STEM301** · 3 Sessions

Online

class size unlimited

M · 9:00–10:30AM

4/6/2026–4/20/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jeff Wyatt

## Observational Astronomy

This course will be an introduction to astronomy, specifically observational astronomy. Students will learn how to look in the night sky without a telescope to see constellations, identify planets and discern lunar phases. This class will specifically focus on our Southern Oregon skies in spring. Students will get a chance to practice their knowledge by observing in the North Medford High School Planetarium. The planetarium features a Digistar 7 system, a fully digital system capable of manipulating space and time with real-time data and stellar computer graphics. The course will be half online lecture, half lab-based in the planetarium. There is no background knowledge necessary; all levels of learners are welcome.

**NOTE:** The course will alternate between online instruction using Zoom one week followed by lab-based practice of concepts at the North Medford High School Planetarium the next week. Weeks 1, 3 and 5 will be online and weeks 2, 4 and 6 will be at the planetarium.

**STEM319M** · 6 Sessions

North Medford High School, Planetarium

1900 N Keene Way, Medford

class size 40

Tu · 3:30–4:30PM

4/7/2026–5/12/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Megan Laurenti



## Physics for Nonphysicists: Newton's Laws

The course will cover Newton's laws of motion and Newton's law of gravity including gravity, planetary motion and rotational motion. Learn the answers to important questions such as: Do you get anywhere at 60 mph if you drive for less than an hour? Why does your stomach get upset in an elevator? Do angels flap their wings to keep the planets in their orbits? (You know more about physics than you realize.) Take this course and connect your intuitive knowledge and learned behavior with the words of physics. Don't be intimidated by the words; they are there only to keep the uninitiated ... uninitiated. Become an initiate in Newton's laws. Time will be devoted to your questions.

**NOTE:** The course will be taught using PowerPoint presentations and other visual and audio material. Warning: We need to use some basic algebra.

**STEM105A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room E  
class size 78  
M · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
4/13/2026–5/18/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** John Johnson

## See Like a Geologist: The Landscape Around You

Why is the Rogue Valley a low area and why are the adjacent mountains so high? This course aims to help students interpret the landscape where they live. Using the local area as our laboratory, we'll explore the factors that create diverse landscapes. Via interactive lectures, the course will review the regional geology with a focus on local details and explain the basic principles needed to understand how Earth works and changes through time.

**NOTE:** The in-person section will include a field trip to local sites; students may choose either Saturday, May 9 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) or Tuesday, May 12 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.). The trip will require students to carpool and sign an activity waiver. Walking distances will be short. No prior geologic experience is needed. This course was offered before, most recently in Spring 2023.

**STEM203** · 6 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/14/2026–5/19/2026

**STEM203A** · 6 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room D  
class size 50  
Tu · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/14/2026–5/19/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Karen Grove

## The Biology of Sexual Identity

This course discusses the development of sexuality in humans and the known factors that can influence sexuality. It describes the development of sexual organs and sexual identity, and the effect of genetic and environmental factors, both prenatally and at puberty, on sexual presentation. If you want more information about issues regarding sexuality or the meaning of terms such as transgender, this course can give you factual information. The information will be based on only what is known as reported in the scientific literature. The science will be presented with explanations in understandable terms. Students will be encouraged to ask questions and share information. The course will be taught using PowerPoint presentations.

**STEM308** · 2 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 11:00AM–12:00PM  
4/21/2026–4/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mary Ellen Gordian

## The Role of Energy: Ecology and Economics

We will examine the world around us, including natural and human economies, from an energy/biophysical perspective. Energy underlies most aspects of life, from nature to civilization to our economies. Topics include what energy is; our history of understanding energy; the laws of thermodynamics; the particular role of the sun; the early Earth environment; and the evolution of life and importance of green plants. We will also look at adaptations forced on life in an increasingly oxygenated environment; the evolution of increasing biotic complexity; the sequestering of fossil fuels; the evolution of mammals, proto-hominids and our own species; the increased exploitation of energy by humans; and the industrial revolution and relation to modern economic and business theory. There will be time for discussion and questions.

**STEM204** · 8 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
M · 11:00AM–12:30PM  
3/30/2026–5/18/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Charles Hall

# Social Sciences

## A Baha'i Response to the Decline of Organized Religion

As organized religion has been in rapid decline over the last 70 years, the Baha'i Community has experienced an 800% increase in membership, becoming one of the most widespread religions in the world. Reasons for the decline in organized religion will be presented from academic sources as well as surveys by Gallup, Pew and others. From the context of Baha'i history and teaching, a critique of organized religion will be offered. The course will include time for discussion prompted by sets of key questions presented throughout the course. The class will use a Keynote format along with guest lecture presentations from contemporary pundits. Exploring an almost unobserved but major societal change, the course will consider the future of organized religion from the Baha'i perspective.

**SOC341A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 34  
Th · 3:30–5:00PM  
4/2/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** David Young

## **NEW!** AI: Harari's Warning in His Book 'Nexus'

This course will focus on the risks inherent in the fast-moving phenomenon of AI, according to Yuval Noah Harari in his book "Nexus," published in 2024. The focus will be on the last chapter and epilogue, which he wrote specifically to warn readers that the autonomous algorithms of AI are an unprecedented threat to humanity. Each class will start with audio and video clips from the book to simultaneously hear and read. Discussion will be conducted so that everyone has an opportunity to participate.

**SOC342A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 32  
W · 9:00–10:30AM  
4/29/2026–5/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Urban Kohler

## **NEW!** College Admissions: A Guide for Mentors

This course explores how adults can effectively support teens through the college admission process. Students will learn how admission systems work, how educational pathways differ internationally and domestically, and how teen developmental science shapes decision-making. Instruction includes brief lectures, guided discussions and practical activities using real admission scenarios. Topics include academic planning, application timelines, financial aid basics and strategies for healthy support. No prior knowledge is required. The course presents a practical, research-informed perspective rather than surveying all theories of admissions. Sessions combine short presentations with interactive discussion and applied exercises.

**SOC343A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room C  
class size 25  
M · 9:00–10:30AM  
3/30/2026–4/27/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Rhonda Fisher

## **NEW!** Communicating Peace, Through History and Today

This course will offer a learning environment for understanding ways to communicate peace locally, nationally and internationally. With lecture slides containing texts, photos and video clips, students will explore examples of peace activism in speech, language and art. Lectures will cover great speeches, essays, poetry, music, well-known art and more. Building on historical examples, we will discuss levels and forms of human communication that convey messages to promote peace in today's world. Students should be prepared to discuss with respect and civility all definitions and aspects of peace. No student preparation will be required, but an open mind and heart toward the fun, joy and possibility of a world at peace will be encouraged.

**SOC344A** · 5 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 19  
Tu · 9:00–10:00AM  
5/5/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Diana Clennan

## Dig Deeper Into World Events and U.S. Foreign Policy

Does a lot of what you hear or read about the world concern you? Do you wish you could share these concerns with others and hear their perspectives as well? In this interactive class, we'll discuss eight topics over 10 weeks. Each topic is from a chapter in the Foreign Policy Association's "Great Decisions 2026" booklet. This year's topics are: 1) overview; 2) America and the world; 3) the future of the world economy; 4) U.S.-China relations; 5) the future of European security; 6) nuclear proliferation; 7) changing world order; 8) the future of international law; 9) the U.S. and Africa; 10) wrap-up. Pre-reading for each class will be assigned. Each class begins with a brief overview of the topic, followed by discussion. Diverse viewpoints across the political spectrum are encouraged.

**NOTE:** The "Great Decisions 2026" booklet is required reading and will be distributed at the first class. Cost: \$35. Also required is a commitment to be respectful of points of view different from your own.

**SOC204A** · 10 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 19  
F · 1:00–3:00PM  
4/3/2026–6/5/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Karl Vischer

## Ethics in an Age of Existential Crises

This course will focus on the complex ethical questions posed by certain immediate and long-term existential threats to individuals and society. Among these are the growing use of AI, the politicalization of government institutions, the effect of mass media, genetic manipulation of embryos, global climate change and pandemics. The course will be taught seminar style. Students working in small groups will be responsible for researching a topic of their choice, writing a one-page paper and making a 10-minute presentation in class. Discussion will focus on the nature of specific threats, their ethical ramifications, and the influence of philosophy, religion and science on these issues. We will inquire into whether our current value system is adequate or if a new set of values is required.

**NOTE:** This course is open to all students, including those who have taken it previously, since the discussion will be different.

**SOC314A** · 10 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room B  
class size 17  
W · 1:00–2:30PM  
4/1/2026–6/3/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** William Kastenber

## Hot News & Cool Views

This course is an open discussion forum to explore and discuss breaking news from Oregon and around the globe each week. All differing views and opinions are not only welcome but essential to create lively discussion in the group. We cover a wide range of topics, including politics, climate change, technology and medicine. An agenda with articles will be sent to you before each class. Students are also encouraged to send in topics and news articles to add to each week's agenda. Please join us for a sizzling hot journey around the world in our fast, fun and sometimes controversial class whose success is largely a product of the wisdom, knowledge and experience of our great group. Many people take the class again because it's better than a strong cup of coffee to get your week going!

**SOC139** · 10 Sessions  
Online  
class size unlimited  
Tu · 9:00–10:30AM  
3/31/2026–6/2/2026

**SOC139A** · 10 Sessions  
Campbell Center – Room A  
class size 32  
Tu · 9:00–10:30AM  
3/31/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Rick Vann



## Ranked Choice Voting to Elect Community Leaders

Ranked choice voting has grown in popularity around the U.S. You may know of it but want to learn more. This class will cover both basics and in-depth information. For instance, we'll discuss electing a single mayor versus multiple council members with proportional representation. We'll answer questions such as: What's the difference between RCV and our current system? How are ballots designed? How is tallying done? How would elections function in national, state or local communities? How might it affect gerrymandering wars? No prior knowledge is necessary. There are no assignments, but optional reading may be suggested. The class will feature lecture, slides, videos and interactive discussion via Zoom. Class 1 will focus on single-winner elections; class 2 will address multiple winners. All respectful views welcomed.

**SOC121** · 2 Sessions

Online

class size 53

Tu · 11:00AM–12:30PM

4/28/2026–5/5/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Barbara Klein

## **NEW!** Rediscovering Presence in a Screen-Focused World

This is a six-week reading and discussion course for adults who have lived long enough to know what matters, who feel the erosion of genuine connection in a device-driven world, and who want their voices heard again in honest dialogue with the people they love. The text and in-class discussions will help participants better understand the ways that digital communication has been eroding the connective tissue between us and help us explore new ways we can change that dynamic. There will be weekly readings, journaling prompts and in-class invitations to share personal experiences as we look into the ways we seniors can give and receive more substantive contributions with our loved ones.

**NOTE:** Required reading: “Reclaiming Conversation” by Sherry Turkle. Any edition is acceptable. No previous knowledge is required except for participants’ regular use of basic digital communication tools and devices such as smartphones, tablets and computers, and familiarity with social media like Facebook and Instagram.

**SOC345A** · 6 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room C

class size 25

W · 1:00–3:00PM

4/1/2026–5/6/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Meri Walker

## The Constitution in Everyday Life

We are experiencing challenges to our democracy that we have not had since the Civil War. This course will explore contemporary issues that contain constitutional questions. We will be looking at current events, but the prism through which we will study these events is through the Constitution.

**SOC146-1** · 4 Sessions

Online

class size 30

W · 9:00–10:00AM

4/1/2026–4/22/2026

**SOC146-2** · 4 Sessions

Online

class size 30

W · 11:00AM–12:00PM

4/1/2026–4/22/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Betsy Massie

## The Power of the Consumer

Beginning with a discussion of some basic economic concepts, we will delve into how consumerism drives our economy and, in particular, why consumers act as they do. We'll discuss the specific timeline from the early 20th century to the present and how government policymaking shaped consumerism, using the BBC documentary “Century of the Self” covering these decades. In particular, we will focus on why people make consumer decisions, how public relations and advertising firms influence those decisions, and how our government shapes the processes. We will also talk about the evolution of Walmart, Amazon, artificial intelligence and data mining.

**SOC309M** · 8 Sessions

Medford Higher Education

Center – Room 118

class size 34

Tu · 1:00–3:00PM

3/31/2026–5/19/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jim Earley



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## **NEW!** U.S. Lesbians: As American as America the Beautiful

This course will examine the enormous impact lesbian activists have had on women's suffrage and voting, labor and working conditions, unionization, education, service to poor and immigrant communities, Social Security legislation and professional development from the late 1800s to the 1950s. Many lesbians either chaired or were part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Ladies Brain Trust" and helped Labor Secretary Frances Perkins draft essential human welfare legislation, including Social Security and the Fair Labor Standards Act, legislation that still serves us today. Lecture and discussion will be included.

**NOTE:** Required text: "To Believe in Women" by Lillian Faderman (1999).

**SOC346A** · 10 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room B

class size 19

Tu · 11:00AM–1:00PM

3/31/2026–6/2/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** LauRose Felicity

## Washington Watch

This is a discussion class on news out of the nation's capital, including the activities of President Trump and his administration, actions by Congress and decisions of the Supreme Court and lower federal courts. We will begin with brief opening comments, based on the instructor's personal experiences in Washington as a reporter and working for the legislative and executive branches of the federal government. Relevant comments by knowledgeable observers will be distributed each week ahead of classes and during class time. All viewpoints will be welcome during class, with everyone strongly encouraged to show respect for those with differing opinions. The goal will be for those in class to leave with a greater understanding of events and how today's developments fit within a historical context of the relationships among the three branches of the federal government.

**SOC154A** · 10 Sessions

Campbell Center – Room A

class size 34

Th · 9:00–10:00AM

4/2/2026–6/4/2026

**SOC154M** · 10 Sessions

Medford Higher Education

Center – Room 118

class size 34

F · 9:00–10:00AM

4/3/2026–6/5/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** David Runkel

# TALENT MAKER CITY

## A pilot program between OLLI at SOU and Talent Maker City

All courses take place at **Talent Maker City, 109 Talent Ave.**

*Public parking is available on Talent Ave., Valley View Rd., Market and Sieber St.*

Talent Maker City has applied for grants and OLLI at SOU has subsidized the facility rental fee to make these hands-on courses more affordable to our members.

**Please note:** Payment for each course should be made directly to Talent Maker City after registration is processed. The cost of each course is in the description, and registration fees are nonrefundable. A signed OLLI at SOU liability waiver is required for each course.



### **NEW!** Dyeing to Sew

Ready to plant a seed for natural dyeing and sewing? Join us as we plant our community dye garden, fix living color from indigo and dyestuff into natural fibers and sew it all up into something wonderful! During this eight-week course, you'll learn about different fibers, how to scour fiber for dyeing and dye fibers using indigo and dye pots. Once you've successfully dyed your fibers, you'll use those fabrics to sew napkins, drawstring pouches and silk eye masks.

**NOTE:** Total cost to participate is \$200 (\$25 per session)

**ARTS404A** · 8 Sessions  
class size 5  
Th · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/9/2026–5/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Molly Acord

### Introduction to 3D Printing

This is a beginning course in 3D printing. Students will learn about the history of 3D printing, its uses and how it works. The many types of 3D printers and the wide range of materials that can be used for printing will be discussed. As part of the actual printing process, students will use 3D modeling software to access existing files of 3D models for printing 3D objects. Students will print objects and learn to decorate and modify them. Additional topics will include an introduction to high-tech 3D printing in space travel and other applications. No prior experience with 3D printing is required; however, participants should be comfortable following directions to navigate computer software.

**NOTE:** Total cost to participate is \$100 (\$25 per session).

**STEM331A** · 4 Sessions  
class size 6  
Th · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/9/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Michael Schubert

### Introduction to Ceramics: Handbuilding

Discover the art of creating with clay in this hands-on, beginner-friendly ceramics course. Over eight weeks, students will explore the fundamentals of handbuilding techniques, including pinch, coil and slab construction, while learning how to shape, texture and join clay. The course will also cover surface decoration methods, glazing and an introduction to the firing process. Each week builds on core skills, guiding students from simple functional forms to more creative, sculptural projects. By the end of the course, participants will have completed a collection of unique ceramic pieces and gained a strong foundation in working with clay. No prior experience is needed, just a willingness to get a little messy and experiment!

**NOTE:** Total cost to participate is \$200 (\$25 per session).

**ARTS325A** · 8 Sessions  
class size 8  
Tu · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/7/2026–5/26/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dawn Klinger

### **NEW!** Introduction to Stained Glass

Explore the timeless art of stained glass in this beginner-friendly, hands-on class. Over four weeks, you'll learn the essentials of the copper foil method, from choosing patterns and cutting glass to foiling, soldering and finishing your piece. Guided step by step, you'll create your own stained-glass artwork to take home while gaining confidence with the tools, materials and techniques of the craft. No prior experience is necessary.

**NOTE:** Total cost to participate is \$120 (\$30 per session)

**ARTS406A** · 4 Sessions  
class size 6  
Th · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/9/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Rick Evans

## **NEW!** Introduction to the Lathe

Discover the joy of shaping wood on the lathe in this hands-on introductory course. Students will learn the fundamentals of safe lathe operation, tool selection, principles of spindle and face plate turning and essential turning techniques while practicing on a variety of small projects. This is a project-directed class. Students will leave with projects reflecting their learned skills. No prior experience is required — just curiosity and a willingness to try something new. Join us to explore the creative possibilities of woodturning.

**NOTE:** Total cost to participate is \$100 (\$25 per session).

**ARTS407A** · 4 Sessions  
class size 4  
Tu · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/7/2026–4/28/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** John Weston

## Making Metal Clay Jewelry

Transform nature into sparkling silver! Discover the magic of turning leaves, flowers and found treasures into stunning fine silver jewelry. In this hands-on class, you'll learn how to capture botanical textures and natural forms using art clay silver — a versatile fine silver clay. Create a one-of-a-kind pendant inspired by the beauty of the world around you. No prior experience is needed — just your curiosity and a love of nature. Let your creativity take root and blossom into timeless silver pieces you'll be proud to wear or give as a gift.

**NOTE:** The total cost to participate is \$120 (\$30 per session).

**ARTS408A** · 4 Sessions  
class size 8  
Th · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/9/2026–4/30/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Donna Ruiz

## Passion for Printing

Develop a passion for printing in this hands-on class that includes art, design and printmaking. We will focus on a variety of media, including cyanotype, jelly prints and screen printing. Each week, students will learn different aspects of what makes a good design based on composition principles such as the golden ratio, the rule of thirds and the use of positive and negative shapes. Students will learn how to digitize and edit designs for screen printing using an iPad (provided on site by Talent Maker City). Additional printing methods will be introduced.

**NOTE:** Total cost to participate is \$200 (\$25 per session).

**ARTS409A** · 8 Sessions  
class size 6  
Tu · 9:30AM–12:00PM  
4/7/2026–5/26/2026

**INSTRUCTOR:** Amy Godard



# Instructor Biographies

**MOLLY ACORD** lives in Talent with her husband and three children. She loves the intersection of business and craft and has built two small businesses. She loves all forms of art, but you will most likely find her in the fiber arts department at Talent Maker City.

**DAN ALTMAN** is passionately interested in awakening, transformation and well-being. He has been teaching the Three Principles since his own awakening in this understanding in 2016. Altman, a former software entrepreneur, is also a writer, coach and owner of a neurofeedback practice.

**JESSICA BAILEY** has been knitting for over 50 years and has made more sweaters, shawls, hats and cowls than she can count. She has worked in four yarn stores and has a deep knowledge of knitting and yarn. She loves both learning and teaching new knitting techniques. Bailey knits daily, always having at least several projects on the needles at one time.

**BARB BARASA** is a piano technician and a violist. She is now mainly retired from piano work, occasionally works on harpsichords and likes to explain to anyone who is interested how keyboard instruments work and the somewhat weird way they are tuned, which most musicians do not understand.

**BILL BATEMAN** is the president and communications director of OSTA, the Oregon State Tenants Association, and a returning OLLI instructor. Recently, he worked with members of the state Legislature to pass House Bill 3054 — a rent stabilization measure for manufactured and floating home communities. The law was signed by Gov. Tina Kotek and became effective Sept. 1.

**ANNE BELLEGIA** is a retired health care strategic planning consultant. She has been a hospice volunteer, has advised organizations focused on aging supports, has co-produced public lectures on care planning, and has offered OLLI courses on care planning, Care Circles and resources for outpatient procedure care. She has been a member of a Care Circle since 2021.

**BENJAMIN BEN-BARUCH** is a historical sociologist and applied sociologist with graduate degrees from Columbia University and the University of Michigan. He has taught at the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. He has also taught at OLLI.

**JIM BERNS** was named principal broker of the year five times before retiring in California and moving to Oregon in 2022. During his career as a broker, Berns listed and sold over 600 homes. As a principal broker, Berns oversaw more than 15,000 transactions as the owner of a company and then as a chief compliance officer.

**ANNE BILLETER**, MLS, PhD, the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society library director, has gathered a distinguished team for this course. Billeter will teach along with her colleagues Barbara Northrop, MSW, certified genealogist; Rich Miles, MS, technology and data management director for RVGS; and Kim Thurman, BS, past president and now in the process of becoming a certified genealogist.

**GINNY BLANKINSHIP**, while not a native speaker, graduated from UC Davis with a Spanish major and taught high school Spanish at all levels for 25 years. She has traveled to Spanish-speaking countries whenever possible as a student, a tourist and an NGO volunteer, and continues to seek opportunities to stay fluent.

**KENJI BLEICKER**, certified financial planner, is a local financial planner and investment adviser. He holds degrees from UC Santa Cruz and the University of Michigan. Bleicker has been a financial adviser and certified financial planner professional since 2010.

**CRYSTAL BOSBACH** is skilled at dowsing and visualizing the human aura. She has training as a nurse and in massage therapy, the jin shin jitsu system and lymph drainage therapy and holds a Reiki master level. She has applied dowsing to health and diet, as well as using her skills in intuitive counseling.

**STEPHEN BOSBACH** is a life member of the American Society of Dowsters. He began dowsing professionally for water in 1975. He established the Armadillo Chapter of Dowsters in Austin, Texas, in 1987 and was its chairman for 12 years. He is very interested in dowsing harmful and beneficial earth energy.

**KATHY BRANTLEY** studied mechanical engineering and geology at Caltech and is now a sewist. She likes to quilt, engineer bags and tailor garments to fit. She is also a stroke survivor and asks that her students watch her online videos at home so that she doesn't have to narrate what she's doing.

**MARK BRODER** started piano lessons at age 8 and attended the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan. He earned a master's in music composition at the Juilliard School and a doctorate in music education at Columbia University Teachers College. He taught music appreciation and rock and jazz history at Maricopa Community College in Phoenix, Arizona.

**DEBORAH BROWN** taught literature and writing for 33 years, retiring from SOU in 2023. She holds a BA from Southern Oregon State College, an MA from the University of Northern Colorado and a PhD from the University of Nevada. A master beekeeper through the University of Montana, Brown has kept bees for nine years, combining her academic expertise with hands-on beekeeping and gardening experience.

**HOLLY CAMPBELL** has multiple university degrees in education. She taught MS Word and Excel classes for 13 years at Rogue Community College and five years at New Horizons Computer Learning Center, where she earned her Microsoft Office Specialist certification. She uses MS Word extensively for creative writing.

**JERRY CAMPBELL** has a lifelong love of literature and welcomes the opportunity to look at the way fiction provides a window into real life. He has a BA in music from Arizona State University, an MDiv from the Pacific School of Religion and a love of great literature. He has led classes at OLLI for more than five years.

**JAMES CANNON** is a retired criminal defense lawyer from Alaska. He is interested in Civil War history and some of the quirkiest and more obscure parts of 19th- and 20th-century American history. He has previously taught courses about the Gettysburg Campaign and the Pig War.

**DENNY CARAHER** has spent years crafting lyrics and writing music for many styles of songs. His award-winning work has been featured on NPR and Garrison Keillor's Writers Almanac. Caraher believes there is no finer lyricist than Stephen Sondheim and is a longtime follower.

**JAN CAVECCHIE** holds an arts degree from UC Santa Barbara. She is a seasoned graphic designer and visual artist. She has taught fine art at the city college level and loves teaching small workshops. She has co-curated large art shows and has shown in galleries in California and Oregon.

**BEATA CHAPMAN** has an MA in adult learning and a PhD in organizational psychology, and has taught at universities, Buddhist centers and in corporate and nonprofit settings. As a Zen Buddhist and in her work with people who live with chronic pain and illness, Chapman has been using and teaching these practices for 30-plus years.

**JOANN CLECKNER** has taken art, quilting, Zentangle and book-binding classes for over 20 years. After retiring, she completed the 36th Zentangle Teacher Training to earn a CZT certificate. Being a Certified Zentangle Teacher ensures that the Zentangle philosophy and quality are maintained.

**DIANA CLENNAN** is communication professor emerita at the College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, where she taught rhetoric and communication classes for 20 years. She holds a master's degree in rhetoric and communication from UC Davis. Her teaching has covered a broad range of courses, including basic public speaking and surveys of communication and rhetoric.

**ANNE COLEMAN** has served as co-chair of the Curriculum Committee for several years. She'll facilitate Introduction to Teaching at OLLI at SOU with co-chair Ginny Blankinship, some distinguished guests and Curriculum Committee members who specialize in specific curriculum areas. Many of these committee members are also OLLI instructors who love sharing their skills, knowledge and enthusiasm.

**PENNY COLVIN** has over 65 years of experience knitting and specializes in stranded color work patterns. She is an avid and daily knitter who usually knits for her kids and grandkids. You can find her working on multiple projects at once.

**TERI COPPEDGE** has taught Spanish for over 40 years, including at OLLI. She has a BA in Spanish and an MA in teaching foreign languages. She has lived, worked or studied in Spain, Mexico and Peru, and has traveled in several Spanish-speaking countries. She loves the Spanish language.

**MARCIA COUEY** has 30 years of experience as a contract writer for the health care, financial and technology sectors. She has a BA in English from UC Irvine and an MBA in finance and marketing. Marcia has been a BetterInvesting volunteer for 23 years and has taught OLLI classes on stock analysis, Value-Line and Google Docs.

**TONY DAVIS** has taught several courses at OLLI, ranging from human language to music to the game of Go. His academic training was in linguistics. He worked on language processing in predecessors of today's AI systems for two decades. In 2016 he moved to Ashland, where he enjoys travel and spending time in nature.

**DAN DAWSON** is a wine aficionado and is developing as a wine-maker and wine educator. With degrees in chemistry, Dan worked for UC Santa Barbara for 40 years. He has been making wine and beer since 2018. He worked the 2023 and 2024 harvests at a local winery and holds two professional wine certifications.

**JULIANN DECERRINI** worked in women's fashion, home design, mental health and small business coaching. She holds advanced degrees in English, linguistics and hospitality management. A former creativity coach and English teacher, she specializes in using connection, color and creativity as the tools to discover and become your best self.

**DIANE DEMERRITT** began leading Walking Ashland's Trails in the fall of 2022. She is an avid walker and has enjoyed sharing her knowledge of the nearby trails with others. As a retired teacher, she has many years of experience guiding groups of people and facilitating discussions.

**DAVID DRURY** has a master's in city planning and a PhD in anthropology. A lifelong history buff and fan of good storytelling, he has been a lecturer at UC Berkeley and the University of Hawaii at Hilo. At OLLI, Drury has taught courses on pirates, the Roaring '20s, epidemics, the Camino de Santiago and others, and has often appeared in the Exotic Travel class.

**JIM EARLEY** has a BS and an MS in agricultural and resource economics, the latter from Oregon State University, and a BS in fisheries biology. He has several hundred hours of additional training as a federal regulator and continuing education units in various topics related to banking. He has taught classes in banking fundamentals.

**THOMAS ECKERT** is a retired special education teacher. He has filled six three-ring binders with tasting notes from thousands of wines since 1980. Eckert sold wine wholesale for the Gallo Sales Co. in the late 1980s and was later a wine and liquor buyer for a high-volume Bay Area store. The love affair continues after more than 45 years.

**SALLIE EHRMAN** has taught Cut-Up Poetry for many years through OLLI. Her cut-up poems have received acclaim in literary magazines and contests. She has many notebooks full of cut-up poems she has created for decades.

**ROBIN ENGEL** is an experienced educator and has taught several classes for OLLI. Prior to retirement, she taught subjects in every grade level. Before coming to Oregon from Arizona, Engel performed stand-up comedy, and she has made a lifelong exploration into comedy and what makes us laugh.

**GERI ESPOSITO** has taught soul collage and vision board for 25 years. She started with collage-based formats because no drawing or painting was required. She began to draw and paint in an art journal in 2020. Her style is whimsical with plenty of color. Her process is visceral and comes from letting go and allowing the art to reveal itself.

## INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES

**BRUCE EVANS** has 40 years of education experience as a teacher, instructor, researcher and consultant. His graduate work focused on learning theory in general and second language acquisition specifically. Evans recently taught at the University of Oregon, where he applied connectivism in his courses.

**PEGGY EVANS**, SOU professor emerita of music, has taught music courses, including OLLI courses, for many years. She holds degrees from Chatham University, the University of Michigan and the Eastman School of Music (the University of Rochester). For over 50 years she has been an organist, a concert artist, a church musician and an educator.

**RICK EVANS** received a BA in art from Southern Oregon State College in 1980. Since 1998, Evans has been a full-time professional artist. In addition to stained glass, Evans has worked in a variety of media, including oil and watercolor painting, and most recently working en plein air, ceramics, metal, blacksmithing and broom making.

**LAUROSE FELICITY** has a JD, an MSW and a teaching credential. She is a retired attorney, social worker and teacher and has taught students from age 7 to postgraduate levels. She has been a lesbian cultural worker since the 1970s and curates a Lesbian Herstory Archive.

**DAVE FERGUSON** has co-taught numerous film classes with Lorraine Vail over the years, such as Movies That Make Us Think and OLLI Goes to the Ashland Independent Film Festival. He has also been an AIFF screener for many years. While attending UC Davis, he wrote critical film reviews for the student newspaper, the Aggie.

**FRAN FIELDS** has taught Playful Art at OLLI and several other venues. She enjoys doodling, drawing, photography and watercolor painting but dabbles in other media too. Her style is meditative, precise and intentional.

**LEE FISHEL** has a BA in political science from UC Santa Barbara, where he also studied extensively in classical theater. He has worked as a professional actor in Southern California and served on the board of directors of 42nd Street Moon Musical Theater Company in San Francisco.

**RHONDA FISHER** holds a PhD in sociology and has nearly 20 years of college counseling experience across Europe, Asia, North and South America and the Middle East. A former college professor, she brings cross-cultural expertise and extensive international counseling experience.

**LEONIE MIKELE FOGLE** is a playwright. She studied with Stella Adler at NYU and received a BA in acting from the Tisch School of the Arts. She also studied poetry with David Wagoner and received an MFA in poetry from the Northwest Institute of Literary Arts in Washington. She currently studies playwriting with Eduardo Machado.

**MOONDANCE FOREST** has an MEd in physiology and sports medicine and a BA in PE and dance/movement. She has taught at universities, wellness centers, elder hostels and seminars for over 35 years. She completed Feldenkrais teacher training in 2015 and is certified (1989) to teach “Ch’ang Style T’ai-Chi-Ch’uan Short Form” by Chi-Hsiu D. Weng, 1987.

**CORI FRANK**, a member of the Ashland Senior Advisory Committee, is a retired health care professional who has been playing and teaching pickleball for a number of years. She has participated in and organized tournaments, round-robins and jamborees. She also developed and teaches the youth program at Ashland YMCA and all OLLI pickleball courses.

**BROOKE FRIENDLY** has taught English country dance since 1981 and has been singing since she was a child. She teaches dance and leads social singing sessions at workshops and events throughout North America, England and Australia. Her website is [brookefriendlydance.com](http://brookefriendlydance.com).

**FERNANDO GAPASIN** received his PhD from UC Santa Barbara. He has dozens of publications about race, gender, immigration, organizational research and the American labor movement. He has taught at several community colleges, the National Labor College, UCSB, Penn State, Yale, UCLA and the University of Oregon.

**DIANE GAUMOND HYRST**’s journey in dance has led her from student to ballerina, teacher, master teacher, choreographer and to becoming the artistic director of Ballet Rogue (1996-2009), formerly known as the State Ballet of Oregon. Hyrst worked with dancers in the Rogue Valley from 1980 to 2020.



**MATTHEW GEORGE** was an Italian studies (and Spanish literature) major who studied in Florence as an undergraduate before moving to Milan to teach English for two years. He returned to study comparative and EU law in Siena and interned as a legal researcher at UNIDROIT, the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in Rome.

**MARK GIBSON** has an MS in science from San Francisco State University and a life coaching certificate from CoachU. Within life coaching, he specializes in fearless living and truth facilitation. He has authored three books: “Living Unconditional Love,” “How to Find Love Through Online Dating” and “Truth Is the Path to Freedom.”

**AMY GODARD** is an artist and educator from Southern Oregon. She has been printing since 2005 and has a degree in art and Spanish from the University of Oregon. Goddard loves to travel and spend time in nature. She has been working at Talent Maker City for three years and has previously taught art to high school and elementary school students.

**ROBERT GOOD** has 33 years of experience as an estate planning lawyer in the Rogue Valley. In 1992, he graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law. He began practicing law in Ashland in 1995. Good is also an experienced litigator and mediator.

**MARY ELLEN GORDIAN** received her MD degree from Indiana University. She practiced as a family doctor for 35 years and delivered approximately 2,000 babies. She later completed a residency in public health and served as a medical officer in the U.S. Army and in Anchorage, Alaska. She did research at the University of Alaska, Anchorage until she retired.

**UDO GORSCH-NIES** is a native German speaker who has taught German classes at SOLIR/OLLI since 2005. He immigrated to the U.S. in 1992 and became a citizen in 2004. His academic background is in high-energy/elementary particle physics. Professionally, he worked in computing, systems analysis and computer systems validation in the EU and the U.S.

**ROBERT GRAYBILL** has a master’s degree in theater/drama. In earlier lives, he was a dinner theater performer, a newspaper editor, a schoolteacher, a technical writer at Los Alamos National Laboratory and the president of a community theater that is still in existence. He has taught at OLLI since 2013.

**LIZ GREENWOOD** is a dedicated daily walker of Ashland neighborhoods and trails. She has a passion for exploring on foot, as well as professional experience as a physical therapist, yoga teacher and nature enthusiast. She has led this course in the past.

**KAREN GROVE** is a geologist with a PhD from Stanford University. She was a geoscience professor for 26 years at San Francisco State University, where she taught courses at introductory to graduate levels and did research on the tectonic evolution of western California. She is now focused on learning more about the geology of the Pacific Northwest.

**DANIEL GUY** is a graduate of Oregon State University. With a U.S. Army Reserve commission, he served for over 12 years as an infantry officer. A lifetime student of history, Guy has taught film and history courses since 2013, emphasizing the true hidden costs of war and militarism, which most heavily fall on underserved and underrepresented communities.

**NORMAN HALE** has been playing guitar for more than 30 years and likes nothing better than to play music with a group of friends. He has degrees in literature and film from the University of Oregon and has taught at the college level. He believes in the power of music to draw people together and views his role more as a facilitator than a teacher.

**CHARLES HALL** is a systems ecologist. He has BA, MS and PhD degrees and taught for over 45 years at Cornell University, the University of Montana and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. His work focuses on developing alternatives to conventional (neoclassical) economics. He has authored or edited 14 books and 330 scientific papers.

**MYRNA HALL** is professor emeritus, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, New York. An avid hiker, she advised hundreds of hikers in Glacier National Park, is a member of the Cascadians outdoors group, and has explored the Rogue Valley with her hiking and hunting pals, husband Charlie and English setter Jussi.

**KATHLEEN HERING** has been a nature person her whole life. Her earliest memory of being in nature is from an overnight camp in Wisconsin, which she did not want to leave. This spring she took a forest bathing class led by Julie Plevin Oliansky. Hering will combine her love of nature and the principles of forest bathing.

**KIM HERMANSON**, PhD, is a respected author and educator specializing in right-brain knowing, metaphoric intelligence and creative emergence. She has taught at UC Berkeley, Pacifica Graduate Institute, the Esalen Institute and other organizations worldwide.

**MITCH HRDLICKA** has been doing home repairs and maintenance since he put a butter knife in an electrical outlet at an early age. Upon retiring as a police detective after 31 years in law enforcement, he built homes for Habitat for Humanity, and he has had a handyman business for over 20 years. He is the technical director for the Rogue Theater Company.

**LISA HUBLER** is a meditation teacher and hypnotherapist with over 25 years of experience in mindfulness, Rinzai Zen and yoga. Her calming voice and background in singing and literature bring musicality and poetry to her use of words. She has a degree in English and American literature from the University of Southern California.

**THOMAS HUFFMAN**, MSSW, is a retired psychotherapist. He worked for 50 years with individuals, families, couples and groups. A lifelong meditator, he studied Zen intensively for seven years and mindfulness for an additional three years at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado.

**RICHARD JACQUOT** is eminently qualified to teach a course on singing in French as a native speaker of the language. He is known for his outgoing personality, attention to detail and sense of humor. He has been a key to success in previous courses that involved French.

**LINDA JAFFE** holds an MFA in writing. She has been published in numerous literary journals and has published a chapbook with two other poets. Jaffe served as poetry editor for a literary journal at UC Berkeley and has taught numerous writing and literature courses at OLLI. She believes that creativity brings self-understanding, surprise and joy.

**DEBRA JOHNSON** has an MA in gerontology and is a retired geriatric care manager. She provides guidance to seniors on advance care planning, chairs the Ashland senior services program, and is a court-appointed investigator of guardian and conservatorship petitions. She has been a member of a Care Circle for four years and has taught on the topic.

**JOHN JOHNSON** has taught many courses about physics and some about music at OLLI/SOLIR for a long time. He is qualified to teach these courses in spite of his education at Grinnell College and Carnegie Institute of Technology.

**PAMALA JOY** performed and taught in 16 countries with a focus on theater, clowning, mime and street performance. With degrees in speech and theater and years of experience in community theater arts, Pamala taught in European universities, arts centers and her own school in Italy, using laughter, games and play as tools for growth and well-being.

**JOHN KALB** has 45 years' experience as a wellness chiropractor. He completed his premed training at NYU, earning a BA in psychology and chemistry and then an MS degree from SUNY/Buffalo in biology. He recently published his third book, "Keep Your Marbles: Your Game Plan for a Healthy Brain." This is his 14th year teaching at OLLI.

**WILLIAM KASTENBERG**, PhD, is distinguished professor of nuclear engineering, emeritus at UC Berkeley. His teaching and research interests have included nuclear reactor analysis and safety; risk analysis and advanced technologies; ethics and the impact of technology on society; and the role of emotion on ethical decisions.

**KARA KEELING** earned her PhD in Victorian literature from Indiana University. A children's and young adult literature specialist, she taught in the English department at Christopher Newport University in Virginia for 31 years and has had the good fortune to teach courses on J.R.R. Tolkien's works 11 times.

**TIMOTHY KELLY** has been a member of OLLI for over 15 years and has taught classes there for several terms, including Live! Greatest American Speeches in History and several terms of Best American Short Stories. He has written three stage plays and has acted at all the local theaters. Kelly is an enthusiastic reader of short stories.

**BARBARA KLEIN** serves on local and state League of Women Voters boards. She has spent over 25 years educating others on electoral systems. She was a state president of the league in Arizona, was FairVoteAZ chair and served the national League of Women Voters on national popular vote and redistricting task forces. She speaks on voting topics, follows election bills and runs the PizzazzEE.com fitness app and AgingWithPizzazz content blog.

**DAWN KLINGER** started her journey with clay in high school and continued her education at the University of Arizona, earning a BFA in sculpture and ceramics. She has worked in art education and special education, and participated in multiple art festivals and gallery shows around the country. In 2016, she opened Tagliaferro Ceramics, a local studio.

**URBAN KOHLER** tries to live his life in balance. That includes his serious concerns for the future of humanity, reflected in this term's OLLI course titled AI: Harari's Warning in His Book "Nexus." He reflects his lighter, joyful side reflected in his other course, Singing in French.

**TARA LAIDLAW** has worked in place-based education for 20 years and currently serves as Southern Oregon Land Conservancy's education program manager, where she teaches nature journaling for learners of all ages. Laidlaw holds a BA in anthropology from Stanford University and an MAEd in natural science and environmental education from Hamline University.

**JEFF LALANDE** has taught various OLLI and SOU-credit courses in the past. He holds a PhD in American history (focus on the American West and 20th-century political history), with a minor in history of modern Europe. Due to recent political trends and events here in the U.S., he has delved into the 1936-39 Spanish Civil War and hopes to share what he has learned.

**STEPHANIE LASH** has a BA in psychology and has been involved in personal growth practices since 1975. She has taught meditation and stress reduction classes since 1978. Lash also has formal training as a personal growth coach. In addition to a full-time career in corporate human resources, she has been teaching classes in meditation and accessing inner guidance for over 40 years.

**MEGAN LAURENTI** is the astronomy teacher and planetarium director at North Medford High School. Laurenti is also the president of Southern Oregon Skywatchers. She has a passion for sharing her love of the night sky and believes the more you understand the world around you, the more beauty and elegance the universe unfolds.

**PEGGY LEVITON** loves to explore the energetics and effects of Sanskrit chanting. She is a certificated Veda chanting teacher (Veda Studies Institute), has a master's in music, a BS in biochemistry and a diploma in integral sound healing. Leviton's personal Vedic chanting practice continues to be inspired by the group chants she has led locally for over eight years.

**MARCUS LEVITT** is professor emeritus of Slavic languages at USC. His Russian is excellent. He has spent more than six years in Russia and the USSR and has authored many books and articles on Russian literature. He is currently collaborating with colleagues in Russia on a critical edition of the 18th-century poet Aleksandr Sumarokov.

**MITZI LOFTUS** has been playing pinochle for 80 years or more and can attest that pinochle is a great way to exercise your brain while having fun with others. After previously teaching a pinochle course, Loftus helped start a pinochle group that played for several years, even via Zoom during the pandemic.

**JANE MAITLAND-GHOLSON** holds a BS, an MA and a doctorate in art education. She taught art in public schools, a crucible for honing all future teaching skills. In 1984 she joined the University of Oregon art education faculty, as an assistant and then as a tenured associate professor, teaching aspiring art teachers. Art and Visual Literacy was her favorite course.

**NITSA MARCANDONATOU** has a PhD in East/West psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies. She has taught consciousness-based courses and workshops at colleges, universities and spiritual centers in California, Wisconsin and Oregon. She is sustained by the experiential ways of our human endowments of love, peace, joy and beauty.

**CARL MARSACK** is an Enneagram teacher, workshop leader and spiritual guide. He has graduate degrees in religious studies and anthropology. Carl is the founder and director of the Enneagram Center of Southern Oregon, is a certified Enneagram teacher in the Narrative Tradition (2004), and an accredited Enneagram professional in the International Enneagram Association (2012).

**BETSY MASSIE** taught U.S. history and the U.S. Constitution to 11th- and 12th-grade alternative students. She has taught OLLI courses focused on the Constitution in our everyday lives for over seven years. In addition, she has prepared and delivered a Ted Talk on the Constitution titled “Use It, or Lose It.”

**AMY MCCOY** has visited the Balkan region 12 times over the past 15 years and has traveled throughout the region. In March 2025, McCoy (along with her husband, Jan McCoy) relocated from Ashland to Plovdiv, Bulgaria, where they now live full time. She has extensive professional experience in planning and preparing curriculum for adult instruction.

**JAN MCCOY** has visited the Balkan region 12 times over the past 15 years and has traveled throughout the region. In March 2025, McCoy (along with his wife, Amy McCoy) relocated from Ashland to Plovdiv, Bulgaria, where they now live full time. He has extensive professional experience in providing training and instruction to adults.

**PHIL MEYER**, CEO of Southern Oregon PBS, has worked over 30 years in public media. The recipient of four Regional Emmy Awards, he is a past PBS Communication Professional of the Year. As an adjunct instructor at Indiana University for 11 years, Meyer taught promotion and marketing in telecommunications. He has taught at OLLI since 2023.



**ANNA MILES** brings over 27 years of compassionate, heart-centered teaching experience grounded in social-emotional learning (SEL) and mindfulness. She holds an MA in teaching and a background in counseling psychology, along with certifications in mindfulness, SEL, grief companioning and art life coaching.

**LARRY MOLACEK** has extensive improv training, including Second City Level 1 in Riyadh and Levels 2-5 at Backline in Omaha. He has taken workshops in Denver, Amsterdam, Dublin and Omaha; performed in over 20 shows; and is a member of Rogue Valley Improvisors. He holds a PhD in educational leadership.

**TYSEN MUELLER** has a BS and MS in physics and a continuing interest in psychology and sociology. He has taught OLLI courses on The Art of a Great Conversation and Reducing Your Attention Deficit. Previously, he was a hospice bedside volunteer at Celia’s House. Currently he is a mentor for a 14-year-old boy through Rogue Valley Mentoring.

**STEVE NEUBERGER**, MSW, is a retired union and community organizer. He found the Wild Writing writing during the pandemic and completed the Wild Writing teacher training program with Laurie Wagner in June 2025. Neuberger offers Wild Writing sessions titled Writing Poorly for Good that benefit nonprofit organizations.

**PATRICIA O’SANNELL** is a well-known musician and musical director in the area. She holds a degree in music from UC Riverside. She worked as a multi-instrumentalist and singer at OSF for 30 years and as a musical director for the Green Shows for 20 years. O’Sannell’s arrangements have won international acclaim and her music has been heard on NPR worldwide.

**BOB PALERMINI** has been a photographer since high school. He studied photojournalism in college and went on to management roles in newspaper technology and production. He returned to serious photography in 2008 as a freelance photographer. Palermini has worked for Ashland.news, the Special Olympics, SOU Athletics and other local organizations.

**LOUISE PARÉ** holds a PhD in women’s spirituality from the California Institute of Integral Studies and an MA in religious studies from Mundelein College. She is an international women’s spirituality and social justice educator and published writer with over 40 years of teaching experience. In 1997 she taught workshops at the Cherkasy Women’s Center in Ukraine and researched in Kyiv and Cherkasy.

**TRENT PHILLIS** has 1½ years of dedicated experience with automatic writing, supported by extensive personal practice, documentation and ongoing study. His work has included research into its psychological, creative and spiritual dimensions, as well as consistent engagement with the method in structured and unstructured settings.

**JOHN PRATT** thoroughly enjoyed his 40-year career teaching in California. After taking a few years off, post-retirement, he has thrown himself into teaching at OLLI, everything from wine growing to reading Shakespeare aloud. Mary Oliver has always been one of his favorite poets, and he is very eager to share that love with others.

## INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES

**SUSAN KAY PRESLAR** has a BA from Kirkland College (now part of Hamilton College) and an MS, family nurse practitioner, from New York Medical College/Pace University. After moving to Ashland in 1988, she became the director of the Student Health and Wellness Center and an associate professor at SOU. Since 2002 her FNP practice has been specializing in female hormonal/sexual health.

**NANDO RAYNOLDS, MA**, has studied and taught tai chi, karate, kenpo, escrima, qigong, massage and contact improvisation dance over the last 45 years. He is an author in the counseling and martial arts fields. He works in private practice as a psychotherapist with couples and adults.

**ALLISON RENWICK** has BA and MA degrees in art history from the University of Oregon. She taught community college art history and drawing in Portland for 30 years before retiring to Ashland in 1998 and joining SOLIR, now OLLI. In addition to Western art history she has taught PowerPoint courses at OLLI.

**SHANNON RIO** is the president of the Klamath Bird Observatory, a local science-based nonprofit, and she engages in community education through teaching and guiding bird trips. Living in the Rogue Valley for 43 years, she is committed to community and volunteers at a number of other nonprofit organizations. Rio also teaches yoga and works at Planned Parenthood.

**EAN ROBY** is professor emeritus at Ohlone College in Fremont, California, where he taught for 34 years. He regularly teaches courses at OLLI on such topics as ancient history, the history of philosophy and the history of religions.

**CYD ROPP** holds advanced degrees in classical rhetoric, education and Christian counseling, as well as a bachelor's degree in psychology. Her doctoral specialty of classical rhetoric looks at ideologies and worldviews that uphold modern beliefs through the lens of ancient manuscripts and comparative religions.

**DONNA RUIZ** studied at the University of Wisconsin, exploring a range of art courses. She continues to hone her skills through workshops on silver metal clay works, in which she holds two certifications. Ruiz teaches and shares her work in her home studio and other venues. She enjoys guiding others in working with metal clay and making wearable art.

**DAVID RUNKEL** has experience in Washington as a White House reporter in the Carter and Reagan administrations, the Justice Department's communications director in the George H.W. Bush administration, and the House Banking Committee's communications director when Bill Clinton was president and Newt Gingrich was House speaker.

**ASADOUR SANTOURIAN** is recognized as a creative programmer, career strategist and consultant. He served as vice president of artistic administration and adviser for the Aspen Music Festival and School for 18 years. He developed programs that were relevant to diversity, equity and inclusion, along with similar themes surrounding the human condition.

**BARBARA SCHACK** graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a BA in art and earned an MS at SOU in education. She has won awards in cook-offs and has cooked for private parties, a vineyard in the Napa Valley and for family and friends. Having taught elementary grades through graduate levels, and now at OLLI, Schack is delighted to share her kitchen magic.

**MICHAEL SCHUBERT** has a two-year degree in engineering materials and a BA in business management. He has more than 40 years of experience in manufacturing and served as president of the boards of Surface Mount Technology and the Society of Plastics Engineers. He is the owner of Eastvale3D and is a certified drone pilot.

**JOHN SCHUYLER** is a retired forester who received a BS in forestry from UC Berkeley. During his 32-year career with the USDA Forest Service, he worked on national forests in Oregon, California and Arizona — working in timber management, recreation, minerals, planning and administration.

**JAY SHERWIN** has practiced law, given away money for five different charitable foundations and served as a hospital chaplain. In 2019 he created the Life Reflections Project to educate people about legacy letters and ethical wills. Sherwin has extensive experience teaching this course for OLLI programs and other adult learning programs nationwide.

**BARBARASHOR** is a professional animal communicator and retired veterinarian. She has been a national speaker, workshop facilitator and author of two books about elephants and whales. Her most recent book is "Soul of the Wild: The Wisdom of Elephants." She co-hosts a podcast, "Animals and Us: Voices of a New Paradigm."

**MORGAN SILBAUGH** majored in English and received a master's degree from Cornell University. He has led classes at OLLI for more than 10 years. He has extensive experience facilitating small groups and works to create a secure place for learning where even controversial ideas and problematic attitudes can be aired safely.

**MICHAEL SMITH** has been a pastry chef, property manager and purchasing agent. He has a BS in earth and planetary science with a minor in mathematics from the University of New Mexico. He has been a BetterInvesting volunteer for 10 years and, along with Marcia Couey, has taught DIY Fundamental Stock Analysis classes for beginners and beyond.

**DANIEL STEPHENS** has a BA in speech/theater from SOU and an MFA in dance from Southern Methodist University with a thesis in Elizabethan dance and movement. He performed in the OSF Green Show for nine seasons. He has taught workshops in the Shakespeare studies program at SOU and has taught and performed Renaissance and Baroque dance for many years.

**BON STEWART** has played poker for over 35 years. He is a successful poker player, winning in casino card rooms, poker rooms and home games in both cash games and tournaments. Bon is the current club champion of the Ashland Invitational Poker Club, a weekly, low-stakes cash game. He is the commissioner of a local poker league currently in its fourth year.

**SUSAN STITHAM** retired as a high school English and European history teacher in 2003. In the ensuing years she discovered the pleasures of studying American history, and she has been sharing insights gained with OLLI classes over the past 20 years. Helping people enjoy Shakespeare's plays is a lifelong passion. She is grateful to OLLI at SOU for making it possible to do both.

**NEAL STRUDLER** holds an MA in elementary education and a PhD in curriculum and instruction from the University of Oregon. A former elementary school teacher, assistant principal and professor of technology and teacher education, he has enjoyed teaching a variety of OLLI courses, sharing his passion for helping others make the most of technology.

**ALICE TAYLOR** has been following Marcus Levitt's career in the history of Russian culture since the 1980s. (They are married.) She tries to make it simple for him to teach at OLLI, writing his course proposals, co-hosting his Zoom meetings and clarifying his erudite statements.

**LORENZO TAYLOR** is a novelist, poet, playwright and journalist. His writing career began in 2018 after retiring from careers in international affairs and public health. He has published several novels, articles and short stories, and his plays have been performed around the country. He has taught OLLI courses on civil rights and poetry.

**LORRAINE VAIL** has taught film and literature courses at OLLI at SOU for 10 years. She has a BA from the State University of New York at New Paltz and an MBA from Penn's Wharton School. She produced the 2023 Ashland Independent Film Festival. In 2012, her novel "From Any Window" was one of Amazon's Best 400 for first-time authors.

**SARAH VAILE** has 18 years of experience as an estate planning lawyer in the Rogue Valley. She has been serving Southern Oregon as an attorney since 2007 in a variety of capacities, now focused on estate planning and trust administration.

**RICK VANN** is a retired corporate executive from the food service industry. In addition to four decades of experience in the corporate world and a business degree from San Diego State University, Vann brings enthusiasm and organization to Hot News & Cool Views.

**KARL VISCHER** had a 40-year career in international energy economics, most recently 30 years with the U.S. Department of Energy. He has developed curricula and has taught in such diverse fields as decision analysis, risk analysis and graduate-level finance. This will be his fourth year facilitating the Great Decisions course for OLLI.

**MERI WALKER** has studied and consulted on human communication since she earned her BA in English and philosophy in 1971. She earned an MA in communication from the University of Texas at Austin (1987) and spent the next 20 years helping tech start-ups, nonprofits and governmental agencies integrate technology into communication workflows.

**JOHN WESTON** is a certified Oregon state teacher with endorsements in industrial arts and career technical education. In 2006, he started a custom woodworking business, Weston Woodworking. Weston is passionate about teaching and can often be found in the Talent Maker City wood shop teaching staff, students and community members how to build and create with wood.

**BOB WETMORE** has taught many courses on history and culture at OLLI, including Roman history, ancient coins, wine culture and the history of sapiens. He has an MA in European history from UC Berkeley and has actively collected ancient coins for more than 30 years.

**DAVID WIDUP** is a practicing Enneagram coach and teacher. A graduate of the Chestnut Paes Enneagram Academy, he has studied the Enneagram with Russ Hudson, Belinda Gore, Ken Webb and others. He is an accredited professional with the International Enneagram Association, a coach from the Hudson Institute and an accredited Enneagram coach with IEQ9.

**NANCY WILKINSON** holds an MA in art education. She has taught art in public schools and has held art workshops in Arizona, New Zealand and Costa Rica. Wilkinson has taught a number of art courses at OLLI, and she continues to teach in her home art studio in Ashland.

**DWIGHT WILSON** is a registered nurse with a master's degree in gerontological nursing. He is currently the executive director of Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice and Celia's House. He has managed long-term care, hospice and home care programs. He has taught several courses on the subject.

**DANIEL WISE** has an MA in education from California Lutheran College and an MBA from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He has been teaching for over 40 years in adult and childhood education settings. He has taught the AARP Smart Driver class for eight years and has also instructed with the Team Oregon Motorcycle Safety program.

**TOM WOOSNAM** became a lifelong film aficionado after processing the trauma of seeing "Old Yeller" on the big screen when he was very young. His favorites range from thoughtful to silly and include noir, Westerns, documentaries, just about any Italian or Australian film ever made and English kitchen-sink dramas.

**JEFF WYATT**, chair of the Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board and former member of the federal Hanford Advisory Board, has over 40 years of experience in engineering, research and development, and project management, including managing a \$500 million Chevron project in Kazakhstan and oil-field remediation and produced water disposal in Kuwait.

**DAVID YOUNG, MD**, has had a lifelong interest in comparative religion and is committed to the emergence of global community based on the Oneness of the Human Family and its religious history. He has been involved with the local and national Baha'i communities for over two decades.



# Membership Form

**Membership:**  
 new member  
 renewing member

<b>Member Information</b>	First name	Middle initial	Last name
	Date of birth	Day phone	Cell phone
	Street address	<input type="checkbox"/> This is a change of address	
	City	State	Zip
	Email address	<input type="checkbox"/> This is a change of email	
	Emergency contact	Phone	
	Relationship to member	<input type="checkbox"/> I want to opt out of receiving a print catalog	

**Volunteering**

I might be interested in volunteering! Please have the Program Specialist contact me.

I am already volunteering and satisfied with my role.

I just want to take classes for now.

**One Credit Program** – I am 65+, have been an Oregon resident for at least 12 months, and want to participate in the one-credit program to help SOU get additional funding.

Yes    No    Not eligible

**Payment and Donation Options**

**The OLLI at SOU membership fee is nonrefundable.**

The membership fee may be combined with a donation. Checks and credit cards are accepted.  
*The OLLI at SOU membership fee is nonrefundable.*

Spring membership payment @ \$75 per person: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to support the OLLI at SOU annual fund with my tax-deductible gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep my gift anonymous

**Total payment amount** (membership fee + annual fund donation): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(TOTAL)

**To pay by check:** Make check payable to “OLLi at SOU.”  
 OLLI is an affiliate of the SOU Foundation. OLLI’s federal tax I.D. number is 23-7030910.

**To pay by credit card:**    VISA    MasterCard

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date:   /   \_\_\_\_\_   **3- or 4-digit security number on back of card:** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: You may pay by credit card over the phone at 541-552-6048. Mailing address: 1250 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland, OR 97520. Street address: 655 Frances Lane, Ashland.

**Please turn the page for the Course Request Form.**

# Course Request Form

**Registration Tip** The online catalog at [sou.edu/olli](http://sou.edu/olli) has the most up-to-date registration information and is the fastest way to register. Please allow up to three business days for paper request forms to be processed.

Name	Phone
Email	<input type="checkbox"/> This is a change of email

## Priority Registration

This phase of registration increases your chances of getting the course(s) you want (but is no guarantee). Enter requests in preferred order below. Results are emailed to members.

**Note:** Please ensure that the course number has the correct letter at the end for an in-person class. A = Ashland/Talent, M = Medford – for example, PERS310A. No letter at the end = online course – for example, SOC130.

Choice	Course Number	Course Title
1		
2		
3		

## Open Registration

During Open Registration, you may register for any course(s) that have space until they are closed to registration. Enter in any order above. If a course is full, you will be added to the waitlist. Please use a separate form for each member.

If you are unable to register online, please complete this form and return it one of two ways:

*by mail*

OLLI at SOU  
1250 Siskiyou Blvd.  
Ashland, OR 97520

*in person*

SOU Campbell Center  
655 Frances Lane  
Ashland, Oregon



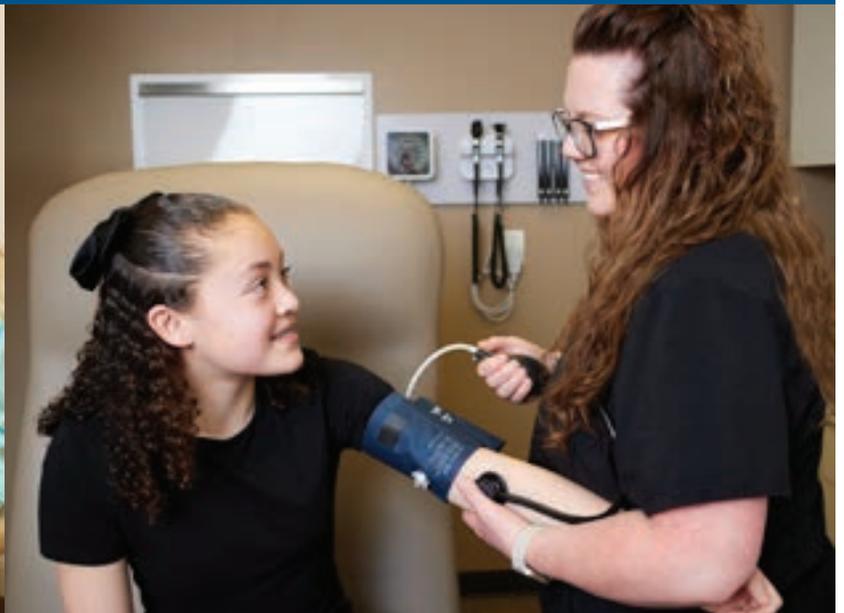
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