



OLLI

Summer
2026

SUMMER SEMESTER: JULY 7, TO AUGUST 28, 2026



Summer Registration begins June 16, 2026
URI.EDU/OLLI | 401.874.4197



Welcome to Summer 2026 at URI OLLI!

Online registration begins Tuesday, June 16, at 7:00 AM.

The office will open at 9:00 AM for phone and walk-in registration.

WAYS TO REGISTER

REGISTER ONLINE

This is the easiest way to register. To log on to your OLLI account go to URI.EDU/OLLII and click on Member Login. Payment is accepted with a credit card: Visa, Mastercard or Discover.

REGISTER BY PHONE

Call us to register! 401-874-4197. Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Friday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. If you leave a message, we will do our best to return your call within 24 hours.

REGISTER BY MAIL

Download the registration form from our website (or pick one up in the office). Fill it out and include a check (or call with credit card #) for payment.

REGISTER IN PERSON

Visit us! URI OLLI is located at 210 Flagg Rd. Take the stairs or elevator to the second floor.

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ABOUT OLLI

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at URI provides learning opportunities to enhance the enjoyment, meaning, and direction of adult lives, as well as the health and well-being of adults, while developing a community of older learners.

Established in 2009 and offering diversified courses and activities, the OLLI at URI enjoys a rich relationship with the University. Membership is open to anyone fifty years of age or better. Whether teaching, learning, playing, or exploring, OLLI members constitute a vibrant lifelong learning community.

The OLLI at URI is part of the national network of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes funded by the Bernard Osher Foundation. Closer to home, OLLI has ties with local community and civic organizations. OLLI members are essential in shaping, managing, and leading the organization.

Special THANKS

Special thanks to our publication editors: Paula Grey, Pat LaRose, Marie Schwartz, and Louise Pelletier.



On the cover:
Artwork created by AI (Microsoft Co-Pilot)

Welcome to the OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE at the University of Rhode Island



There is so much to do enjoy during the summer months in Rhode Island. Warm ocean breezes, Del's Lemonade, outdoor concerts, Waterfire, the Washington County Fair, and beautiful sunsets over Narragansett Bay.

It's a special season so make time for you and explore all that awaits you...delicious ice-cream, clam cakes, bright colored flowers, strolls on the beach, trips to Block Island and rounds of golf.

And participation of a full array of OLLI courses and events. Choose your favorites and enroll today!

The University students may be on summer break but we at OLLI keep on going....perhaps it's because our lifelong learners don't worry about tests or grades. We come for the friendship and joy of learning!

Let the good time begin this summer!

Beth Leconte

OLLI STAFF

Beth Leconte
Director
401-874-2405
bleconte@uri.edu



Beth Desrosiers
Assistant Director
401-874-4619
beth_desrosiers@uri.edu



Amy Fernands-Reko
Administrative Assistant
401-874-4624
amy.fernandsreko@uri.edu



Maria Masse
Membership Coordinator
401-874-4194
maria.masse@uri.edu



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
University of Rhode Island
210 Flagg Road, Room 212
Kingston, RI 02881
401.874.4197 | olli@uri.edu | uri.edu/olli



Have a quick tech question?

You can register for a tech drop-in Zoom session with Cyber Seniors.* The session is online on Thursdays at 2:00PM. Bring your questions and their volunteers will do their best to answer them. If they think it requires more time they will help you book a one-on-one call. NOTE: one registration for all sessions. Once registered, you can join each Thursday using the same Zoom invitation email. Scan the QR Code to register.

*This is through the
CyberSeniors.org not
OLLI.

📞 [1-844-217-3057](tel:1-844-217-3057)



Scan QR Code to Register

INSTRUCTORS

Instructor bios available online

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP

Your membership must be valid throughout the duration of the classes you register for. If you're not sure of your renewal date, call the office at 401-874-4197.

OLLI DISCLAIMER

The courses offered by OLLI do not imply the endorsement of a particular philosophy, product, or procedure. The content is the view of the presenter and is for educational and information -al purposes only and not as professional advice for specific cases or circumstances. Participants need to be aware of the potential risks of using limited knowledge when integrating techniques and procedures that are new to them. Participants need to consult their own financial, legal, and medical professionals for advice.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a disability and need an accommodation, please call the OLLI office at 401-874-4197. A two-week advance notice is suggested. We are committed to equal

access for persons with disabilities and we will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK/LIABILITY FORM

All participants on tours or in classes that meet in a location other than OLLI are required to fill out an Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Form.

WAITING LISTS

If you get closed out of a class, you should always add your name to the wait list. There are always cancellations before a class and if an opening becomes available, we will call you and register you over the phone. In some cases, if this is a large wait list, we will try to schedule a second session. Wait list members get first priority to register for the new session.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Memberships are non-refundable. To withdraw from a class and receive a full refund or credit, you must notify the OLLI office at least two weeks before the start of the

class. Call the office at 401-874-4197 or email olli@uri.edu. No-shows forfeit their course fees. Day trips and special tours are prepaid so there are no refunds for cancellation or withdrawal. Classes that do not meet minimum student registration numbers are subject to cancellation.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photos taken during OLLI events or programs may be used in promotion material for OLLI@URI. If a member objects, they may do so by contacting OLLI's Executive Director, Beth Leconte (bleconte@uri.edu).

CODE OF CONDUCT

The mission of OLLI at the University of Rhode Island is to develop and nurture a community of older learners through courses, presentations, tours and events which will enhance their learning, enjoyment, health and well-being.

To fulfill this mission, all segments of the OLLI at URI community – members, faculty and staff – agree to and follow the OLLI Code of Conduct, available in our classrooms and online.

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 How Can We Build Human Morality Into AI? **D** 31
 What Will Be the Economic Impacts of AI? **D**..... 30

OO= Osher Online

Z= Zoom

D=Dartmouth Summer Lecture Series

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URI.EDU/OLLI

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Understanding AI for Safe and Secure Use

3 Sessions with Joan Peckham and Nicholas Knisely
 Mon, Jul 13, 20, 27
 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$40.00

Everyone is using AI today, intentionally or not, for fun or hobby, or to support a more efficient workplace. This course will provide introductory information about the nature of AI and how we can use AI safely, ethically, and securely. Three sessions will provide interactive lectures, discussions, and demos including: 1) What is AI under the hood? How does it work? 2) What types of AI exist, and what are the strengths and weaknesses of each? 3) What ethical issues arise with the use of AI, including the sustainability of our social, political, and physical environments under its widespread use in our modern world?

Joan Peckham is URI professor emerita of computer science and was a program director at the NSF, URI Chair of CS & Statistics, and led campus initiatives on data and AI. She now publishes on AI ethics and sustainability.

The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, SOfSc (Society of Ordained Scientists) is bishop of the Rhode Island Episcopal Church. He serves as the church’s lead bishop for science, is a member of the church’s AI Task Force, and delivers presentations on AI nationally. He taught physics and astronomy at Lehigh University and the University of Delaware. His current interest is in the intersection of technology and human ethics.

The Comeback Cat: Bobcat Recovery and Movement Across Rhode Island

1 Session with Kathleen Carroll and Christopher Hickling
 Mon, Jul 13
 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00



Bobcats (*Lynx rufus*), a native species, have only reappeared in southern New England within the past 30 years, while other similar-sized mammalian carnivores (i.e., fisher cat, gray fox) are decreasing in numbers. Bobcats play a crucial role in the ecosystem’s function by controlling rodent populations and mediating biodiversity in plant and microbial communities, thereby impacting all trophic levels. URI faculty, in collaboration with local

agencies such as the RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM), are studying whether bobcat populations are truly increasing, by how much, and how they interact with human development and recreation. Their increasing population trend and key ecosystem role make bobcats an ideal study species for evaluating wildlife responses to human land use and for balancing human and wildlife needs. This presentation will focus on the extir-

pation of bobcats, the history of their recolonization, and current research happening to better understand these trends.

Kathleen Carroll studied wildlife in Africa, South America, and North America and has backgrounds in wildlife conservation, marine biology, behavioral ecology, landscape ecology, statistics, education, and science communication. Kathleen’s understanding of a broad range of disciplines gives them a unique perspective on ecological and conservation strategies across a range of taxa. Kathleen collaborates directly with managers and agencies to ensure their efforts yield actionable conservation initiatives and is dedicated to outreach and communication.

Christopher Hickling is a Ph.D. student who has studied bobcats in New York, Illinois, Texas, and Washington. He has also studied coyotes, pumas, and endangered ocelots. Chris is leading the local RI bobcat efforts and is a small carnivore expert.



Fast Fashion: A Historical Perspective

3 Sessions with Erin Shaw
 Mon, Jul 13, 20, 27
 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$40.00

Concerns about fast fashion and its environmental and humanitarian impacts are becoming increasingly mainstream. But what is fast fashion, and how does it differ from the production and distribution of clothing in the past? How, and why, did it emerge? This course surveys the development of our current fashion system from its early modern origins, through the Industrial Revolution,

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and into the 20th century. We will examine how developments in trade, technology, and media have changed the lives and livelihoods of dressmakers, tailors, seamstresses, and factory laborers—and how some modern makers are looking to the past to imagine a more sustainable fashion future.

Erin Shaw is an assistant curator at the South County Museum in Narragansett, RI. She holds a B.A. in history from Kenyon College and an M.A. in costume studies from NYU. Her research interests include the history of home sewing, the effects of mass production on domestic sewing and garment care, and the evolving historical relationship between craft, domesticity, and femininity.

Trust Your Gut!

1 Session with Mary Jo MacKinnon
 Mon, Aug 17
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Gut health is fundamental to our state of good health. Gut health is as important as breathing and sleeping. The gut microbiome can weigh as much as 4 pounds! There are many factors that can contribute to gut imbalances. These imbalances can lead to many types of “dis-ease,” including diabetes, heart disease, mental health issues, autoimmune issues, and weight gain. Join us to learn more about the fundamentals of gut health and explore options to optimize your health.



Dr. Mary Jo Mackinnon, FNP-BC, ND, is a nurse practitioner who has been practicing for more than 20 years in primary care, functional medicine, and college health. Woven within her practice, she includes holistic medicine and complementary therapies. Her passion, though, is gut health. Her experience in functional medicine has demonstrated the importance of balanced gut microbiome to optimize health and overall wellbeing. She shares this knowledge in her Trust Your Gut practice and offers options to further explore ways to maximize gut health.

The Urban Renewal History of Narragansett: A Story that Went Awry

2 Sessions with Robert Muller and Terry Fleming
 Mon, Aug 17, 24
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
 Fee: 45 Max: \$35.00

What happened to the old downtown business district in Narragansett and what explains its transformation into its current design? Major hurricanes in 1938 and 1954 flooded downtown and led the Army Corps of Engineers to undertake a storm protection program. Some citizens considered the downtown “run-down” and honky-tonk, which led Narragansett to embark on one of the largest urban renewal projects ever undertaken in a small com-

munity. Over the course of three years from 1967-70, the town developed plans and ultimately received approval for the demolition and rebuilding of 28 acres. These plans went awry in the next decade and produced what many consider an example of a failed urban renewal program.

Robert Muller worked in the field of government and public finance for 50 years. For the last 41 years he worked at JP Morgan as head of municipal finance research and strategy. He holds a B.A. in history from Trinity College and an MPA from New York University in urban public policy studies.

Terry Fleming, a graduate of URI, served as the longstanding chair of the Narragansett Planning Board.



Facilitators: Cindy Opaluch & Sara Nelson

MEETS WEEKLY ON
 WEDNESDAYS @ 1:00PM
 THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Register online: URI.EDU/OLLI

The Art of the iPhone

3 Sessions with Jan Armor

Tues, Jul 7, 14, 21

Max: 45 Fee: \$40.00

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

"Your iPhone already knows how to take pictures—this workshop helps you make them worth keeping."

Jan Armor

Do you enjoy using your iPhone camera but want to go a little deeper? We'll explore how to make more expressive photos of landscapes, people, close-ups, and everyday

moments, and then focus on what happens after the picture is taken. We'll learn simple ways to edit, organize, find, and share photos using Apple's Photos app, create meaningful albums, and understand iCloud in plain language. We'll get new ideas, fresh insights, and hands-on discovery using Apple's newest operating system.

Jan Armor has been a photographer all his life and a teacher for the past 25 years. He takes his teaching seriously and wants to help you make stronger photographs. An award-winning educator and fine art photographer with 40 years of experience in both digital and traditional media, he has received grants and awards for environmental photography and has taught at the Newport Art Museum, the Bristol Art Museum, Wickford Art Association, South County Art Association, and others. For more information about Jan and his work see his website. You can also find him on his YouTube channel, or on Instagram. For comments from Jan's students, go to <http://www.armorphoto.com/comments>.

**The Constitution as Applied: Checks and Balances, Due Process**

6 Sessions with Geoffrey Schoos

Tue, Jul 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug 4, (skip 11), 18

Max: 30 Fee: \$55.00

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

This class examines the framework for each branch of government as established by the Constitution and its powers as they have evolved over time. We'll also consider how each branch can serve as a check on the abuse of power by one or both other branches and examine what might happen if those checks fail. Finally, we'll discuss the implementation of specific policies that affect citizens

and the requirement that the government follow specific procedures when serving the public.



Geoffrey A. Schoos, Esq. (ret) is a former high school classroom government, history, law, and economics

teacher; an attorney for three decades with a focus on serving low-income individuals and families in a variety of civil legal issues; founder of a non-profit legal services organization; board chair of three nonprofit organizations and member of several more; consultant to nonprofits on a variety of legal issues; and an author of an article published in *C.U.N.Y. Law Review* and of a book focusing on legal services to the poor.

Monuments and Memorials in South Kingstown

1 Session with Jessica Wilson

Tue, Jul 7

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

South Kingstown, Rhode Island, abounds in public monuments and memorials of all kinds, many hidden in plain sight. This class will offer a virtual tour of close to 50 markers, monuments, and memorials in the town and illuminates the people and events that inspired them.

Jessica Wilson was the local history librarian at South Kingstown Public Library in Peace Dale, retiring in 2024. She created the *Timeline of South Kingstown History for the Town's 300th Anniversary in 2023* and presented a version of this talk for that celebration's *Speaker Series*. Since then, she's kept looking and discovered more monuments that will be included in this class.

Keep Austen Weird: The Familiar and Unfamiliar Pleasures of Jane Austen's Novels

6 Sessions with Jenny Reed

Tue, Jul 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug 4, 11

Max: 18 Fee: \$55.00

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Jane Austen's novels are often considered cozy, comforting, and quaint—but in fact, Austen was a radical thinker in many ways, and her literary experiments invented the novel as we know it today. In this class, we'll read two of Austen's novels closely and deeply—*Pride and Prejudice* and *Persuasion*—and challenge our assumptions about Austen's work and what it still has to offer us in 2026. We'll think about the novels in their cultural contexts and look closely at the ways Austen is experimenting at the level of character, story, and structure. In doing so, we will luxuriate in the familiar and in the unfamiliar pleasures of Jane Austen's novels.



Jenny Reed received her Ph.D. in English from the University of Virginia in 2015. She has 15 years of teaching experience across a range of different institutions, including the University of Virginia, Brandeis University, Colby College, and the College of the Holy Cross. She specializes in 18th-century and early modern British literature.



The Life and Times of Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, Mayor of Providence

2 Sessions with Daniel Knight
Tue, Jul 14, 21
Max: 45 Fee: \$35.00
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Rhode Islanders remember well the Buddy Cianci years when he served two separate terms as mayor of Providence, both terms ending infamously. In this seminar we will try to determine if Buddy was part urban visionary, a victim of the system he inherited, or a merely flawed political genius, in the mold of a Huey Long or a Michael Curley. We'll look at the charismatic Buddy who wanted to be your friend and got things done, and then the other Buddy who presided over a City Hall where there was a range of corruption with people doing things they shouldn't have done. We'll ask the question, "Was Plunder Dome just one more challenge in a career full of challenges?" Get the inside dope from one of the FBI agents whose squad was responsible for the Operation Plunder Dome investigation.

Daniel Knight served on the faculty of Salve Regina University from 2000 to 2014, teaching in the undergraduate and graduate programs in the administration of justice program. In the fall of 2006, he assumed the duties of director of the graduate program in the administration of justice. In October 1971, Mr. Knight was appointed a special agent of the FBI and served in Columbia, South Carolina; Greenville, South Carolina; Baltimore, Maryland; and Washington, D.C. During his early assignments in South Carolina and Baltimore, he was assigned to investigations into auto thefts, bank robberies, fugitive matters, interstate thefts, and public corruption. In 1987, he was promoted to supervisory special agent (SSA) of an organized crime and public corruption team.

New Ink: Success in Writing After Sixty

1 Session with Edward Iannuccilli
Tue, Jul 21
Max: 25 Fee: \$15.00
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Ed Iannuccilli, a retired gastroenterologist, wrote extensively in the medical and academic fields during his career as a physician and administrator. In later years he began writing stories of his childhood and Italian heritage. Ed says it is never too late to begin writing, and in this course, he will share his professional journey into writing. Ed promises an engaging, interactive class with a few surprises, a bit of humor, and an exploration into the art of writing and its rewards.

Ed Iannuccilli, a retired gastroenterologist, has extensive experience in academics, management, governance, and entrepreneurial endeavors. A former chairman of the board at Rhode Island Hospital and board member at Lifespan, he is a clinical professor emeritus at the Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University. He was the founder of CME Consultants, a national physician and professional education company. A graduate of Providence College and Albany Medical College, he is a published author of medical articles and stories of his childhood. Dr. Iannuccilli has been on numerous boards and was honored as a distinguished alumnus of Classical High School in 2014 and Albany Medical College in 1991. He was recently inducted into the RI Heritage Hall of Fame, and the Rhode Island Italian American Hall of Fame. He writes a blog at www.EdWrites.net.

The Pearl: Hope, Destruction and the Human Condition

4 Sessions with Vincent Burks
Tue, Aug 4, 11, 18, 25
Max: 30 Fee: \$45.00
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Let's take a deep dive into John Steinbeck's 1947 masterpiece, *The Pearl*. It's a parable (only 90 pages) that focuses on how quickly fortune can turn into tragedy.



We'll study it as it was written and also look at it through a 21st-century lens. We'll dig into the themes of prejudice, fate vs. free will, and greed. We'll even make references to Shakespeare and the Bible! Let's enjoy this fast-paced, symbolic tale together with plenty of opportunities for discussion.

Vince Burks worked for Amica Insurance for 37 and a half years, holding various positions including director of training and communications director. He is a huge fan

of John Steinbeck and *The Pearl*. He remembers reading it decades ago and the "book hangover" he felt at the ending. Perhaps he's teaching this class to try and remedy that hangover through discussion. Vince holds a B.A. in communications with a minor in business administration from Lynchburg University. He is a member of the National Speakers Association and an active participant in *The Moth* storytelling events, which you may be familiar with if you're a fan of NPR.



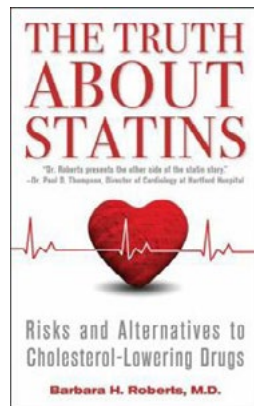
IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Did you know your membership must be in effect throughout the length of your class? If you're not sure when your renewal date is, feel free to call the office at 401-874-4197.

The Truth About Statins: Risks and Alternatives to Cholesterol-Lowering Drugs

1 Session with Barbara Roberts, M.D. Tue,
Jul 28
Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Explore the pros and cons of taking statin drugs to lower cholesterol. Despite the rosy picture painted in advertisements, these drugs have serious and sometimes fatal side effects. Their benefits have been hyped while their dangers have been underplayed. We will also discuss some alternative methods to maintain cardiovascular health.



Barbara Roberts is a graduate of Barnard College and Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. She is a clinical associate professor of medicine emerita at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. While at the NIH (National Institutes of Health) and Brown, she participated in studies examining the effect of cholesterol-lowering drugs on heart disease. She is the author of *How To Keep from Breaking Your Heart: What Every Woman Needs to Know About Cardiovascular Disease*, *The Truth About Statins: Risks and Alternatives to Cholesterol-Lowering Drugs*, and *The Doctor Broad: A Mafia Love Story*.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome

New members and returning friends are invited to an introduction to everything OLLI has to offer. We'll explore our current programs, special interest groups, and the many ways to get involved, while also helping you feel at ease with our website and registration system. There's plenty of time for questions, conversation, and connection.

Coffee and refreshments will be ready—
come join us!

Monday, July 13
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Tuesday, August 11
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL 401-874-4197



Basic Astrodynamics of Lunar and Martian Missions

2 Sessions with Doug Gobeille
Tue, Aug 4, 11
Max: 45 Fee: \$35.00
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

The excitement of the Artemis II mission has renewed interest in the mechanics of space flight and planetary exploration. We will review the basic astrodynamics of lunar and Martian missions, including flybys, orbiters, and landers. We'll use the Kerbal Space Program (KSP) software package to experience realistic physical simulations of these missions in real time, giving us the ability to consider and execute on numerous distinct command decisions and identify potential outcomes.

Assignment for the first class: Come with lots of questions! Consider the Apollo and Artemis missions thus far.

Doug Gobeille is a URI teaching professor of astrophysics who incorporates modern observations and publications into introductory classroom investigations of life in the universe. His primary research focuses on the study of super-massive black holes, specifically their production of active galactic nuclei and their evolution through cosmological time. This work focuses on studying the morphology of radio loud quasars using the Very Large Array (JVLA) in Socorro, NM, as well as observations made with the SWIFT, Chandra, XMM Newton, and Fermi space telescopes investigating x-ray and gamma-ray energy production mechanisms in high redshift quasar jets. This research builds on his work with Dr. Leslie Brown at Connecticut College, and graduate studies with Dr. John Wardle at Brandeis University. At URI, Prof Gobeille focuses on life, humanity, and their place in the universe through incorporating modern observations and publications into introductory classroom settings.



The office will be closed on
Monday, July 6, (July 4th observed) and
Monday, August 10 (Victory Day).



**It's a perfect time to introduce a friend to OLLI!
You can register online to bring a friend (or 2)
to this high-praised class!**

SPECIAL CLASS OFFERING

This class replaces the Gilded Age Tale of a Millionaire Madman and an Adventuress. The class had to be postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope to reschedule in the fall semester.



Class will be held in Swan Hall Auditorium.
Parking in the Welcome Center lot off Brian Lane.

How the Beatles Changed the World

1 Session with David Aguilar
Wednesday, July 8, 10:00AM-11:30AM
Max: 200 Fee: \$15

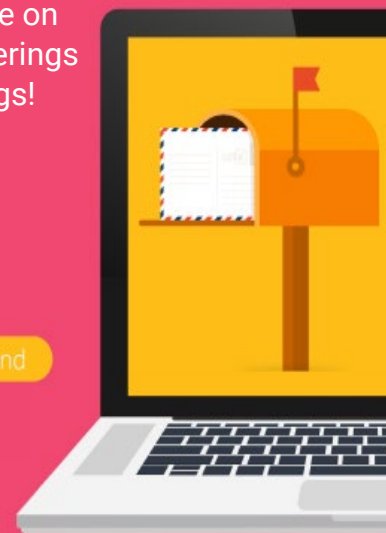
On Friday, February 7, 1964, four young musicians from Liverpool landed at John F. Kennedy International Airport, welcomed by 5,000 enthusiastic fans. They were in town to perform that Sunday night on the Ed Sullivan Show, with CBS already overwhelmed by 50,000 ticket requests for their 728-seat Studio 50 theater. Little did anyone realize that over the next six years, the Fab Four would revolutionize the music industry in unprecedented ways. They were the first band to write all their own songs, produce the first music videos, and incorporate sound sampling into their tracks. They became a pioneering brand and were the first group to stop live performances to focus on the skyrocketing sales of their studio albums. Fueled by boundless creativity, the Beatles transformed the world and brought joy that continues to resonate with us today. If you love their music, just wait until you discover how they created it.

David A. Aguilar is an internationally recognized naturalist/astronomer, author, onscreen science contributor and space artist with the unique ability to open minds to the vast frontiers of space and their potential effects on our own world. He is the former director of science information at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and past director of marketing communications for Ball Aerospace in Boulder, Co. David has written and illustrated 12 award-winning children's books for National Geographic, was a member of the NASA Pluto Encounter Mission, has consulted and appeared in the History Channel's Universe series and has been honored with his own asteroid for achievements in furthering science education.

Are you receiving our weekly emails? Keep up-to-date on new classes, special offerings and weekly happenings!

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Classical MUSIC CONCERT

KINGSTON
CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL



**Exploring Dvorák’s “American Quartet”
with the Terra String Quartet**
Wednesday, July 22, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM
Max: 45 Fee: \$45.00

Location: Swan Hall Auditorium
60 Upper College Road

All participants will receive a ticket to attend the KCMF opening concert on July 24, at 7:30 PM.

This summer the Kingston Chamber Music Festival (KCMF) is offering a unique opportunity to OLLI members. Whether you are an aficionado of chamber music or wish to dip your toe into something new, you will meet select-ed world-class musicians and hear both traditional and non-traditional compositions.

This special event will include an intergenerational work-shop with discussion and performance by the **Terra String Quartet**; Harriet Langley (violin), Amelia Dietrich (violin), Chih-Ta Chen (viola), and Audrey Chen (cello), winners of the 2025 Naumburg Chamber Music Compe-tition. The workshop will focus on Dvorák’s “American Quartet” which was written during his residency in the United States and first performed in Boston in 1894. The Terra String Quartet will explore the music’s ties to Af-rican American, Indigenous and American folk musical influences fostering shared engagement and reflection on America’s 250th anniversary.

All participants will receive a ticket to attend the KCMF opening concert July 24, at 7:30 PM, where the music they learned about will be performed in the first concert of the 2026 Kingston Chamber Music Festival by the Terra String Quartet. Natalie Zhu, KCMF Artistic Director, carefully crafted the RI250 celebration as an event that brings the audience to the music of 1776, immersing them in the sounds that filled the chambers of America’s independence. From the sounds of 1776, the audience transitions to two quartets that move through time to an authentically American, vibrant, inclusive, and collaborative musical experience. This commemorative concert program is an artistic journey from the music of 1776 to modern-day America.



For additional information on the KCMF or to purchase tickets, visit <https://kingstonchambermusic.org/>

The Importance of Being Earnest: A Trivial Comedy for Serious People

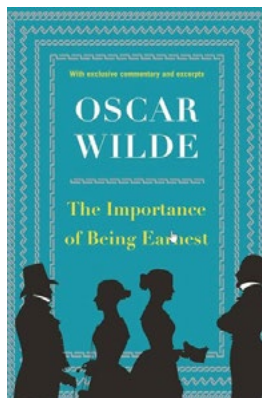
6 Sessions with Kara Marziali

Wed, Jul 8, 15, 22, 29, Aug 5 (2 hrs), 12

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 45 Fee: \$55.00

One of Oscar Wilde's most enduringly popular plays, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, lampoons Victorian etiquette and standards. Its high farce and witty dialogue have helped make this play a perennial favorite for more than 100 years. Participants will learn about Oscar Wilde, study the play, examine social conventions of late Victorian London, discuss marriage and class struggles, identify farcical moments, evaluate honesty, and debate the proper amount of sugar in one's tea. Additionally, we will plan an optional visit to the Contemporary Theater Company in Wakefield, RI to see a production of the play.



Kara Marziali is most comfortable in environments that stimulate curiosity, cultivate creativity, kindle compassion, and facilitate connections. She is the author of *Kara Koala* and *Her Kaleidoscope of Feelings* and its accompanying activity book and journal. She is also featured in four ARIA anthologies published by the Association of Rhode Island Authors, and she serves as the artist-in-residence at Wood River Health, offering creative outlets to help people with their well-being. Kara teaches dramatic literature, theater, and art for the OLLI at URI including several Shakespeare plays, 20th century plays, and an intro to theater, as well as painting classes creating DIY watercolor notecards.

Beyond the Basics: A Hands-On AI Project Workshop

3 Sessions with Karen Lokey

Wed, Jul 8, 15, 22

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Max: 15 Fee: \$40.00

Take your artificial intelligence (AI) skills to the next level in this hands-on, three-session workshop designed for those who have already explored the basics. Rather than focusing on demonstrations, this course emphasizes applying AI tools to a project of your own choosing. Participants will bring an idea—such as writing, planning, research, or a creative endeavor—and develop it over the course of the series. Through guided instruction, collaborative discussion, and individualized coaching, you will learn how to refine prompts, improve results, and use AI more effectively in real-world situations. By the end of the workshop, you will have a complete (or near-complete) project and a practical approach you can continue using beyond the class. Class size is limited to encourage interaction and personalized support.

Karen Lokey is the associate director, IT Innovation Services at the University of Rhode Island. She brings decades of experience helping people engage with technology in

meaningful, accessible ways. She leads initiatives that introduce emerging tools like artificial intelligence (AI), immersive learning, and mobile technologies across campus. Karen has worked in education, industry, and nonprofits, always with a focus on empowering others to learn, adapt, and grow. She enjoys helping lifelong learners explore how today's digital tools can support creativity, connection, and curiosity at any age.

Newport vs. the Pirate Wallace

1 Session with Jean Gagnier

Wed, Jul 8

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Join Jean Gagnier, the Westerly 250 Commissioner, to explore a significant but lesser-known episode in Rhode Island history. Learn how Newport engaged in negotiations with the Pirate Captain Wallace of the Royal Navy and gain practical information for further research into Rhode Island's unique historical legacy.



Jean Gagnier is a public historian and University of Rhode Island graduate. Gagnier has served as a member of the Westerly Town Council and Planning Board, is a founding member of Bricks and Murals, and a Westerly 250 Commissioner. Gagnier teaches at the University of Rhode Island's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and regularly lectures on early American history in the local community.

The Evolution of Drug Discovery

5 Sessions with John Janusz

Wed, Jul 15, 22, 29, Aug 5, 12

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 30 Fee: \$50.00

The evolution of drug discovery begins in ancient times, when scientific knowledge was limited, and proceeds to today where advances in chemistry, biology and biotechnology have allowed for new and ever-evolving innovations. We will explore drug discovery from the mostly serendipitous observations of the 19th century to the more rational approaches of modern times. Topics included are the discovery of anesthetics and antibiotics, finding and validating new drug targets, and finding and optimizing potential drug molecules. We'll also look at developments in structure-activity relationships, computer-assisted drug design (including the use of AI), and the roles of absorption, distribution, metabolism, and toxicity.

John Janusz received his B.S. in chemistry from Providence College and his Ph.D. from Yale University in organic chemistry. He worked at Procter & Gamble for 30 years, much of that time in drug discovery. Over the next 10 years, he joined two small biotech firms, Akebia Therapeutics followed by Aerpio Pharmaceuticals. He has been the chair of the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Chemical Society and was an adjunct professor of chemistry at the University of Cincinnati and Xavier University. He is the co-author of over 50 publications and patents.

Introduction to Flying Drones

1 Session with Peter Vogt

Wed, Jul 15

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

This course offers an overview of commercially available drones, outlining the responsibilities of drone pilots and the regulatory framework established by the FAA. Participants will gain insights into safe operation practices, the FAA registration process, and practical tips for flying drones.

Peter Vogt is a seasoned FAA-licensed drone pilot with over six years of experience flying drones. He has combined his life-long passion for photography with his expertise in drone operations to capture stunning aerial imagery. With a B.S. in web development and eCommerce from Johnson & Wales University, Peter's strong technical background enhances his understanding of the subject.

The 1853 Rhode Island Train Wreck

1 Session with Francine Jackson

Wed, Jul 15

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

In 1853, a devastating train collision in Valley Falls, RI became the first rail disaster ever photographed—an image that circulated widely and shocked the nation. This crash between two Providence & Worcester passenger trains prompted major changes in railroad safety and even reshaped how Americans kept time. Discover the story behind this pivotal moment with Francine Jackson of Brown University and learn how a single daguerreotype captured a turning point in U.S. history.

Francine Jackson has been in both formal and informal astronomy education for decades, including the planetarium field. She has been associated with Brown University's Ladd Observatory for over 50 years. She is also involved in the town of Lincoln's conservation commission and historical society. Asteroid "francinejackson" was recently named in her honor.

C.S. Lewis: The Four Loves

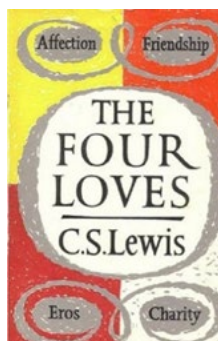
3 Sessions with Teresa Testa

Wed, Jul 22, 29, Aug 5

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$40.00

Prepare to celebrate the meaningful experience at the heart of our human relations with family, friends, spouses, and the Divine, that is, to love and to be loved. Students will be introduced to a short yet significant original textual work of twentieth-century author Clive Staples Lewis. The instructor will guide students through *The Four Loves* and the lessons of Lewis, grounded in classical and spiritual



origin, in order to more deeply understand each of the four loves. To consider familial love or storge, friendship love or philia, romantic love or eros, and spiritual love or agape, shows each of us how to exist in the presence of something greater than oneself. Here's to Love!

Teresa M. Testa is a Ph.D. candidate researching twentieth-century cultural approaches to technology and theology within the interdisciplinary humanities. Graduating from Brown University with a concentration in English and American Literature, Teresa earned the MSc in organizational management from Salve Regina University with emphasis on momentum within applied ethics and corporate social responsibility. She is an enthusiastic New Englander, avid reader, gardener, and weekend DIYer who enjoys teaching and learning at OLLI.

Five Weeks with the Rhode Island Mob: A Juror's Tale

1 Session with Jean Gagnier

Wed, Jul 29

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

In 1987 a routine jury notice resulted in a five-week glimpse of the world of the Rhode Island mob. Join a juror who will share the story of one of the most famous mob killings and the trial of a reputed mobster in the latter half of 20th-century Rhode Island.



Jean Gagnier is a public historian and University of Rhode Island graduate. Gagnier has served as a member of the Westerly Town Council and Planning Board, is a founding member of Bricks and Murals, and a Westerly 250 Commissioner. Gagnier teaches at the University of Rhode Island's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and regularly lectures on early American history in the local community.

Was Rhode Island Independent Prior to the Declaration of Independence?

1 Session with Jean Gagnier

Wed, Aug 19

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

We'll discuss Rhode Island's formation and its independence as it transitioned from colony to state. Jean Gagnier will share primary sources used in research such as the Colonial General Assembly records, diaries, naval records (both Royal Navy and U.S.), Rhode Island's Parliamentary Patent, and the Royal Charter. Expand your understanding of our state and leave with information on how to continue with your own journey of understanding of our "lively experiment."

(See class listing above for instructor bio)

Mindful Movement

4 Sessions with Garlan Brosnahan

Thu, Jul 9, 16, 23, 30

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Max: 14 Fee: \$45.00

Mindful Movement is a curious exploration of how the mind and body, together as the whole self, work alongside one another to create easeful, thoughtful, free, open, long, and wide movement expressions. Students will engage in a meditative body mapping guided lie-down (or sit-down), talked through by the instructor. There will be plenty of space given to sharing reflections and asking questions, as well as lots of group activities in movement. This course combines principles of the Alexander Technique, reiki, and stretch therapy.



Garlan Jude Brosnahan (they/them) is a certified teacher (3-years / 1,600 hours) of the Alexander Technique, a level II Usui reiki practitioner, and certified in stretch therapy. They are finishing a degree in human development and family science at URI and beginning a master's in social work graduate program at Salem State University in the fall. They have 15 years of experience living in NYC creating and performing in theater.

Active Listening: Skills for Effective and Compassionate Communication

1 Session with Kathy Black

Thu, Jul 9

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 16 Fee: \$15.00

With all of the yelling going on, it's hard to imagine that anyone is actually listening. One of the key components to a more stable and secure society is quality communication. And one of the most powerful skills for quality communication is active listening. Every human being has the need to be heard, but few people know how to listen well. Join life coach Kathy Black for this practical workshop on listening without judgment or criticism so others know that they truly matter. Experience what it's like to really be heard, and the healing this can bring. Walk away with the skills and knowledge needed to connect with others in a more kind and compassionate way.

Kathy Black holds a B.S. in social work and a comprehensive certification as a life-empowerment coach. She has over 20 years of experience leading personal growth workshops and retreats, coaching women to own their power and use their voices and instructing students in the art and practice of compassionate communication. A life-long student herself, Kathy has studied meditation with Buddhist monks in Prague, bhakti yoga with Hare Krishna devotees in New South Wales, and mindfulness practice with new thought leaders across the U.S.



Declaration of Independence: Not Just Jefferson

1 Session with Marilyn Harris

Thu, Jul 9

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Ask almost anyone, "who wrote the Declaration of Independence?" and the answer will be "Thomas Jefferson." Well, yes, but it's much more complicated than that. We'll look at other declarations, The Committee of Five and other members of the Continental Congress, related documents (some of them even British), and others whose ideas and even language went into this iconic document. With its 250th anniversary this year, it's time to take another look at what has been called "the defining statement of our national identity and the moral standard by which we live as a nation."

Since 2010 **Marilyn Harris** has taught more than 40 classes and lectures at OLLI on diverse topics, ranging from ancient history to the Titanic to travel lectures. As a confirmed history buff, she is particularly interested in Rhode Island colonial and Revolutionary Era history and is a veteran docent and researcher at Smith's Castle in Wickford/North Kingstown.

A History of Shellfisheries

1 Session with Anne Holst

Thu, Jul 16

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

Anne Holst will review the history of shellfishing in Rhode Island from early colonial times to the 21st century, focusing on oysters, scallops, and hard-shell clams. Anne spent 16 years as an enforcement officer of the Department of Environmental Management, working primarily in the enforcement of harvest and marketing regulations of the shellfishing industries. She'll bring samples of harvesting tools and there will be time to share personal experiences.

Anne Holst is a native Rhode Islander, steeped in history as a descendent of Roger Williams and other illustrious figures. A graduate of URI, she was the first female game warden (now called Environmental Police) in RI, and her mother was the first female fire chief in the world. In 2000, her family home became the Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum, of which she is board president and curator. She has written numerous booklets about less-known facets of R.I.'s history and landscape. She also writes for the website smallstatebighistory.com and does lectures and presentations on R.I. history and Victorian aspects of daily life, especially for assisted living residences and senior groups.

Toxic Minerals and Dangerous Collecting Sites

1 Session with Ernest Zielinski

Thu, Aug 6

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

The Earth is a kitchen and Mother Nature knows how to cook. Having said that, most minerals are harmless, but some can be dangerous and deadly along with their collecting sites. This talk will explore some of the toxic minerals in nature and locations that require avoidance or special precautions.



Ernest Zielinski holds a B.A. in biology from URI and an M.S. in business from Troy State University, with an emphasis on hazardous materials handling and hazardous waste disposal. He has worked in aerospace, manufacturing, and environmental industries in various managerial positions and has taught various training classes in industry and the military. Currently VP of the RI Mineral Hunters Club, he has given talks at CCRI, Bryant University, URI Master Gardeners (East Farm), and Mineral Club. His subjects have included toxic minerals, the Narragansett Basin, RI coal mining, and rare fossil sites (Lagerstatte).

**Instant Laughter: Cooperative Games for Family and Friends**

2 Sessions with Jim Buxton

Thu, Aug 6, 13

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Max: 20 Fee: \$35.00

Would you like to have access to a bunch of games that you could pull out spontaneously to involve your grandchildren and other members of your extended family? These games are very active and cooperative, require few props, involve kids of all ages, and result in lots of laughter. Jim has run this class twice before to the great enjoyment of his students. The first time he ran it, he called it "Games you can play in an elevator," which is true for many of them. Sign up! You'll love it!

Jim Buxton taught global studies and international relations at South Kingstown HS for 32 years. During that stretch, he earned numerous teaching awards, including the RI High School Social Studies Teacher of the Year in 1997, and the RI High School Girls Soccer Coach of the Year in 1988. In 1997-98, he taught in England under the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program. His Model UN

program lasted 19 years and, at its height, included 380 students from 25 schools. After teaching high school, he taught international politics courses in the URI Political Science Department. From 2009 until 2016, he also taught in the Salve Regina Education Department, and supervised high school social studies student teachers. He has taught OLLI courses for over a decade.

From Liberty to Legacy: Exploring American Ideals in the Musicals 1776 and Hamilton

1 Session with Michael Langlois

Thu, Jul 16

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$15

WATCH CLASS
PREVIEW

Video



1776 and Hamilton: two American musicals telling the story of the founding of our nation. This lecture looks at these revolutionary musicals and their contrasting visions of an American society at a crossroads.

Michael Langlois is a performer, lecturer, and storyteller with decades of experience. He has lectured from Connecticut to California. Michael has worked with young and old alike, helping individuals find their voice and tell their own unique stories. He has directed across New England, including performances for the Hartford Children's Theatre, Springfield's Drama Studio, and the Ashford Youth Theatre, where he worked for nearly 20 years as Artistic Director. Additionally, Michael worked for over a decade with New London, Connecticut's Flock Theatre serving as an Associate Artist. There he acted, taught classes, created educational programming for the CT HOT Schools program, and directed a host of classical plays.

ALL SPECIAL
INTEREST
GROUPS MUST
RENEW
NEW SESSIONS
BEGIN THE WEEK
OF JULY 7
Register online: URI.EDU/OLLI



CSI@URI: A Look Inside the RI State Crime Laboratory

1 Session with Dennis Hilliard
 Fri, Jul 10
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Dennis Hilliard, director of the Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory at URI, will give an overview of the laboratory's work and the various types of forensics, including a course that is offered to law enforcement officers. He will also talk about the URI Forensic Science Partnership and the seminar course that is open to the public and has been offered since 1999.

Dennis Hilliard has worked in the forensic field since 1980. He is director of the Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory and an adjunct professor of biomedical sciences in the URI College of Pharmacy. In addition to administration of the crime lab, his work includes analysis of evidence and court testimony related to analyses of fire debris, hair and fiber, DNA, and blood alcohol. He holds a B.S. in biochemistry from the University of New Hampshire, an M.S. in pharmacology and toxicology from URI, and has taken University of Virginia accredited courses offered at the FBI academy in Quantico, Virginia. He is a member of several professional forensic organizations and is past president of the Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS).

Science Fiction Summer Fun

6 Sessions with Linda Morse
 Fri, Jul 10, 17, 24, 31, Aug 7, 14
 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$55.00



Want a cool way to spend a summer day? Catch a science fiction movie with OLLI friends! Each week we'll watch a movie in its entirety. Follow-up discussions will focus on the writer, director, music, budget, cast, plot, and background. Come to see: *The Island* '05; *Inception* '10; *Interstellar* '14; *Annihilation* '18; *Don't Look Up* '21; *Dune II* '24. It's a great time to catch up on these classics

featuring alien invasions, cloning, outer space, catastrophe on Earth, and more.

Linda M. Morse, a URI grad, has been a yoga and meditation practitioner and huge science fiction lover all of her life. She has taught many yoga related programs for OLLI over the last 15 years and a number of science fiction programs as well.

From Curiosity to Climate: Teaching Science Through Children's TV

1 Session with Sara Sweetman
 Fri, Jul 24
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
 Max: 45 Fee: \$15.00

Children's television and streaming media have become powerful ways to introduce young audiences to science. This session explores how complex topics—such as climate science—are transformed into engaging, age-appropriate stories for children ages 4–8. Drawing on the development of the PBS series *Elinor Wonders Why* and the newly released *Weather Hunters*, participants will learn how educational goals, research partnerships, and studies with children shape each episode. The session highlights how storytelling and animation bring concepts of climate, weather systems, and the natural world to life, and how media can spark curiosity and support early science learning to come.



Sara B. Sweetman, Ph.D. is an associate professor of education in the College of Education and Professional Studies at the University of Rhode Island (URI). Her scholarship centers on children's learning through educational media, with particular attention to STEM engagement, environmental belonging, and multimodal learning across television, digital games, and interactive platforms. Dr. Sweetman works closely with media producers, writers, station educators, and researchers to develop and support the design and evaluation of developmentally appropriate, research-informed content for children and families. She has served as an advisor to multiple national children's media initiatives, including PBS KIDS Ready to Learn Initiative and Sesame Street.

The University is building two new dormitories on Flagg Rd.

Construction will impact travel on Flagg Road on and off all summer. To avoid delays, use Plains Road to get to lot #25. Check out page 34 for more parking details or call 401-874-4197.



GREAT DECISIONS AT OLLI

The Great Decisions Foreign Policy Association sessions meet 8 times a year and are FREE to all members. Sessions are member-led and include a presentation as well as class discussion. Members MUST register for each class session.

Facilitators: Jim Findley & Emilia Gonzalez-Torpey

Fee: Free for members but registration is required
Limit: 45

Books can be purchased on the FPA.org website for \$35.00.

Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order

Please register for one session.

■ Thu, Jul 16, 3:00 PM or ■ Fri, Jul 17, 10:00 AM

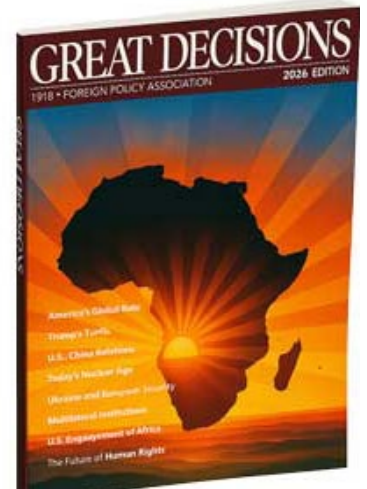
With reduced U.S. support for NATO and Ukraine, Europe faces strategic uncertainty. The Trump administration has signaled an intention to reduce its security role in Europe. What are America's states in NATO and Europe's strategic dilemmas, and how might Europe respond?

U.S. Engagement of Africa

Please register for one session.

■ Thu, Aug 20, 3:00 PM or ■ Fri, Aug 21, 10:00 AM

Africa's geopolitical role is growing. What lessons can the U.S. learn from China's presence there, and how might it strengthen ties, especially with leading nations like Nigeria? What tools of statecraft might the U.S. bring to its engagement with Africa?



LEARN TO PLAY MAH JONGG

2 Sessions with Karen Sanderson
Wednesdays, Jul 29, Aug 5
5:00 PM- 7:00 PM Fee: \$40 Max: 20

OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

This introductory, two-hour American Mah Jongg course provides a hands-on foundation in the essential rules (in accordance with the National Mah Jongg League Rules), card reading, terminology, and gameplay needed to confidently join a table. Students will begin with guided instruction on tile sets, game flow, and key strategies. A card for the instruction will be provided. The session will conclude with one or two full practice rounds, time permitting, to reinforce learning through real-time play.

Karen Sanderson is a certified Mah Jongg instructor and an Ambassador for The Mah jongg Line. She teaches American Mahjong with a hands-on, friendly, and encouraging style, and she especially enjoys introducing new players to this beautiful, engaging, and mentally stimulating game. With more than 15 years of experience in corporate training and adult learning, Karen excels at breaking down complex ideas into clear, simple steps that help learners feel confident quickly. Whether she's leading large group classes or hosting Mahjong events across Southern Rhode Island, she focuses on building community, sparking connection, and creating a welcoming environment for beginners. Karen is passionate about guiding new players on their Mahjong journey and looks forward to welcoming each learner to the table.



zoom

CLASSES AT OLLI

Zoom classes are hosted by OLLI staff. Links to Zoom classes are sent in your reminder email two days before the class begins. The same link will be used each week. For your convenience, a link is also sent 30 minutes prior to the beginning of each class session. If you need assistance joining a Zoom meeting, please call the office well in advance of your class. We are happy to help with any Zoom-related matters. Call 401-874-4197 to set up an appointment. Not all Zoom sessions are recorded. If you miss a Zoom session, please contact the office to see if a recording is available.



Western Gunslingers: The Truth Behind the Westerns

5 Sessions with Daniel Seligman

Wed, Jul 29, Aug 5, 12, 19, 26

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$50.00



It's no secret that the history of the American West has been exaggerated and distorted in Hollywood westerns and other media. The intent of this course is to present the unvarnished truth as far as it can be ascertained from historical records. The series consists of five lectures on the life and times of gunslingers who lived in the American West in the late 19th century and are well-known in American popular culture, specifically Wild Bill Hickok, Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, Buffalo Bill Cody, and Annie Oakley.

Daniel Seligman is a retired computer engineer with a lifelong interest in the American West, dating from his days as a small child watching B westerns on a 7-inch TV screen in the 1950s. Over the years, he has pursued his passions through wide-ranging reading and travel, and in retirement has turned to publishing magazine articles and presenting seminars on historical western figures.

Encore Career Blueprint: Reinventing Work & Purpose

2 Sessions with Sharonda Hagans-Jones

Thu, Aug 20, 27

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 30 Fee: \$35.00



Learn how to design a meaningful second-act career—whether in consulting, entrepreneurship, or community work—by translating your expertise into purposeful action. Many adults approach midlife or retirement with the desire to stay engaged, continue contributing, and build work that reflects their values. However, the transition to an “encore career” can feel uncertain without a clear plan. Dr. Sharonda Hagan-Jones will provide a structured, supportive roadmap to help you reflect on your experiences, identify passions and transferable skills, and create a personalized blueprint for moving confidently from intention to impact.

Assignment for the first class: Before the first class, participants will complete a short strengths assessment to identify their natural talents, transferable skills, and areas of confidence. During the first session, learners will reflect on their results, discuss key insights, and begin connecting their strengths to past experiences and future possibilities. The assignment is designed to spark self-awareness, encourage peer learning, and create an engaging, low-pressure entry point into the course content.

Dr. Sharonda Hagans-Jones is an accomplished educator, consultant, and curriculum designer with over 18 years of experience in instructional leadership and workforce development. As the founder and principal consultant of Hagans-Jones Consulting LLC, she specializes in helping individuals and organizations design customized training solutions, career readiness programs, and entrepreneurial pathways. Dr. Hagans-Jones holds a Doctor of Education in organizational leadership, an M.A. in teaching, and a B.A. in psychology. She brings her expertise in leadership, adult learning, and career transitions to guide participants in building purposeful encore careers.

TOURS & TRIPS

OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

Members must provide their own transportation to each tour.

Food, Housing, Health, and Hope: A Local History of Care

1 Session with Jennifer Krueger

Thu, Jul 23

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Max: 30 Fee: \$15.00

Location: Jonnycake Center, Peace Dale, RI



**Jonnycake Center
For Hope**

here to help for 50 years

This 90-minute program explores the history of social services in South Kingstown from the early 20th century to today, with a special focus on the founding and growth of the Jonnycake Center for Hope since 1974. We'll look at how the community has responded

to changing needs over time and unpack today's federal, state, and local human services landscape—and what it means for residents with low and moderate incomes. The program concludes with a guided, behind-the-scenes tour of the Jonnycake Center's offices, food pantry, and youth center in Peace Dale, RI.

*From her first job in a rural assisted living facility, **Jennifer Krueger's** career has been shaped by a commitment to service, community well-being, and respect for self-determination. Her early work focused on older adults and individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, in both community settings and long-term care. With nearly three decades in human services, she now centers her work on health equity, community partnerships, and innovative program development. As deputy director at the Jonnycake Center for Hope, she leads initiatives that strengthen nutrition security, housing access, and economic mobility across South County. Jennifer has served on the Town of South Kingstown's Affordable Housing Collaborative and is a former board member of the Galilee Mission.*

Edesia: Rhode Island's Big Impact on Global Child Malnutrition

1 Session with Sandra Enos

Thu, Aug 20

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 12 \$15.00

Location: Quonset Business Park

Join us for a tour of Edesia, located in the Quonset Business Park. Edesia is the manufacturer of Plumpy' Nut, a nutritional supplement given to malnourished children that is saving millions of lives all over the world. Using

American-grown peanuts, soybeans, and other products, Edesia is Rhode Island's largest international exporter. In our tour of their facility, we will learn about this amazing nonprofit and what we might do to support their efforts.

Note: Edesia is located in North Kingstown, RI. Address will be provided to registrants. Visitor parking is available in front of the building. The entire tour will take place on one floor.

Sandra Enos, Ph.D., Sandra Enos taught sociology before she retired. She has taught several courses at OLLI on sociology, creativity, and the history of orphanages in RI, and coordinates the Creativity and Play Special Interest Group. She plays mallet percussion in the Jamestown Community Band and sings with the URI Community Chorus.

Strolling Through History

1 Session with Jean Gagnier and

Fred Paretta

Thu, Aug 27

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Max: 20 Fee: \$20.00

Location: Westerly, RI

A stroll through downtown Westerly can tell people a lot about the rich history of this nearly 350-year-old community. On our walking tour we will see eight of the dozen murals that were created during a 2017 painting festival sponsored by the nonprofit Bricks and Murals to capture the story of the town: the New London Steamboat Company (depicting coastal and island transportation), Mrs. Harriet Wilcox (patron of Wilcox Park), the granite industry, the Westerly Band (oldest community band in the country), the 1938 hurricane (dedicated to first responders and rebuilders), the Pawcatuck River (natural boundary used by the Narragansett and Pequot people and referenced in the 1663 charter), the Rivalry (Stonington vs. Westerly), and the mills of Pawcatuck Village.



Note: The walk is 1.5 miles long and is on ADA-compliant sidewalks. Free parking is located at 14 Canal Street, Westerly. The group tour will meet at the entrance to the parking lot.

Jean Gagnier is a public historian and University of Rhode Island graduate. Gagnier has served as a member of the Westerly Town Council and Planning Board, is a founding member of Bricks and Murals, and a Westerly 250 Commissioner. Gagnier teaches at the University of Rhode Island's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and regularly lectures on early American history in the local community.

Fred Paretta, is a former professional restoration artist specializing in the Objects category. He joined Bricks and Murals in 2018 as artist and marketing director and is a member of the Walldogs, a volunteer-based international traveling artist/muralist painting group.

Paine House Museum Tour

1 Session on Fri, Jul 17

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Max: Fee: \$15.00

Location: Coventry, RI

Owned and operated by The Western Rhode Island Civic Historical Society, the Paine House Museum, built about 1691, is a former Colonial home and inn, restored and furnished in the period style. This makes it the oldest standing structure in Coventry,

RI. The museum received a variety of items collected from the local community including Civil War, railroad, kitchen, furnishings, server ware, clothing, quilts, sewing, needle work, bicycles, hand tools, musical instruments and so much more!

The Barn loom is operational in the basement along with a display on turning raw materials into thread and fabric. The tour lasts about an hour but feel free to bring your own lunch to enjoy on the beautiful grounds of the Paine House Museum afterwards.



Rhode Island Lighthouse Cruise

1 Session on Wed, Aug 5

2:00PM – 3:40 PM

Max: 100 Fee : \$42.00

Guests are welcome

Location: Quonset, RI

Join your OLLI friends for the popular narrated cruise past 10 Rhode Island lighthouses in Narragansett Bay along with a complete Newport Harbor tour. This 30-mile cruise will be narrated by none other than OLLI instructor Brian Wallin. This tour also takes you past 10 beautiful islands, under the breathtaking Jamestown and Newport bridges, past mansions, historic Fort Adams, and many other famous Rhode Island sights. Join your OLLI friends for a day on the Bay!

**You may register a guest for this event.
All guests must be age 50+.**

The cruise departs from the Martha's Vineyard Fast Ferry terminal located at 1347 Roger Williams Way, in Quonset, North Kingstown. Detailed directions can be found at rhodeislandbaycruises.com.

Please arrive at the dock 30 minutes prior to boarding. An OLLI representative will be taking attendance before boarding.

Note: All participants on tours or in classes that meet in a location other than OLLI (210 Flagg Rd.) are required to provide their own transportation to the location and will be required to fill out an Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability Form.



HOLLOW RIDGE

VINEYARDS

A Look Behind-the-Scenes

with founder, Elisa Wybraniec & Kyle Favreau, vineyard manager

Address/directions for the winery will be provided after registration.

Choose 1 session:

♦Wed, Aug 5, 3:00 PM-4:00 PM or ♦Thu, Aug 6, 3:00 PM-4:00 PM
Max: 20 per session Fee: \$15

Join us for a behind-the-scenes visit to Hollow Ridge Vineyards, an emerging boutique vineyard in the early stages of its journey. This experience offers OLLI attendees a unique opportunity to witness the “birth of a vineyard,” from land stewardship and site preparation to the thoughtful planning that shapes a future winery. Guests will walk the property with the founder Elisa Wybraniec and Vineyard Manager Kyle Favreau. Learn about the vision for sustainable farming and wine production, and gain insight into how great vineyards are developed long before the first vines are planted.

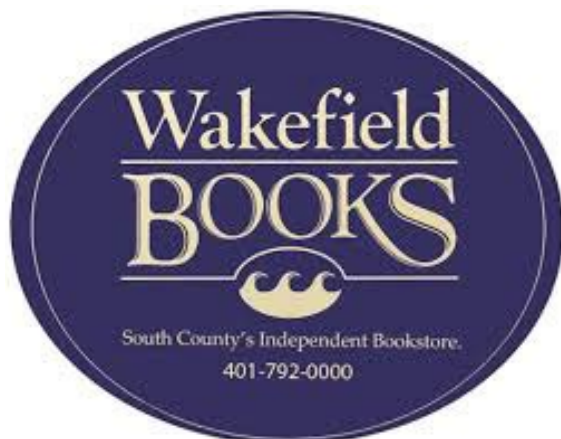
Expect an engaging, conversational tour that connects agriculture, ecology, and the art of winemaking.

Please note that this is an active, undeveloped agricultural site, so sturdy, closed-toe shoes are required for safety and comfort. The tour will proceed rain or shine, offering a true-to-life look at vineyard development in all conditions, just as farming itself demands. Participants are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather and terrain, as the experience is designed to be immersive, informative, and grounded in the realities of working the land.

WAITING LIST

ALWAYS ADD YOUR NAME TO THE WAIT LIST.

If you get closed out of a class, you should always add your name to the Wait List. There are always cancellations before a class and if an opening becomes available, we will call you and register you over the phone. In some cases, if this is a large Wait List, we will try to schedule a second session. Wait List members get first priority to register for the new session.

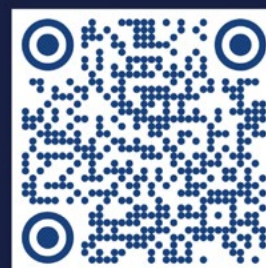


Thank you to our friends at Wakefield Books who offer at 20% discount on any purchase related to OLLI classes or special interest groups.

“
**TEACH
OTHERS,
LEARN
MORE.**

Teach for OLLI!

**Scan the QR Code to fill out
a Course Proposal Form**



thank you

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

OLLI continues to be a strong organization due in part to members serving on various committees providing leadership in partnership with the staff. If you are interested in serving on one of our committees, contact Beth Leconte, Executive Director at 401-874-2405, bleconte@uri.edu.

OLLI ADVISORY COUNCIL

Joe Gallichio, CHAIR
Phil Clark
Sandra Enos
Beth Flanagan
Joanne Gemma
Debbe Hayes
CJ Menard
Louise Paquin

OLLI CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Bill Cole
Mary Cole
Ron Curtin
Robin Devin
Kathleen Gallichio
Linda Gatewood
Paula Grey
Karen Montgomery
Louise Pelletier

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Steve Perry
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Carole Duffy CHAIR
Sherry Curran
Patricia Rye
Mary Sylvia
Andrea Wilson
Judi Zarrella

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Gale Eaton, CHAIR
Brenda Bibb
Emilia Gonzales-Torpey
Marie Lupino
Bob Muller
Mary Ellen O'Keefe
Lori Pivarnik
Jessica Wilson

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Susan Berman, Writers Group
Bob Bianchini, Current Events
Brenda Bibb, Rhody Ramblers
Cobi Bush, Mah Jongg
Gale Eaton, Writers Group
Sandra Enos, Creativity and Play
Jim Findley, Great Decisions
Sheryl Girard, Game On!
Marion Goldsmith, Rhody Ramblers

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Joan Austin
Cobi Bush
Deb Cole
Marion Frieberg
Sally Levesque
Marie Lupino
Susan McMullen
Debbie Murphy
Marge Nozzi
Cindy Pacheco
Lorraine Rappoport
Nicole Spaulding
Eileen Stratton
Jane Trehy
Andrea Wilson

Emilia Gonzalez Torpey, Great Decisions
Deb Kopech, Book Group
Marylen McKenna, Movie Group
Armand Monaco, Cribbage
Sara Nelson, Hiking Group
Liz O'Brien, Biking Group
Cindy Opaluch, Hiking Group
Peter Stetson, Bowling Group

LEARN HERE EXPLORE THERE

Join OLLI as we blend our classroom instruction with real-world experiences. This two-step model—learn here, explore there—helps members connect, engage more actively, and reflect more meaningfully. Please read the the notes about meeting locations and recommendations. Members must provide their own transportation.

RI's Geologic History

4 Sessions with Kristyn DeMarco

Fri, Aug 7, 14, 21, 28

Classes 1 & 2: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Classes 3 & 4: Location and time TBD

Please note: Classes 3 & 4 will be longer sessions.

Max: 15 Fee \$45.00

This immersive field-based course will explore the deep geologic history of Rhode Island. We will begin with two in-person introductory classes covering foundational geologic concepts and field methods. After this, there will be two guided field days with trips around the state where we can observe Rhode Island's rich geologic history firsthand. Activities will focus on careful observation, critical thinking, and connecting what we see outdoors to the broader story of how Rhode Island's modern landscape came to be. No previous geology experience needed.

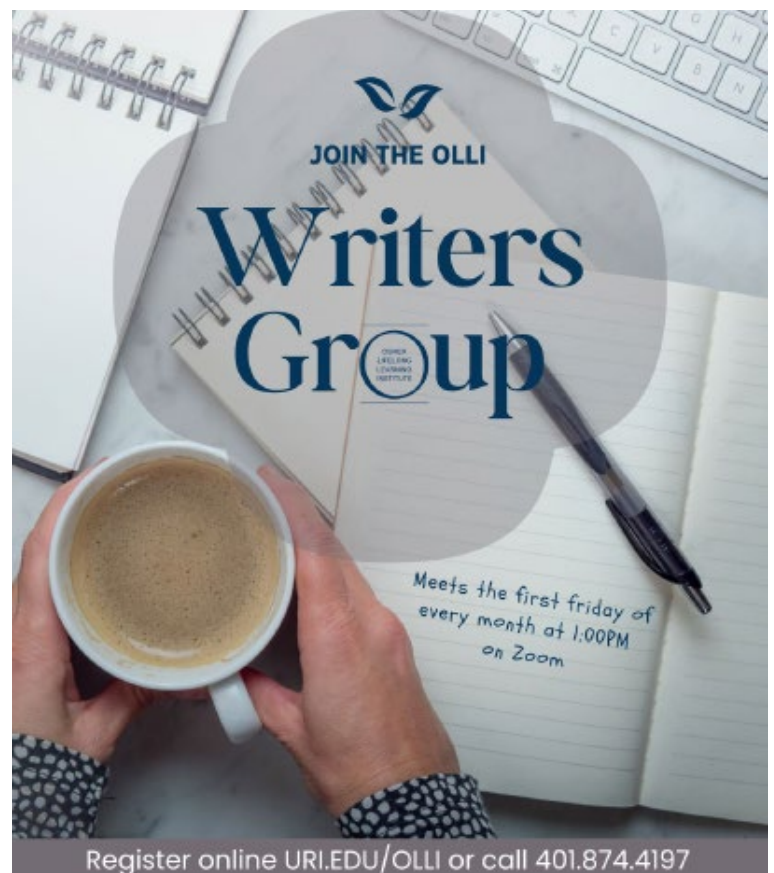
Required readings will be emailed to participants prior to the class.

Kristyn DeMarco, an OLLI member, has been an assistant professor of environmental science and sustainability at Johnson and Wales University for the past four years. Prior to that, she worked at the Northern Virginia (NOVA) Community College's Loudoun campus where she pioneered the environmental science program. Kristyn holds a B.A. in environmental studies and geology from the University of Pennsylvania, an M.S. in geoscience from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and a Ph.D. in environmental science and public policy from George Mason University. She has a great love for everything outdoors and is an avid rock collector.

HAVE SOME FUN... JOIN CREATIVITY AND PLAY



Meets the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM. Details of events and locations emailed to those who register. Register online: URI.EDU/OLLI or call 401.874.4197 Facilitator: Sandra Enos



Facilitators: **Susan Berman & Gale Eaton**

OLLI EXTRAS

MEMBER BENEFIT

Lunch and
LEARN

Planning for the Unexpected: Estate Planning Tools to Help Protect You and Your Family

1 Session with Joanne Daly

Thu, Jul 30

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Max: 45 Fee: \$0.00

A well-crafted estate plan reflects your life goals. It should be structured to protect the wealth you have created, so that you can continue to support the people, causes, and institutions that are closest to your heart. We'll learn how trusts, gifting, insurance, and other wealth planning tools can be combined to help prepare for the unexpected and secure your legacy.

Joanne M. Daly, CDFA® has more than 25 years of combined wealth planning and prior CPA experience. She is a senior vice president and financial advisor with the Ayers Daly Group at Morgan Stanley and a certified divorce financial analyst. In addition, Joanne is a former CPA tax manager for Ernst and Young and earned an M.S. in taxation from Bryant University. Joanne enjoys educating others through financial presentations and is a frequent guest speaker to civic organizations and companies, including CVS, Bryant University, South County Health, the URI Foundation, and the GFWC Women's Club of South County, to name a few.

OLLI Volunteer Opportunity

Rhode Island Community Food Bank

Wednesday, August 26,

12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Please register online. We need at least 12 members registered to take advantage of this opportunity.

Join OLLI members for an impactful opportunity to combat food in-

security throughout our state. Projects in their warehouse vary from week to week, but volunteers typically help with one of the following:

- Meals4Kids boxes to be distributed to school-aged students throughout Rhode Island
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) boxes to be distributed to low-income residents age 60+
- Sorting and repackaging bulk produce
- Inspecting, sorting, and preparing donated food items for distribution

The warehouse location is at 200 Niantic Ave, Providence, RI. To learn more about this amazing organization, please visit: rifofoodbank.org. To sign up to volunteer please register with OLLI.

Note: Volunteers should be comfortable lifting up to 30 lbs, however they can accommodate restrictions if necessary.

Parking: There is a parking lot at the Food Bank with plenty of spaces.



RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY
FOOD BANK

200 Niantic Avenue
Providence, RI 02907
(401) 942-6325

rifofoodbank.org



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Dartmouth

SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

URI OLLI is proud to be part of the 2026 Dartmouth Summer Online Lecture Series
How is Artificial Intelligence Transforming America?

This year's summer lecture series features presentations by six experts across a wide range of fields who will provide clarity, context, and confidence to anyone—novice and expert alike—seeking to understand the benefits and challenges of AI.

All sessions are on Wednesdays, from 9:00 AM-11:30 AM.
You may register for one session or all six. Max: 45 Fee: \$20 per session
Fee per session: \$20 Max: 45

In January 1941 Franklin D. Roosevelt's extraordinary State of the Union Address proclaimed his intention to secure and expand democracy at home and promote democracy everywhere in a world then threatened by fascism and imperialist aggression. The Four Freedoms FDR defined in that speech—Freedom of speech and expression, Freedom of worship, Freedom from want, and Freedom from fear—quickly became philosophical and rhetorical foundations for extending his domestic New Deal and using American power to promote global democratic development. They also became justifications for making the United States a global "super power " that required a massive standing army, navy, and air forces; a worldwide network of military bases, a permanent military-industrial-university complex, and an ever-growing arsenal of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, all of which diverted resources and brainpower away from domestic democratic reforms while promoting fear of communism abroad and at home. This lecture includes discussion of these complications, as well as a review of the sources of FDR ideas about human rights and liberal internationalism, and a look at contemporary public responses to the Four Freedoms speech.

The courses connect the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with the 70th anniversary of the 1956 Dartmouth AI conference, where the term Artificial Intelligence was first introduced. It traces how AI has moved from a speculative scientific idea to a powerful force embedded in everyday life—summarizing information, generating creative content, aiding scientific and legal research, and accelerating innovation across many fields. At the same time, the series examines the growing concerns surrounding AI, including its environmental impact, job displacement, ethical questions about creativity and ownership, privacy risks, and the rise of surveillance. A central focus is the threat posed by disinformation and deepfakes, which challenge our ability to discern what is real. Ultimately, the course asks a profound question: What happens when the Enlightenment ideal of "self-evident truths" is destabilized by technologies capable of distorting reality itself?

[Click to view the speaker books recommendations .](#)



IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Did you know your membership must be in effect throughout the length of your class? If you're not sure when your renewal date is, feel free to call the office at 401-874-4197.

What Can the Declaration of Independence Teach Us About Artificial Intelligence? (Session 1)

with Brinnae Bent
Wed, Jul 8

In this talk we revisit the Declaration as a lens for understanding AI. We begin with a curious question: Why do modern AI systems often claim that the Declaration of Independence is AI-generated? Using this example, we unpack how these systems actually work. Along the way, we explore both their remarkable capabilities and their fundamental limitations. From there, we zoom out. The Declaration of Independence raises enduring questions about what makes a system legitimate: who it serves, where its authority comes from, and when it should be challenged. As AI becomes embedded in everyday life, these questions feel more relevant than ever. This talk offers a clear, accessible introduction to AI, grounded in both technical intuition and broader ideas about trust, responsibility, and human judgment.

Brinnae Bent is the associate director of the Society-Centered AI Initiative, the director of the Duke TRUST Lab, and faculty in the Pratt School of Engineering at Duke University, where she teaches courses on artificial intelligence and cybersecurity. She is a leader in bridging the gap between research and industry in machine learning, having led projects and developed algorithms for the largest companies in the world. More importantly, she has built algorithms that have meaningful impacts—from helping people walk to noninvasively monitoring glucose. Her current research explores questions like: How can explainable AI help in the conservation of endangered species? How do we prevent your sleep monitor from getting hacked? How do we align AI systems with how humans think about concepts? Dr. Bent actively contributes open-source tools and translates high-impact research into practice. Beyond research, Dr. Bent is deeply committed to education, and her education initiatives have been featured by OpenAI Academy, Backyard Brains, and CNET. She teaches advanced courses in explainable AI, deep learning, reinforcement learning, and cybersecurity, while also pioneering K-100 outreach initiatives to bring engineering and data science to diverse audiences. She seeks to empower the next generation of thinkers who will shape ethical, impactful technology. Dr. Bent holds a B.S. from North Carolina State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Duke University.



Can AI Think Like a Doctor? (Session 2)

with Adam Rodman
Wed, Jul 15

What does it mean to name a disease, make a diagnosis, or truly understand what is wrong with someone? This talk explores those questions through a wide-ranging and accessible story about medicine, technology, and the changing nature of medical knowledge. Over the past two centuries, medicine has moved from bedside observation and the study of symptoms, to statistics and population health, to computers designed to assist with diagnosis. Today, with the rise of artificial intelligence, we are once again being asked to rethink what medical expertise is and how it should be used. Rather than offering a narrowly technical account, this lecture invites a broader reflection on how medicine has tried to bring order to the uncertainty of illness. Why have doctors and scientists repeatedly turned to new tools in the hope of making care more accurate, more rational, and more humane? What has been gained, and what has been lost, along the way? The second half of the talk turns to the present moment. It offers a balanced introduction to modern medical AI, including its genuine strengths, its important limitations, and the risks of relying on it too easily.

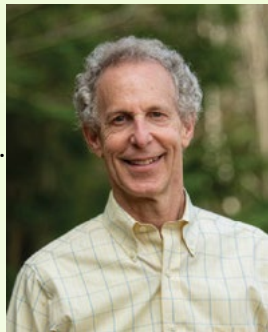


Adam Rodman is a general internist and medical educator at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and an assistant professor at Harvard Medical School. He is the director of AI programs for the Carl J. Shapiro Center for Education and Research, and he leads the steering group for integration of AI into the medical school curriculum. He is also an associate editor at NEJM AI, as well as a visiting researcher at Google DeepMind. His research focuses on medical education, clinical reasoning, integration of digital technologies, and human-computer interaction, especially with AI. His first book is entitled *Short Cuts: Medicine*, and he is the host of the American College of Physicians podcast *Bedside Rounds*. Adam completed his residency in internal medicine at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, OR, and his fellowship in global health at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center while practicing in Molepolole, Botswana. He lives in Boston with his wife and two young sons.

If you register for a Dartmouth class, please be sure to keep an eye on your email for all the details on joining the livestream, as well as suggested readings and information on a post-lecture discussion open to all registrants.

AI: Too Artificial? Too Intelligent? Too Much Energy? (Session 3)

with Dan Reicher
Wed, Jul 22



Dan Reicher—Stanford and Dartmouth senior scholar, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy, and Google’s Director of Climate and Energy—will discuss his take on AI from several perspectives: fast-growing applications; problematic uses; political and financial considerations; and his own experience with this transformational technology. Importantly, he will examine the massive energy and water demands of the AI data centers and how to address them. At the same time, Dan will consider ways that AI might accelerate the clean energy transition—and help address climate change—by improving electric grid operations, increasing industrial energy efficiency, and managing building energy use.

Dan Reicher is an entrepreneur, investor, policymaker, lawyer, and educator focused on clean energy and climate change. Reicher has served three U.S. presidents, testified before the U.S. Congress more than 50 times, led the launch of Google’s pathbreaking climate and clean energy work, overseen a \$1.2 billion annual clean energy R&D budget as U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy, and co-founded the nation’s first investment firm focused exclusively on renewable energy project finance. Reicher served from 2011 to 2018 as founding executive director of the Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy and Finance, a joint center of the Stanford Law and Business Schools. He is currently a Stanford Doerr School senior scholar, senior fellow at Dartmouth’s Irving Institute for Energy and Society, senior advisor with the Climate Adaptive Infrastructure Fund, and policy and business advisor. Reicher came to Stanford from Google, where he served since 2007 as director of climate change and energy initiatives. Earlier in his career Reicher was an assistant attorney general in Massachusetts and an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council. He was also an adjunct professor at Yale University, Vermont Law School and the University of Maryland. In 2012 Reicher received an honorary doctorate from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry and was also named one of the five most influential figures in U.S. clean energy by Oilprice.com. Reicher holds a B.A. in biology from Dartmouth College, and a J.D. from Stanford Law School. He also studied at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government and MIT. An avid kayaker, Reicher was a member of the first expedition on record to navigate the entire 1888-mile Rio Grande (with support from the National Geographic Society) and to kayak the Yangtze River in China.

What Will Be the Economic Impacts of AI? (Session 4)

with Patrick Wheeler
Wed, Jul 29

Artificial intelligence represents a transformation comparable in scale to electricity or the internet, yet most business leaders are approaching it as simply another productivity tool. Wheeler will argue this is a fundamental strategic error with consequences extending far beyond individual companies to the broader economy and workforce. Drawing on his experience living through the internet transformation—where companies like Amazon reimaged everything while others like Sears merely optimized existing models—Wheeler will examine why the current moment demands urgent rethinking, what’s at stake when leaders prioritize short-term efficiency over long-term transformation.

Patrick Wheeler serves as executive director of the center for digital strategies at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth, where he has established himself as a pioneering force in artificial intelligence education and technology leadership development. Since 2018, he has educated hundreds of participants through programming that combines theoretical understanding with practical strategy development. Wheeler’s impact extends beyond campus through his advisory work on AI strategy with CEOs, private sector organizations, and federal government entities. He frequently moderates panels at industry conferences and has facilitated discussions with experts from organizations including Anthropic, Microsoft, Google, and OpenAI. His ability to forge meaningful partnerships has resulted in collaborative research with Google and immersive learning experiences in technology ecosystems worldwide. Prior to joining Tuck, Wheeler built a diverse career spanning consulting, technology, and innovation across four continents. At CEB (now Gartner), he created a low-code e-learning product that generated multi-million-dollar revenue within its first year. He also served as a trusted aide to U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), then chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Wheeler holds a B.A. in Political Science from St. Michael’s College. His areas of expertise include artificial intelligence strategy, digital transformation, technology education, and strategic program development.



Is AI Leading Us Toward a More Dangerous World Disorder? (Session 5)

with Michele Flournoy
Wed, Aug 5

AI lies at the heart of the strategic competition between the U.S. and China, including the use of AI in intelligence, cyber, and military operations. As AI adoption accelerates in the national security space, the American people and their elected representatives must grapple with a number of critical questions: How will AI change the future of deterrence and warfare? What ethical issues will the use of AI in national security raise? What norms or principles should serve as guardrails for the use of AI? How do we get other nations to embrace these norms? And how do we train a whole generation of military officers to ensure human accountability for AI-driven outcomes on the battlefield?



Michèle Flournoy is co-founder and managing partner of WestExec Advisors, and a co-founder, former CEO, and now chair of the Center for a New American Security (CNAS). Michèle served as the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from February 2009 to February 2012. She was the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense in the formulation of national security and defense policy, oversight of military plans and operations, and in National Security Council deliberations. She led the development of the Department of Defense's 2012 Strategic Guidance and represented the Department in dozens of foreign engagements, in the media and before Congress. Prior to confirmation, Michèle co-led President Obama's transition team at the Defense Department. In January 2007, Michèle co-founded CNAS, a bipartisan think tank dedicated to developing strong, pragmatic and principled national security policies. She served as CNAS' president until 2009, and returned as CEO in 2014. In 2017, she co-founded WestExec Advisors, a strategic advisory firm. Michèle serves on the boards of CNAS, Booz Allen Hamilton, the Council on Foreign Relations, Amida Technology Solutions, and CARE. She serves on a number of advisory boards, including for The Leadership Council for Women in National Security, The Mission Continues, PIMCO, and Girl Security. She is a member of the Aspen Strategy Group. She is a former member of the President's Intelligence Advisory Board, the CIA Director's External Advisory Board, and the Secretary of Defense's Defense Policy Board. Michèle earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and a master's degree from Balliol College, Oxford University, where she was a Newton-Tatum scholar.

How Can We Build Human Morality Into AI? (Session 6)

with Walter Sinnott-Armstrong
Wed, Aug 12 (Class meets 9:00 AM to 12:00PM)

Artificial intelligence (AI) is now being used to make many life-changing decisions in medicine, law, transportation, the military, business, and other areas. Critics object that using AI in these areas is inhumane and too likely to lead to harm, unfairness, and other moral wrongs. Dr. Sinnott-Armstrong will admit these dangers but reply that these decisions can be made safer and more ethical by building human moral values into the AI decisionmaker. His team does this by surveying human moral judgments at two levels and then correcting for ignorance, confusion, and partiality. To show how their methods work in practice, he will demonstrate their websites, report initial empirical findings for kidney allocation and dementia, and finally discuss potential future applications to criminal law, transportation, business, and the military.



Walter Sinnott-Armstrong was born in Memphis, Tennessee, and attended the Hotchkiss School, Amherst College (B.A., 1977), and Yale University (Ph.D., 1982). He taught at Dartmouth College 1981-2009 and at Duke University since 2010. Sinnott-Armstrong is Chauncey Stillman Distinguished Professor of Practical Ethics in the Department of Philosophy and the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University with secondary appointments in Duke's Law School and Department of Psychology and Neuroscience. He has served as co-chair of the Board of Officers of the American Philosophical Association. Sinnott-Armstrong has published eight books, 21 edited collections, and over 250 articles and chapters in leading venues, including top journals in psychology, law, and philosophy. His research has addressed a wide variety of central issues in applied ethics, empirical moral psychology and neuroscience, epistemology, informal logic, and philosophy of law, religion, and psychiatry. His current focus is on moral artificial intelligence, political polarization, and various topics in moral psychology and brain science, including free will, consciousness, and moral responsibility. His popular trade books include *Morality Without God?*, *Think Again: How to Reason and Argue*, and *Moral AI and How We Get There* (with Jana Schaich Borg and Vincent Conitzer). Sinnott-Armstrong co-teaches a Massive Open Online Course, *Think Again*, on the Coursera platform with over a million students registered. He co-directs summer seminars in neuroscience and philosophy, which train philosophers in neuroscience and neuroscientists in philosophy. He is widely sought as a speaker on a wide variety of topics to both academic and public audiences.

Osher Online

in collaboration with Northwestern University
School of Professional Studies

SUMMER 2026

Osher Online is an online partnership in collaboration with the National Resource Center (NRC) at Northwestern University School of Professional Studies. Osher Online was created to expand member access, institute collaboration and sharing of resources, and ensure the legacy of all 123 Osher Institutes.

These classes are 90-minutes long and delivered by the Osher NRC, and its staff will provide moderators and technical assistance.

They are meant to complement our program and give you access to instructors from other locations in our country.

- Osher Online classes are six-weeks long and cost \$55 each.
- Osher Online is available to OLLI members only.
- Space is limited to 13.
- Osher Online classes are not recorded.

We hope you enjoy the opportunity to learn from premiere instructors along with OLLI members from across the nation!

BEFORE YOUR FIRST OSHER CLASS PLEASE ATTEND:

Osher Online Member Orientation Tuesday, June 30, at 2:00 PM

Once registered for an Osher Online course, you will receive an email from Osher inviting you to attend the Member Orientation. We encourage you to attend the session as details on logging in to your Osher account will be provided. If you are not able to attend the session, a recording will be available.

While all Osher Online registrations are processed by URI OLLI, support for Osher Online classes is provided by the Osher Online team at Northwestern University School of Professional Studies. All questions should be directed to Osher Online, 312-503-5555 or email osheronline@northwestern.edu.

**Registration for
Osher Online classes
closes on
June 29, 2026**

Osher Online Summer Classes

- ▶ A History of Signs: How Signs Tell America's Story
- ▶ Broadway Musicals: A Fascinating History
- ▶ Canals and the Making of the Modern World
- ▶ Discovering Portugal
- ▶ Endless Grounds: Coffee's Social, Economic, and Cultural Life
- ▶ Hindu Traditions: Ritual, Knowledge, Devotion
- ▶ Horticulture A-Z
- ▶ Protecting Yourself as a Patient
- ▶ Revolutionary Echoes in Washington D.C.
- ▶ The Indispensable Founder: George Washington
- ▶ Threads of History: Exploring the World of Oriental Rugs
- ▶ Women Architects and Designers

Threads of History: Exploring the World of Oriental Rugs

6 Sessions with Sumra Krody
 Mon, Jul 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 3, 10
 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
 Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



What makes an Oriental rug so captivating—its elegant design, intricate patterns, or the mystery of its origins? In this richly illustrated course, we will discover the stories woven into these remarkable textiles. We will travel through the history and artistry of rug and carpet weaving, a tradition rooted in Asia and North Africa, with examples dating back to the 4th century BCE. Using stunning visuals and expert insights, we will explore major carpet-making cultures and regions including Anatolia, Iran, Transcaucasia, North Africa, and Central Asia. We will also be introduced to basic methods for identifying weave structures and deepen our appreciation of these remarkable works of art.



Sumru Krody is Chief Curator and Avenir Foundation Curator of The Textile Museum Collection at The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum. A specialist in late antique and Islamic textiles, she leads the museum's curatorial department and serves as editor-in-chief of *The Textile Museum Journal*. Krody guest lectures at George Washington University and has curated numerous exhibitions, including *Enduring Traditions* and the upcoming *Adorning the Horse*. She has written widely and co-authored nine publications, including *Textile Treasures* (2025).

Discovering Portugal

6 Sessions with Alison Roberts
 Tue, Jul 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug 4, 11
 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
 Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



In this course, we will explore how a tiny nation—Portugal—played an outsized role in world history. We will examine Portugal's 15th- and 16th-century maritime expansion (once called the "Discoveries"), as well as its central role in the transatlantic trade in enslaved people. We will trace how Portugal, once a fringe region of the Roman Empire, emerged as the only independent kingdom on the Iberian Peninsula as Castile grew into Spain. We will follow Portugal's rise as a global power, with outposts stretching from Brazil to Japan, and then its decline as rival empires overtook it – culminating in 20th-century poverty under Europe's longest dictatorship. Finally, we will consider how this past continues to shape Portuguese identity and culture in the decades since a revolution ushered in democracy. As we survey Portugal's landscapes, art and



architecture, and food, we will see why record numbers of Americans are now visiting the country.

Alison Roberts is a journalist with nearly four decades of experience, reporting in her native UK and later internationally for English-language outlets including the BBC, NPR, and Bloomberg News. Her work covers politics, finance, sports, and the arts. She has edited or contributed to a dozen guidebooks and provided online updates for Fodor's, Time Out, and other publishers. Now based in Portugal, she is writing a history of the country and has explored it extensively from north to south.

Horticulture A-Z

6 Sessions with Chris Baker
 Tue, Jul 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug 4, 11
 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
 Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



In this course, we will explore a wide range of horticultural practices with something to offer no matter our experience level or where we live. We will cover container gardening, aquatic gardens, ornamental and fruiting plants, bonsai, landscape design, and pest management. Each week, we will focus on a theme and examine design ideas, plant choices, and long-term care practices for success. Whether we garden on 10 acres or in an apartment, we will find plenty to learn and enjoy in horticulture.

Chris Baker has worked in horticulture for 15 years, including as a horticulturist at the National Aquarium in Baltimore and as curator of bonsai at the Chicago Botanic Garden. He focuses on the use and benefits of native plant species and sound, eco-friendly horticultural practices. Baker studied with bonsai master Torho Suzuki at the Dai-ju-en Nursery in Japan. He is President of the North American Bonsai Federation and a board member of the World Bonsai Friendship Federation.

OLLI WEEKLY NEWS



Keep up-to-date on new classes, special offerings, and weekly happenings. OLLI weekly emails are sent on Monday mornings. If you are not receiving them, please call 401-874-4197 or email olli@uri.edu.

Canals and the Making of the Modern World

6 Sessions with Bernie Carlson

Wed, Jul 8, 15, 22, 29, Aug 5, 12

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

WATCH CLASS
PREVIEW

Video



When the Erie Canal opened in 1825, it revolutionized American travel and transportation, but its inspiration came from Europe's earlier canal networks. In this course, we will trace the development of French, British, and Irish canals in the 17th and 18th centuries. We will follow the story into the 19th century as we turn to American canals, especially in New York and Pennsylvania. Along the way, we will explore how canals reflect the politics and aspirations of different nations and why they still matter for global shipping today. Whether we are drawn to engineering marvels, the people who built them, or the pleasure of drifting along a canal or hiking a towpath, we will deepen our appreciation of canals' importance and beauty.

Bernard (Bernie) Carlson is Vaughan Professor Emeritus of Humanities at the University of Virginia and an expert on invention, entrepreneurship, and technology's role in society. He received the Sally Hacker Prize from the Society for the History of Technology and the William Middleton Prize from the IEEE, and filmed *Understanding the Inventions that Changed the World*. Now based in Ireland, he directs the M.S. program in AgInnovation at the University of Galway, where he trains adult learners in product development, startups, and sustainable farming.

Revolutionary Echoes in Washington D.C.

6 Sessions with Kasey Sease

Thu, Jul 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug 6, 13

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

WATCH CLASS
PREVIEW

Video



The Declaration of Independence is a pivotal American document, not just for 18th-century revolutionaries, but for people throughout U.S. history. This course will explore how individuals in Washington, D.C. used the Declaration and its ideas after independence was won. From the capital city's planners to Union soldiers who defended Washington amid civil war, many evoked the Declaration to support their causes and shape a capital city. Spotighting museum artifacts from the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection, this course will cover D.C.'s early history through 1876, the nation's first centennial celebration.

Kasey Sease, Ph.D., is curator of the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection at The George Washington University

Museum and The Textile Museum in Washington, D.C. Beyond developing exhibitions and activating the collection, she programs the Albert H. Small Center for National Capital Area Studies. A former managing editor of Washington History, Kasey holds degrees from the College of William and Mary (Ph.D., M.A., history) and the University of Virginia (B.A., history and government).

Endless Grounds: Coffee's Social, Economic, and Cultural Life

6 Sessions with Robert Thurston

Thu, Jul 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug 6, 13

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

WATCH CLASS
PREVIEW

Video



Coffee provides a lively lens on major past and present issues, including climate change, social life, health, global North-South differences, social and economic justice, tourism, and slavery.

We will begin from the ground up, tracing coffee from planting and processing through shipping and, ultimately, the beverage in our cups—part of nearly two billion cups consumed daily worldwide. We will explore coffee's global history and its shift from an elite drink to an everyday staple. Drawing on current research, we will examine coffee and health, as well as practical questions such as how more income might reach farmers and how coffee production might adapt to a changing climate. The instructor will share firsthand experiences from coffee farms around the world, discuss a range of brewing methods, and demonstrate how coffee is brewed. Sessions will be interactive, with time for questions throughout.



Robert Thurston, Ph.D., is Emeritus Professor of History at Miami University (Oxford, Ohio). He earned a B.A. in history from Northwestern University and a Ph.D. in modern Russian history from the University of Michigan. His writing spans 20th-century Russian/Soviet history, witch hunts (Europe and Salem), the body in the Anglosphere (1880–1920), and coffee as an economic and social force. A devoted coffee educator, he has opened a roastery and coffee shop and has visited coffee farms from Asia to South America.

Deaf Culture and History

6 Sessions with Matthew Cooper

Thu, Jul 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug 6, 13

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

WATCH CLASS
PREVIEW

Video



This course introduces key aspects of Deaf culture in the United States and the factors that define the Deaf community as a cultural minority. We will focus on awareness, cultural diversity, and the preservation of language. This course addresses the cultural identity, group norms, rules of social interaction, values, and traditions held by Deaf



members. Together we will explore the impact of modern technology, emerging issues, trends, and advocacy with the Deaf community. We will also address topics related to communication, terminology, educational alternatives, state and federal legislation, and community resources.

Matthew Cooper is an assistant professor of American Sign Language at the University of Tulsa and adjunct faculty at Tulsa Community College. Born to two Deaf parents, Cooper grew up a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults) in a family who were leaders and active participants in the Deaf community. In 2025, Cooper was a TEDx Editor's Pick for his TEDx Talk titled "Between Two Worlds: A CODA's Perspective." He is currently writing a book about the modern CODA experience.

The Indispensable Founder: George Washington

6 Sessions with Dede Petri
Mon, Jul 13, 20, 27, Aug 3, 10, 17
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



As America celebrates 250 years of independence, this course will examine the indispensable founder, George Washington. We will explore Washington's life and political leadership as well as his work as a farmer, entrepreneur, and architect. We will also review the groundbreaking work of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association (MVLA) which has owned and managed George Washington's Mount Vernon since 1858. In that year, an intrepid group of women (who had no right to vote or own property) came together to save George Washington's home, after both the federal government and Commonwealth of Virginia had refused to help. MVLA formation marked the birth of the historic preservation movement.



Anne "Dede" Neal Petri was elected the 24th Regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association (MVLA) in 2024. The MVLA, founded in 1858, is responsible for the management and preservation of George Washington's Mount Vernon. The MVLA mission is to educate the world about the leadership and character of George Washington in order to inspire future generations. Petri received her undergraduate degree in American history and literature from Harvard College and her law degree from Harvard Law School.

Women Architects and Designers

6 Sessions with Eleanor Schrader
Wed, Jul 15, 22, 29, Aug 5, 12, 19
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



Often overlooked in traditional design and architecture courses, 20th-century women designers profoundly shaped the way we perceive, experience, and enjoy our built environments, interiors, and decorative objects. In this course, we will explore the work and influence of such designers and architects as Elsie de Wolfe, Eileen Gray, Lilly Reich, Charlotte Perriand, Dorothy Draper, Ray Eames, Zaha Hadid, and others. Their lives and the beauty of their enduring designs are documented within the context of the social and political issues they faced, as they left their unmistakable imprints upon 20th-century design.



Eleanor Schrader is an award-winning educator, lecturer, and author. She lectures and leads tours worldwide on art and architectural history. She was named a distinguished instructor at UCLA Extension, where she teaches history of architecture, interior design, furniture, and decorative arts. She completed graduate work in fine and decorative arts at Sotheby's Institute in London and New York. She served as a design review commissioner for the city of Beverly Hills and serves on the John Lautner Foundation board of directors.

Hindu Traditions: Ritual, Knowledge, Devotion

6 Sessions with Eileen Goddard
Wed, Jul 15, 22, 29, Aug 5, 12, 19
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



In this course, we will gain a comprehensive introduction to Hindu traditions, emphasizing the importance of ritual, knowledge, and devotion across Hindu traditions from classical to contemporary times. We will introduce Hinduism's South Asian roots, that can be traced to the Vedic tradition, which provides key conceptual and religious foundations. We will consider early and classical expressions of Hindu thought and religious life through the complex term dharma. Major Hindu deities are then introduced alongside associated narratives, practices, and iconography. We will examine the six major schools of Hindu philosophy using both secondary and primary sources. We will then consider bhakti (devotion) that has characterized diverse Hindu traditions across centuries. Finally, we will consider sacred space and plac-



es including temples and tirthas, as well as the interrelationship of the concept of divine presence and pilgrimage practices that relate to these holy sites.

Eileen Goddard is a religious studies Ph.D. candidate at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Goddard lectures on Indian and Asian religious traditions at both UCSB and the University of Houston. Her research centers on the interrelationship of soteriology and embodiment in the sixteenth-century Gaudiya Vaishnava Ka tradition. She is a comparative scholar whose research also includes the Patañjala Yoga, Advaita Vedanta, Srivaiava, and Pañcaratra traditions, analyzing how emotion, desire, meditation, and ritual variously contribute towards ultimate realization of self and/or divine Other.

Broadway Musicals: A Fascinating History

6 Sessions with Emanuel Abramovitz
Tue, Jul 21, 28, Aug 4, 11, 18, 25
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00



Musicals have been a major part of American theater, from the Tin Pan Alley-driven comedies of the early twentieth century to the integrated musicals that flourished in the heyday years of midcentury America. In this course, we will explore book musicals, concept musicals, and the arrival of European mega-productions late in the century. We will

profile some of the theater world's leading composers, lyricists, writers, choreographers, directors, and performers. With the help of audiovisuals, we will study many of the most unforgettable shows including *Oklahoma!*, *My Fair Lady*, *Show Boat*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Hair*, *Cabaret*, *Rent*, *Wicked*, *Hamilton*, and more.

Emanuel Abramovits, MBA, is a mechanical engineer and has also been a concert promoter for over two decades. He is directly involved in events by international artists like Itzhak Perlman, Gustavo Dudamel, Sarah Brightman, Roger Hodgson, ASIA, Journey, Kenny G., and many more. Abramovits has designed and staged many original orchestral events, including an Event of the Year winner and several world premieres. He served as the cultural director at Union Israelita De Caracas from 2008 to 2019, releasing books and organizing film cycles, concerts, and art exhibits. He consistently teaches online and in-person across the US.



A History of Signs: How Signs Tell America's Story

6 Sessions with Erin Holland
Fri, Jul 24, 31, Aug 7, 14, 21, 28
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

WATCH CLASS

PREVIEW

Video



Explore 100 years of American history through objects often taken for granted in everyday life: signs. Led by the American Sign Museum (ASM) staff, this course introduces the Museum's origins and features a conversation with ASM's founder about why signs matter. We will examine how signs have evolved due to trends in commerce and technology. We will also explore case studies of three major food companies who used signage to shape their brands. In the final session, we will take a virtual visit to ASM's neon shop to see how a neon sign is made.



Protecting Yourself as a Patient

6 Sessions with Hardeep Singh
Tue, Jul 21, 28, Aug 4, 11, 18, 25
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Max: 13 Fee: \$55.00

WATCH CLASS

PREVIEW

Video



This course will arm us with the knowledge we need to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe when engaging in the healthcare system. Healthcare today is more complex, technical, and volatile than ever. Medical harm (unintentional but often preventable) injures and kills hundreds of thousands of patients each year. In this course, we will learn how to prevent the most common types of medical harm including medication errors, patient care accidents, procedural and surgical complications, infections, and diagnostic mistakes. Patient safety experts and advocates will provide us with practical tips and insights to navigate the healthcare system confidently and safely. Through presentations, videos, and group discussions, we will come to understand the common sources of error and discover tactics, resources, and cautions to help protect ourselves and our loved ones.



Hardeep Singh, M.D., is a professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and a leader in quality and safety research focused on reducing diagnostic errors, improving health information technology, and transforming health care systems. His work has informed major patient-safety initiatives and policy reports from organizations including the National Academy of Medicine, CDC, OECD, and WHO. He has received prestigious awards for his pioneering work, including the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers and John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award for Individual Lifetime Achievement.



Join OLLI at Old Mountain Lanes in Wakefield on Wednesdays, at 12:30PM.
 \$3 per game/\$1.00 shoe rental
 Facilitator: Peter Stetson

LET'S PLAY MAH JONGG

MEETS THURSDAYS AT 1:00PM IN THE LOBBY

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

A few days after your class ends you will receive an email feedback survey. We encourage you to take a few minutes and share your thoughts with us. You can also email or call us any time to share your opinions – good or bad! There are also paper copies of the survey located in the classrooms for your convenience. We need to hear from you so we can continue to offer high-quality programs.

PLEASE SUPPORT RHODY OUTPOST

RHODY OUTPOST PANTRY

DONATE


Rhody Outpost is URI's principal basic needs pantry for students experiencing food insecurity. The Outpost provides fresh and non-perishable food and personal care items at no charge to students.

Donations can be dropped off in the OLLI office.

EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!

MEETS IN THE LOBBY ON TUESDAYS AT 1:00PM

GAME ON



MOVIE GROUP

JOIN US ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 3:00PM TO DISCUSS
THE LATEST MOVIES AVAILABLE IN THEATERS OR STREAMING. AND ON
OCCASION, WE MAY VIEW A FILM ON SITE.

MOVIE SELECTIONS
AVAILABLE ON OUR
WEBSITE: URI.EDU/OLLI



OLLI SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

PHOTO FRIDAY GROUP

MEETS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH ON ZOOM
CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR MONTHLY THEME - URI.EDU/OLLI



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OLLI MEMBER BENEFIT

URI Campus Recreation offers OLLI members a special discount to access the Mackal Field House facilities!

A special day pass rate of \$5 (regularly \$10) is available to OLLI members. This access includes use of the track, cardio room, weight room, and even the basketball courts. It's a great place to stay active or go for a walk on cold winter days.

To utilize this benefit and receive the discount, OLLI Members must request an OLLI membership card from the OLLI office. The card must be presented each time you visit the Mackal Field House. Limited parking with your OLLI parking pass is available near the field house.

Stay warm & stay fit by taking advantage of this OLLI benefit!

**STOP IN THE OFFICE
TO GET YOUR CARD TODAY!**



→ **HANDICAPPED PARKING IS AVAILABLE OFF**

WEST ALUMNI AVENUE

**Drive past the Ryan Center (on your right)
and turn left right before Brookside dorm.**

**Parking is FREE for OLLI members, but Registration is required.
ALL PARKING PERMITS EXPIRE JULY 31.
Renew online or call 401-874-4197.**

You only need to register your vehicle once during the academic year (August-July). Parking permits are virtual and no stickers are provided.

If you do not register your vehicle, you risk a \$50 ticket.

Only one vehicle per member may be registered. If you bring a different vehicle to campus or your license plate number changes, you will need to log into your parking account and update the vehicle information prior to parking your car. Call the office for assistance at 401-874-4197.

Parking permit is only valid for:

- Lot #25 - Plains Road Lot
- Lot #6 - Fine Arts Center
- Maps are located in the office.

OLLI

Special Interest Groups & OLLI Extras

OLLI Special Interest Groups are member-led discussion and activity groups that meet regularly and offer new and enriching opportunities for lifelong learning as well as social experiences. They are FREE and exclusively for OLLI members. Full descriptions and meeting dates and times are available online. Registration is required. URI.EDU/OLLI

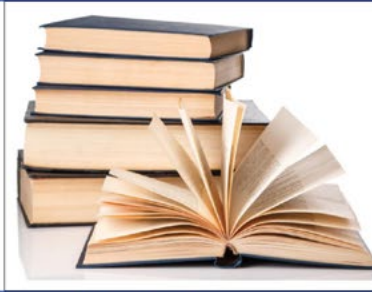
Biking



Writers



Book



Movie



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Current Events



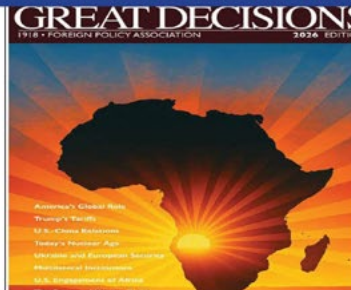
Game On!



Photo Friday



Great Decisions



Lunch and Learn



Rhody Ramblers



**All SIGS expire June 30.
New session begins July 7. Please renew online: URI.EDU/OLLI**

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Learn Connect Enjoy



Contemporary Theater Company | here to play



CONTEMPORARY THEATER IN WAKEFIELD July 29, at 7:00 PM

Join fellow OLLI members for a special performance of *Love's Labour's Lost* by William Shakespeare at the Contemporary Theater in Wakefield on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Shakespeare on the Saugatucket is being held this summer in the gardens under the stars. In *Love's Labour's Lost*, the King of Navarre and his friends forswear all romance—until the Princess of France arrives and turns their plans upside down. Full of witty wordplay, disguises, and laughter, this comedy sparkles on the Contemporary Theater's beautiful riverfront patio. Come early to enjoy a cocktail with friends and stay after to gain further insights

about the bard and this play from the director of this performance.

Register online with OLLI to get your special discount code and then purchase your tickets by going directly at the theater's website: contemporarytheatercompany.com/season. Click on the performance "Shakespeare on the Saugatucket." Once you choose the correct date (July 29) you will have the opportunity to enter our special code which affords you a special 20% discount (on tickets in the \$25 to \$45 range). By choosing to use our code you will also be given the opportunity to sit together as a group for this special performance. Registration with this special code closes Sunday, July 26.

GAZEBO SUMMER CONCERT IN NARRAGANSETT

Friday, August 21, from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Enjoy an oceanfront evening of live music with OLLI friends at the Narragansett Gazebo, located in the park across from the sea wall. Bring a chair and snacks to share as you relax in the summer breeze. The band "Bar Fly" performs Friday, August 21, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Arrive early and look for the OLLI flag! Join us to connect with fellow OLLI music lovers.

No registration required.

TRAVEL

with **OLLI**

Travel and explore the world with OLLI friends. Enjoy domestic and international tours for new and exciting lifelong learning experiences. Plan ahead and follow your dreams!
In partnership with Collette Tours, we're opening the door to journeys that are enriching, engaging, and built around the interests of our community.

2026/2027 TRIPS

NASHVILLE & THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS HOLIDAY

Nov 28 – Dec 5, 2026, 8 days

PORTUGAL'S OLD-WORLD CHARMS
featuring Douro Valley, Alentejo & Lisbon
Apr 25 – May 5, 2027, 11 days

HAWAIIAN ADVENTURE
featuring three Islands:
O'ahu, the Big Island, and Maui
Feb 21 – Mar 2, 2027, 10 days

SCOTLAND DISCOVERY
Jun 12 – 21, 2027, 10 days

DISCOVER THE HIGHLIGHTS OF NORWAY
Aug 29 – Sep 6, 2027, 9 days

COLORADO ROCKIES
Sep 17 – 25, 2027, 9 days

EXPLORE NORTHERN ITALY
Oct 21 – 29, 2027, 9 days

SPECIAL TRAVEL PRESENTATION at OLLI

Scotland and Norway
Tue, Aug 25, 3:00 PM

Visit our website for information on
OLLI travel: URI.EDU/OLLI



collette

(800) 581-8942
groupsservices@collette.com



MAKE A GIFT TO OLLI

Did you know that membership and course fees have remained the same for the past eleven years thanks to the generosity of our members?

Consider making a gift to OLLI today!



Scan to donate!

WWW.URI.EDU



What's the PERFECT GIFT for any occasion?



An OLLI Gift Certificate, of course!
You can purchase eGift Cards year-round, and they are available at any value. [Purchase online](#) or call the OLLI office at 401-874-4197.



We are so happy to see so many members stopping by the lobby to socialize before classes start. We continue to accept donations of ground coffee, coffee pods and cash. Thank you for your support!

WHY I TEACH FOR OLLI



Kara Marziali

"It is such a gift to find a community where my passion and my purpose align so perfectly!"

Teaching is a masterclass in connection. Being an OLLI instructor allows me to share my passion for theater, dramatic literature, and art with a community of mature, engaged learners who—like me—are driven by curiosity and creativity. There is a profound satisfaction in this work, and I've found that I often get back even more than I give.

We all have a story to tell, and for me, teaching is about the joy of sharing those stories. OLLI is a special place that honors those narratives. I encourage anyone with a spark of knowledge to offer a class; there is no greater joy than seeing lifelong learning in action!

OLLI faculty and presenters are members of the community who are excited about teaching and involving an enthusiastic group of learners in a new way. Some of our OLLI instructors are current or retired high school or college faculty, while others are people who enjoy the opportunity to share their interests and knowledge. As a member-driven program, we encourage you to consider the valuable contribution you can make outside of your role as a student. We invite you to share your knowledge, passions, and interests with other OLLI students by teaching a course for us!

TEACH
for
OLLI

If you have questions regarding a topic or format, please contact Beth Desrosiers, at 401-874-4619 or email beth_desrosiers@uri.edu.

Winter 2027 course proposals are due August 4. [URI.EDU/OLLI](https://uri.edu/olli)



Age-friendly
University
Global Network

THE AGE-FRIENDLY VISION FOR URI

The University of Rhode Island became a member of the Age-Friendly Global Network in 2018. The AFU effort has depended greatly on the contributions of many OLLI members, including those who serve on our work group, attend intergenerational classes, and participate in special projects and pro-grams. OLLI is a critically important part of what the AFU vision and mission represent at URI, and we look forward to continuing to work with OLLI members as we move forward to make URI more age-friendly!

Background

Every day in the US until the year 2028, 10,000 people will turn 65. By 2024, 20% of the US population will be 65+; and by 2034, older adults will outnumber children for the first time in US history. How should higher educational institutions respond to this demographic change and the challenges it creates? The Age Friendly University (AFU) movement was initiated in 2012 at Dublin City University in Ireland, inspired by a vision of how to make universities more globally responsive to the needs and interests of older adults. At present, over 45 universities in the US are members, and the mission is supported by the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education. URI became an AFU in 2018, in the belief that higher educational institutions must be transformed in ways that recognize the unprecedented impacts of aging on all aspects of society.

AFUs are not just age-friendly, but they are aging-friendly. They embrace the educational needs of adults as they age through the life course, changing jobs and preparing for new careers and occupations. However, education is more than just getting the knowledge and skills necessary for the workplace. It also includes how one spends one's time and energy on other important life pursuits, such as family, health, leisure, civic engagement, and spirituality.

Current Projects and Activities

The AFU workgroup at URI is presently focusing on the following initiatives: (1) creating Intergenerational programs, such as Cyberseniors, and classes with both URI students and older adults, (2) increasing access by older adults to regular URI courses, (3) developing a retirement community on or near the URI campus that could also serve as the home for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), (4) creating a retired faculty and staff association, and (5) expanding research involving older adults, particularly with regard to health and wellbeing.

OLLI and the AFU Vision and Mission

The AFU effort has depended greatly on the contributions of many OLLI members, including those who serve on our work group, attend intergenerational classes, and participate in special projects and programs. OLLI is a critically important part of what the AFU vision and mission represent at URI, and we look forward to continuing to work with OLLI members as we move forward to make URI more age-friendly!

10 AFU PRINCIPLES

AFU institutions endorse ten principles that provide an ongoing evaluation of efforts to make the University an open and welcoming community for adults of all ages. The principles are not a set of absolute criteria that must be met; rather, they are a set of standards to identify gaps and opportunities for growth.

The ten principles are:

(1) encourage participation of older adults in all core activities of the university,

(2) promote personal and career development,

(3) recognize the range of their educational needs,

(4) promote intergenerational learning for reciprocal sharing of expertise,

(5) widen access to online educational opportunities,

(6) ensure the research agenda is informed by the needs of an aging society,

(7) increase student understanding of the complexity and richness that aging brings to society,

(8) enhance access to a range of health and wellness programs and arts and cultural activities,

(9) engage actively with the university's own retired community, and

(10) ensure dialogue with organizations representing interests of aging population.

OLLI *Book Clubs*

May 15 – *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson

June 12 – *The Emperor of Gladness*
by Ocean Vuong

Meets one week early due to June 19th holiday.

July 17 – *The Marriage Portrait*
by Maggie O'Farrell

August 21 – *Happy Land*
by Dolen Perkins-Valdez

September 18- *The Price of Democracy*
by Vanessa Williamson

October 16 – *The Alchemist*
by Paulo Coelho

November 20 – *Migrations*
by Charlotte McConaghy

December 18 – *The Land and its People*
by David Sedaris

Third Friday of the month from 1:00PM-2:30PM
Downstairs Conference Room



Register online (URI.EDU/OLLI) or call 401.874.4197.

CRIBBAGE AT OLLI

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Meets in the lobby on Wednesdays at 2:00PM.
Register online: URI.EDU/OLLI

JOIN OLLI'S BIKING GROUP



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

MEETS WEEKLY ON TUESDAYS

REGISTER ONLINE: URI.EDU/OLLI



CURRENT EVENTS GROUP

Meets bi-weekly on Thursdays
at 11:00AM

REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL 401.874.4197

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Teach for OLLI

At the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at URI, learning isn't about grades or degrees—it's about curiosity, connection, and the joy of discovery. With a vibrant community of nearly 1,800 engaged members, OLLI offers a unique opportunity for URI instructors to share their expertise with motivated adult learners who are eager to explore new ideas.

We offer four semesters of enriching courses across subjects such as: History, English & Literature, Science & Technology, Languages...and more.

Why Teach with OLLI?

- Teach without grading or exams
- Engage with enthusiastic, discussion-driven learners
- Explore topics you're passionate about
- Be part of a welcoming, intellectually curious community



THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
OSHER LIFELONG
LEARNING INSTITUTE

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LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE



Scan for Course Proposal Form

 [URI.EDU/OLLI](https://uri.edu/olli)

 210 FLAGG RD., KINGSTON, RI 02881

Contact Us :

401.874.4197





OLLI AT URI MEMBERSHIP FORM

210 FLAGG ROAD, ROOM 212, KINGSTON, RI 02881

401-874-4197 OLLI@URI.EDU

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION (Please use one form per person)

NEW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE: _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Seasonal Address _____ Begin Date _____ End Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Secondary Phone _____

Date of Birth _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact _____ Relation: _____ Phone _____

MEMBER PROFILE

The following information is used to help us better understand our OLLI Membership as a community and to better serve you. This information is optional and confidential.

URI Alumni : No Yes Year _____ Gender : Male Female

Highest Level of Education: High School Some College Associates Degree /Certification

Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree Doctorate

Employment Status: Retired Work Full-Time Work Part-Time Not Currently Employed

Current/Former Occupation: _____

Referral: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Annual Membership Fee: \$65
(non-refundable)

Payment Method:

For Mail-in Registrations, we only accept checks

Check (Payable to URI)

If you are paying by credit card, please call the office at 401-874-4197 or register online:

PLEASE CHECK THAT YOU AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING POLICIES:

Refund Policy (see below)

Photos taken during OLLI events or programs can be used in promotion material for OLLI at URI.

OLLI and URI will not be held liable for members or guests for any damage or personal injury.

REFUND POLICY

Memberships are non-refundable.

To withdraw from a class and receive a full refund or credit, you must notify the OLLI office at least two weeks before the start of the class. Call the office at 401-874-4197 or email olli@uri.edu.

No- shows forfeit their course fees

Day trips and special tours are prepaid so there are **no refunds** for cancellation or withdrawal.

Classes that do not meet minimum student registration numbers are subject to cancellation

OLLI MAIL-IN REGISTRATION - SUMMER 2026

MONDAY

- Fast Fashion: A Historical Perspective (\$40)
- The Comeback Cat: Bobcat Recovery and Movement Across Rhode Island (\$15)
- The Urban Renewal History of Narragansett: A Story that Went Awry (\$35)
- Trust Your Gut! (\$15)
- Understanding AI for Safe and Secure Use (\$40)

TUESDAY

- Basic Astrodynamics of Lunar and Martian Missions (\$35)
- Keep Austen Weird: The Familiar and Unfamiliar Pleasures of Jane Austen's Novels (\$55)
- Monuments and Memorials in South Kingstown (\$15)
- New Ink: Success in Writing After Sixty (\$15)
- The Art Of The iPhone (\$40)
- The Constitution as Applied: Checks and Balances, Due Process (\$55)
- The Life and Times of Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, Mayor of Providence (\$35)
- The Pearl*: Hope, Destruction and the Human Condition (\$45)
- The Truth About Statins: Risks and Alternatives to Cholesterol-Lowering Drugs (\$15)

WEDNESDAY

- Beyond the Basics: A Hands-On AI Project Workshop (\$40)
- C.S. Lewis: *The Four Loves* (\$40)
- Exploring Dvorák's "American Quartet" with the Terra String Quartet (\$45)
- Five Weeks with the Rhode Island Mob: A Juror's Tale (\$15)
- How the Beatles Changed the World (\$15)
- Introduction to Flying Drones (\$15)
- Learn to Play Mah Jongg (\$40)
- Newport vs. the Pirate Wallace (\$15)
- The 1853 Rhode Island Train Wreck (\$15)
- The Evolution of Drug Discovery (\$50)
- The Importance of Being Earnest: A Trivial Comedy for Serious People (\$55)
- Was Rhode Island Independent Prior to the Declaration of Independence? (\$15)

THURSDAY

- A History of Shellfisheries (\$15)
- Active Listening: Skills for Effective and Compassionate Communication
- Declaration of Independence: Not Just Jefferson (\$15)
- Food, Housing, Health, and Hope: A Local History of Care (\$15)

- From Liberty to Legacy: Exploring American Ideals in the Musicals 1776 and Hamilton (\$15)
- Instant Laughter: Cooperative Games for Family and Friends (\$35)
- Mindful Movement (\$45)
- Toxic Minerals and Dangerous Collecting Sites (\$15)

FRIDAY

- CSI@URI: Inside the RI State Crime Laboratory (\$15)
- From Curiosity to Climate: Teaching Science Through Children's TV (\$15)
- RI's Geologic History (\$45)
- Science Fiction Summer Fun (\$55)

GREAT DECISIONS-FREE

Great Decisions-Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order

Thursday, 3:00PM

Friday, 10:00AM

Great Decisions-U.S. Engagement of Africa

Thursday, 3:00PM

Friday, 10:00AM

TOURS AND TRIPS

- Edesia: Rhode Island's Big Impact on Global Child Malnutrition (\$15)
- Hollow Ridge Vineyards (\$15)
- Paine House Museum Tour (\$15)
- Rhode Island Lighthouse Cruise (\$42)
- Strolling Through History (\$20)

ZOOM CLASSES

- Encore Career Blueprint: Reinventing Work & Purpose (\$35)
- Western Gunslingers: The Truth Behind the Westerns (\$50)

DARTMOUTH SUMMER LECTURE SERIES (ONLINE) \$20

- What Can the Declaration of Independence Teach Us About Artificial Intelligence? (Session 1)
- Can AI Think Like a Doctor? (Session 2)
- AI: Too Artificial? Too Intelligent? Too Much Energy? (Session 3)
- What Will Be the Economic Impacts of AI? (Session 4)
- Is AI Leading Us Toward a More Dangerous World Disorder? (Session 5)
- How Can We Build Human Morality Into AI? (Session 6)

OLLI MAIL-IN REGISTRATION - SUMMER 2026

OSHER ONLINE (\$55)

- A History of Signs: How Signs Tell America's Story
- Broadway Musicals: A Fascinating History
- Canals and the Making of the Modern World
- Deaf Culture And History
- Discovering Portugal
- Endless Grounds: Coffee's Social, Economic, and Cultural Life
- Horticulture A-Z
- Hindu Traditions: Ritual, Knowledge, Devotion
- Protecting Yourself as a Patient
- Revolutionary Echoes in Washington DC
- The Indispensable Founder: George Washington
- Threads of History: Exploring the World of Oriental Rugs
- Women Architects and Designers

LUNCH AND LEARN

- Planning for the Unexpected: Estate Planning Tools to Help Protect You and Your Family

OLLI SERVES

- Rhode Island Community Food Bank

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Friday |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bowling | <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner Mah Jongg |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cribbage | <input type="checkbox"/> Mah Jongg |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creativity and Play | <input type="checkbox"/> Movie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Writers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Game On! | |

OLLI EVENTS

- Shakespeare on the Saugatucket- Contemporary Theatre

SUMMER 2026 REGISTRATION *For mail-in registrations we only accept payments by check.*

Name: _____

Total # Classes	_____	Class Total	\$_____
Renewal Fee	\$ _____	Credits to Apply	\$_____
Total Due	\$_____		

If you think you may have credits to apply, please call the office to confirm before writing your check.

Payment Method:

- Check (Payable to URI) # _____

If you are paying by credit card, please call the office at 401-874-4197 or register online URIOLLI.AUGU-SOFT.NET

OFFICE USE:

Date Rcv: _____
 Date Processed: _____
 Initials: _____

MEMBERSHIP:

- CURRENT NEW RENEWAL

MEET OUR INTERNS

We are excited to welcome Olivia and Isabella to OLLI this summer!



Olivia Hesseltine

Olivia Hesseltine is a second-year graduate student in Communication Disorders with a focus in Speech-Language Pathology. Originally from Durham, Connecticut, Olivia is passionate about becoming a skilled and compassionate clinician. She is dedicated to building meaningful connections with her clients and providing effective, individualized care. Olivia is particularly interested in exploring a variety of clinical settings, including medical environments, private practices, and schools, to gain a well-rounded understanding of the field. She also hopes to travel internationally to learn from diverse cultures, enhancing her ability to approach each client from a holistic and culturally informed perspective.



Isabella Luisi

Hello! My name is Isabella Luisi and I am from Coventry, RI. I will be a junior in the fall here at URI. I am a clinical neuroscience major with a minor in chemistry (possibly adding a minor in psychology as well). My current interests include neuropsychology, neurodegenerative disease research, and the diagnosis and treatment of developmental disorders. After graduating from URI, I plan on attending graduate school for my Master's and possibly going for my PhD after that. I am excited to be working here this summer!