Winter 2019
Course Catalog
January 22 - March 14, 2019

WEBSITE: portfolio.du.edu/ollieeast

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Denver
Mission Statement

OLLI, a member-volunteer organization, offers non-credit academic classes and stimulating programs, along with social opportunities for retired and semi-retired men and women. Members use their talents, experiences, and skills creatively in shared intellectual and cultural pursuits. We strive to respect diversity of thought in a relaxed, supportive academic environment, exploring new interests, discovering and developing latent abilities, and contributing to the immediate and broader communities.

About the Osher Foundation

Thanks to the generosity of the Bernard Osher Foundation, the network of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes across the United States is meeting the needs of older learners who want to participate simply for the joy of learning and personal fulfillment. To date there are more than 117 OLLI programs in the United States from Maine to Hawaii and Alaska.

Welcome to OLLI East at DU...

Where curiosity never retires.
Dear Friends,

Welcome to our growing OLLI East campus, based at the Mississippi Avenue Baptist Church in Aurora. Winter is our third term at this wonderful location; if you haven’t previously participated, please do join us.

Weekly two-hour classes (with 15-minute coffee breaks) take place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and afternoons, and also on Thursday mornings. Our 8-week winter term begins **Tuesday, Jan. 22** and ends **Thursday, March 14**.

OLLI brings together mature adults with a passion for continued learning and intellectual growth in a relaxed, non-competitive atmosphere to study and learn. With your $130 membership fee, you may enroll in as many classes as you’d like at OLLI East and at our other OLLI at DU sites through the Denver metro area and Boulder, on a space-available basis. We hope you find several classes interesting and plan to join us for up to eight weeks of learning, discussion and fun!

The full list of OLLI East classes can be accessed, in addition to this catalog, at our OLLI East website at www.portfolio.du.edu/ollieast. We encourage online registration by clicking on the REGISTER button on the home page of the website or from the Winter Classes & Syllabi page. Visiting the website gives you the advantage of viewing classes at all six OLLI sites — East, Central, West, South, OLLI-on-Campus and our brand new OLLI Boulder — by clicking on each of these links.

Those who lead our classes are volunteer facilitators with experience in a particular subject or a deep passion for that subject. You may note that some of them have designations of Senior or Master after their names, which denotes their having facilitated at least 10 or 15 classes, respectively, for OLLI at DU.

All OLLI East classes must have a minimum number of enrolled based on facilitator requirements, so if that minimum isn’t reached within one week of starting classes, the class will be cancelled entirely. Please do not purchase recommended course books until the week before class begins; we cannot refund book purchases if a course has been cancelled. Membership fees will be refunded if a class does not make minimum enrollment and no other classes are requested.

We look forward to OLLI East expansion, with additional courses, and we sincerely appreciate your support and commitment! Please share this catalog with friends and neighbors who may want to participate in OLLI.

If you have questions or want additional information, call (303) 300-9940, or email Paul at ollidueast@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Paul Simon
OLLI East Manager
Membership Fee Information

**Fees:** $130 per term for unlimited classes

**MEMBERSHIP FEE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS:**
- Participation in classes at Central, West, South, East, OLLI-on-Campus, & Boulder. Enrollment in classes is limited based on classroom size and facilitator preferences.
- Special member price for The Summer Seminars of OLLI.
- Notice of un-advertised DU events. Many are at no cost.
- Invitations to annual social events.
- Discounts from Tattered Cover on books for courses.

**LAMONT SCHOOL OF MUSIC:** All OLLI members get the senior/group rate for Ode to Nature or the Spring Opera.

**UNIVERSITY OF DENVER LIBRARY:** (Anderson Academic Commons) borrowing privileges. See www.portfolio.edu.edu/olli for details.

**ENRICHMENT PROGRAM:** Our sister organization offers classes at the University of Denver. The classes are led by professors and staff and are held during the evening hours. OLLI at DU members enjoy a 20% discount on most enrichment courses when they register with the code OLLIW19. To review the course offerings, please go to http://universitycollege.du.edu/enrichment or visit the 2211 South Josephine Street office and pick up a catalog in the front reception area. Some exclusions do apply.

**DU ATHLETICS:** Purchase one full-price ticket and get one free ticket to any men’s or women’s basketball game, based on availability.

**COORS FITNESS CENTER:** $25 per month membership for 12 months. Sign up only during fall term. Ruth Brown, Associate Director of Recreation, 2201 E. Asbury Avenue, Room 4515, Denver, CO 80208, 303-871-4694, rbrown8@du.edu. Check with OLLI before heading to the Coors Center.

**OLLI POLICY STATEMENT**
In the spirit of fostering understanding, all OLLI members are encouraged to share opinions and ideas. OLLI class participants do not attempt to “convert” others because there is a mutual respect for each member’s experiences, ideas, value systems and beliefs. The true focus of an OLLI class is the critical examination of issues and opinions. All participants’ points of view carry equal weight. Consensus is not the goal. We encourage participants with all points of view to attend and become engaged through discussion and civil debate.

**REFUND POLICY**
Per term: Full refund of $130 if requested no later than 10 days into the term. Please contact Paul Simon at ollidueast@gmail.com to request a refund. There will be no refunds for materials fees unless a class is canceled.
WorldView 2018-2019: China

Each academic year OLLI at DU seeks to provide internationally-focused classes with specific emphasis on one country for that year. This year, OLLI at DU’s focus is China.

Throughout the year each site may have classes that will highlight this intriguing country.

If you have Chinese connections or would like to facilitate a course or presentation on China, please share such with your site manager or curriculum committee. The names of the site administrative staff and curriculum committee members can be found at the back of this publication.
## Public Affairs/History/Economics

- **A Bit about the Chinese Dynasties**
  - Instructor: Barbe Ratcliffe

- **Current Events**
  - Instructor: John Rough

- **The Great Debate: Advocates and Opponents of the U.S. Constitution**
  - Instructor: Lattina Adams

- **Great Decisions**
  - Instructor: Diane Rich

- **Great Generals & Admirals of World War II**
  - Instructors: Tom Berry/Fred Woll/Bix Bicknell

- **Harry Truman: Man of the People**
  - Instructor: Jim Bernuth

- **How Markets Fail**
  - Instructor: Mike Walsh

- **Pilgrimages**
  - Instructor: Chris Petty

- **TED Talks**
  - Instructor: Jerry Mercure

- **Ten Years that Shook the World: The Russian Civil War**
  - Instructor: Wayne Cassell

## Literature & Writing

- **Franz Kafka: Selected Short Stories**
  - Instructor: F. Kelly Smith

## Philosophy, Spirituality & Culture

- **Social Ethics: Morality and Social Policy**
  - Instructor: Richard Passoth

- **Racism in America**
  - Instructor: Janet Kester

## Science & Technology

- **Earth’s Climate: Past, Present & Future: Concerns & Solutions**
  - Instructor: Paul Belanger

- **Math for MathPhobics and Others**
  - Instructor: Marty Caplan

- **Solar Systems**
  - Instructor: David Shander

- **Weather for Everyone**
  - Instructor: Tom Corona

## Visual and Performing Arts

- **American Music Masters**
  - Instructor: Steve Weston

- **The Indefinable George Gershwin**
  - Instructor: Barbara Thorngren

- **‘60s Music: The Songs and the Times**
  - Instructors: J. McKeown/P. Simon/G. Gravlee

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Please register online at [www.portfolio.du.edu/ollieast](http://www.portfolio.du.edu/ollieast)
# Weekly Calendar for the 2019 Winter Term at OLLI East

Classes begin Tuesday, January 22 and end Thursday, March 14. Morning classes: 9:30-11:30 a.m. and afternoon classes: 1:00-3:00 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

## Tuesday A.M.
- Current Events
- Great Generals and Admirals of World War II
- Social Ethics: Morality and Social Policy
- Understanding a Bit about Imperial China, 7 wks, Jan 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar 5

## Wednesday A.M.
- American Music Masters, **Note:** 2-1/2 hours, 9:30 - Noon
- Great Decisions
- Harry Truman: Man of the People
- Weather for Everyone

## Thursday A.M.
- The Great Debate: Advocates and Opponents of the American Constitution
- The Indefinable George Gershwin
- Solar Systems
- TED Talks with Lively Discussion

## Tuesday P.M.
- How Markets Fail
- ’60s Music: The Songs and the Times *
- Pilgrimages, 6 wks, Jan 22, 29, Feb 5, 19, 26, Mar 5
- Ten Years That Shook the World: The Russian Civil War

## Wednesday P.M.
- Earth’s Climate: Past, Present and Future; Concerns and Solutions
- Franz Kafka – Selected Stories
- Math for Mathphobics and Others
- Racism in America

## Thursday P.M.
- No Classes

* Unlimited class size
** Date may change depending upon availability of course enrollees
Current Events

Facilitator: John Rough

We’ll begin each class with an hour-long “Week in Review” segment, discussing current topics in the news. After the break we will focus on one discussion topic. For the first week’s after-break topic the facilitator will email an outline of the topic to participants a week in advance. For subsequent classes, an outline of relevant aspects of the next week’s after-break topic will be distributed at the end of each class. Readings pertinent to this topic will be emailed to class members on Thursdays prior to our Tuesday class.

The readings will come from The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, The Atlantic, The New Yorker and other reliable sources. Class members who have additional resources or references on the topic are encouraged to email them to the facilitator for distribution to the class.

Class members are encouraged to present on a topic of their choosing during the first hour or on an aspect of the chosen topic during the second hour.

Reading the articles, considering the outlines, giving presentations and class participation are essential to a successful class.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: Discussion
Class Size: 8+
Materials Fee: None

John Rough is a graduate of American University in Washington, D.C. and spent his early career in journalism, moved to manufacturing/distribution operations and finally ended up in information technology. He has managed manufacturing operations and global IT organizations for large corporations as well as start-ups and turnarounds. John’s industry experience includes telecom, high precision optical products, consumer electronics, industrial products, building products and various other consumer products.
Tuesday 9:30 - 11:30

Great Generals and Admirals of World War II

Facilitators: Bix Bicknell, Master Facilitator, Tom Berry, Fred Woll

The political leaders of the 1930s and 1940s had great influence on the events leading to the causes of World War II and the alliances during the war. However, the military leaders had greater effect on the outcome of war itself.

Each session of this course will feature different military leaders of both the Allies and the Axis to examine their unique effect on their campaigns and the outcome of war. Some discussion of the context in which their campaigns occurred and the lasting results from these campaigns will be encouraged. Recognition of the leadership and strategy of generals and admirals for both sides of the world conflict will be presented.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: DVDs/lecture/discussion
Class Size: 10+
Materials Fee: None

Bix Bicknell, Master Facilitator, was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a career as a U.S. Naval Officer before retirement. He is also a graduate of CU Law School.

Tom Berry has a strong interest in history with emphasis on the context in which events occurred. He is a retired faculty member of the Dental School at the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Fred Woll was a banker and loan officer before retirement.
Social Ethics: Morality and Social Policy

Facilitator: Richard Passoth

This will be a reading and discussion class. We will first review what is the social ethical process that goes beyond individual morality. We will read differing ethical positions on a variety of social issues and seek to reach our own ethical judgments and why. We will examine policies such as poverty, the drug war, health care, just war theory and others. Class members can also suggest other policies that we could discuss.

The goal is not always the “right” ethical judgment but being clear and honest about our own points of view that arrive at what has been called “reasonable and acceptable” positions.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: Discussion, reading
Class Size: 10-25
Materials Fee: None

Richard Passoth is a member of the OLLI Central Curriculum Committee. He is Chair of the subcommittee on Philosophy, Religion and Psychology. He has co-facilitated and led several OLLI classes. He has graduate degrees in theology and ethics and another in counseling psychology. He practiced as a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Denver for many years.
The time period of Imperial China spanned from 1600 BCE to 1912 CE, from the first Emperor, Ying Zheng to the last emperor of the Qing Dynasty...from the time of the Roman Republic to the beginning of World War I.

One course could not cover all of the events and significant happenings during this expansive time period. So we will be focused on this period from the perspective of the imperial subjects and foreign visitors including the daily lives of the courtesans, convicts, wives, widows, monks, merchants and military men.

This lens will provide a unique look at the diversity and dynamism of imperial China.

Each week we will experience two selected segments of the Great Courses DVD series by the same name. After each section there will be additional information as well as discussion as we relate to how the information provided may be reflected in current day China.

**Book/Materials:** No

**Class Type:** Lecture/Discussion

**Class Size:** 15+

**Materials Fee:** None

**Barbe Ratcliffe**, Master Facilitator, has a wide variety of interest and love of travel and a trip to China peaked her interest in the country and the people. With a combination of her interest in archeology and how individuals lived in the distant past and her joy in learning more about the various cultures of the world, Barbe has created a course, using a Great Courses DVD series, to bring the Dynasties of China to life. Barbe enjoys facilitating for the learning it brings as she prepares for the course and the insights many attendees bring to the class. Barbe is a Master Facilitator for OLLI at DU with her course offerings spanning mindfulness to history, and courses in between.
Adam Smith’s theory that “the invisible hand guides market performance” is a time-honored economic theory. There are beautiful formulas that prove this theory and many others which purportedly guide economic performance. *How Markets Fail* introduces us to reality based economics. The real world is messy and chaotic, and brings its mischief to bare on the performance of these theories and formulas. Reality intrudes.

This book introduces us to economists and behavioral scientists who have found important elements in the real world that interfere with the premise of these theories. These real-world intrusions into economic theories played a major part in the 2008 financial crisis. These intrusions are driven by human nature, which is ever present to disrupt theories worked out by economists. This book explores these flaws of human nature. It is packed with meaningful insights without the use of formulas and dense economic jargon.

The goal of this book and class is to introduce worthwhile new ways of understanding how human nature impacts the workings of the economy.

**Book/Materials:** *How Markets Fail: The Logic of Economic Calamities* by John Cassidy. Be sure to get a copy with a 2010 or later edition date.

**Class Type:** Discussion

**Class Size:** 15-35

**Materials Fee:** None

*Mike Walsh* is a Colorado native and a graduate of CU Boulder and Thunderbird School of Global Management in Phoenix, Arizona. He is a Senior Facilitator having done classes is history, political science, economics and law.
‘60s Music: The Songs and the Times

Facilitators: Paul Simon, Glenn Gravlee, Jim McKeown

Who doesn’t hear a few bars of a favorite song from “back then” and flash on favorite memories? This course will rediscover the music of the 1960s. We’ll listen to a variety of music each week and discuss the major movements and influences of this period, including sociologic and political factors that influenced some genres. We will learn more about the artists who performed these songs and the impetus for their music.

The first week will be devoted to shared experiences and an entertaining video review of ‘60s music. Each successive week will be devoted to a particular theme or two, with a singalong with live guitar accompaniment the final week. Although this course won’t have time to examine all major genres of ‘60s music, additional topics will be addressed in Part 2 in the Spring.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: Lecture and discussion
Class Size: Unlimited
Materials Fee: None

Paul Simon, a proud first-time grandparent, is a child of the ‘60s who is halfway adept at recognizing ‘60s songs by name and artist after a few bars -- particularly Simon & Garfunkel music. A longtime journalist (Associated Press, Denver Post), he has taught adjunct newswriting and reporting classes at the University of Denver and at the Denver Post. He joined the OLLI staff as Central manager in October 2015 and switched to OLLI East a year ago to help build a new campus to serve the lifelong learning needs of the Aurora and East Denver areas.

Jim McKeown is the owner of Fewer Worries for Seniors, LLC, which focuses on helping seniors with a variety of administrative tasks -- managing checkbooks, establishing budgets, tax help, coordinating meetings with legal financial and professionals and facilitating family gatherings. He previously was Vice President for Becket Family of Services in Orford, NH., a nonprofit focused on rehabilitation of male and female teenagers. He also was a quality assurance consultant for NH Technical College, Cooper and Leybrand Consultants, and New Hampshire Industries in Lebanon, N.H.

Glenn Gravlee is an Emeritus Professor of Anesthesiology at University of Colorado School of Medicine. Over a 40-year career, he worked clinically and taught at several other medical schools as well: Harvard, Wake Forest, MCP/Hahnemann (now Drexel), Ohio State. He retired in January 2018, and has enjoyed being a “pioneer” student at OLLI East. He notes he has plenty of teaching experience, but 1960s music as a subject is a first. He and his wife of 45 years, Joyce (another new OLLI student) have two children and six grandchildren.
Pilgrimages

Facilitator: Christine Petty  
6 weeks, Jan 22, 29, Feb 5, 19, 26, Mar 5  
Note: No class Feb 12 and Mar 12

*Pilgrimage* is often thought of as a Religious or Spiritual practice. But to some, it may simply be a journey to a place of historical or meaningful significance to that person. Per Phil Cousineau, Pilgrimage is the kind of journeying that marks the move from mindless to mindful and soulless to soulful travel. He believes that every traveler can transform any journey into pilgrimage with a commitment to finding something personally sacred along the road. In this class we will explore the Pilgrimage and look at some of the more famous and less famous Pilgrimages around the world.

**Book/Materials:** None  
**Class Type:** Lecture/discussion  
**Class Size:** 15-35  
**Materials Fee:** None

*Christine Petty* joined OLLI in 2014. She is a retired Family Physician and Health Insurance executive who now enjoys travel, especially trips that include hiking and long-distance walks and Pilgrimages. She enjoys learning about the history of places, finding spiritual places and meeting the people along the way.
The Russian Revolution changed the government of Russia. The Russian Civil War saved it. On 11 November, 1918 the guns fell silent on the Western Front. For Western Europe and America the fighting was over. But the end of The Great War did not end the fighting. In Eastern Europe and Asia, the years 1917-1926 brought revolution and civil war as a host of nationalistic, ethnic, and political interests fought for freedom, control, and sovereignty.

In Russia, the borderlands, and Asia millions died in warfare and millions more died due to famine and disease. Millions more were displaced as one tyrannical government was replaced by an equally totalitarian government. The repercussions of these events impact us to this day. The class starts with a brief history of the 1905 revolution and WW1 in western Russia. This is followed by a brief history of the 1917 revolution and then the war years ending in 1926.

**Book/Materials:**  *The Russian Civil War* by Evan Mawdsley (recommended)

**Class Type:** Lecture

**Class Size:** 10-25

**Materials Fee:** None

**Wayne Cassell** is a former U.S. Army armor officer during the mid to late ‘70s. During the 1980’s he was a tactical training consultant for the army before moving to Colorado and becoming a technical illustrator and graphics artist. An avid amateur military historian, he finds his knowledge is useful in his hobbies which include building historically accurate models and playing board and computer strategy wargames.
How one comes to love classical music has a lot to do with the influence of conductors and composers featured in this eight-week DVD and discussion course. From composers Charles Ives, George Gershwin and Samuel Barber, the conductors Sir Georg Solti and Erich Leinsdorf, and the music and commentary of Virgil Thomson, John Cage and Andre Previn, American music becomes enriched with its own lasting impressions of originality and sonic splendor.

This survey of DVD performance and discussion provides an inside experience into the American music scene with contributions from native composers and two central European conductors who shaped and molded American musical expression.

**Book/Materials:** Suggested reading

**Class Type:** Lecture and music

**Class Size:** Unlimited

**Materials Fee:** None

**Steve Weston, Master Facilitator, is a former newspaper writer, editor and photographer, television producer and classical music broadcaster. He has taught college level music appreciation classes, produced and broadcast his own music appreciation series for KACV-FM, Amarillo, TX, and is in his fifth year as an OLLI facilitator. He is an Episcopal clergyperson on the staff of the Church of St. Thomas, Denver.**
Great Decisions

Facilitator: Diane Rich

Great Decisions is a program of the Foreign Policy Association which is new each year. High quality educational materials are prepared and provided to discussion groups in cities and universities throughout the U.S.A. On each topic there will be a chapter describing the current issues around the selected topic and a video of background information and relevant interviews with world leaders and scholars.

The topics for 2019 include:
- Refugees and Global Migration
- The Middle East: Regional Disorder
- Nuclear negotiations: Back to the Future?
- The Rise of Populism in Europe
- Decoding U.S.-China Trade
- Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics
- The United State and Mexico: Partnership Tested
- State of the State Department and Diplomacy

Book/Materials: Annual Great Decisions Briefing Book, published by the Foreign Policy Association, $30 available for purchase from the class or the office. The first chapter will be forwarded by email.

Class Type: Discussion, video
Class Size: 10-25
Materials Fee: $30 for the Briefing book

Diane Rich has an M.A. in History from Xavier University. She is a retired secondary school history and social science teacher. She is also a paralegal and has experience as a lobbyist, campaign manager and legislative aide at the Colorado legislature. Diane has facilitated two previous OLLI classes.
Harry Truman left office in 1953 with a 22% approval rating in the polls but is ranked today by many historians as one of our most effective Presidents. Decisions he made in just his first two years as President launched the nuclear age and set the stage for the Cold War and global alliances that transformed the U.S. into a world power.

Topics to be discussed include the decision to use the atomic bomb, the Marshall Plan, the emergence of the European Union and NATO, the recognition of Israel, McCarthyism, and the Korean War. On the domestic front, Truman’s policies left lasting legacies on the civil rights movement, the progressive agenda, and our national political landscape. We’ll discuss Truman’s personal and political history to understand the motivations that influenced his policies as well as how these policies have influenced the last 70 years of world and U.S. history.

Finally, because of his compelling “common man” personal story and his iconic, come from behind 1948 political campaign, Harry Truman has acquired a man of the people reputation in our national mythology. We’ll explore the reasons for these changing views of the man and his presidency.

**Book/Materials:** No book will be used for the class. The facilitator will send out in advance of each class articles, web links to historical documents, and video links.

**Class Type:** Lecture/discussion

**Class Size:** 15-25

**Materials Fee:** None

**Jim Bernuth** worked in the non-profit sector for many years in a variety of management and leadership positions. Among the organizations he has served with are the Downtown Denver Partnership, Mercy Housing, Project PAVE, and the National MS Society. Since retiring, he has pursued his passion for lifelong learning through OLLI.
Weather for Everyone

Facilitator: Thomas Corona, Senior Facilitator

Do you ever wonder why the earth has weather? This class will explore this question as we cover the basic principles of meteorology and learn how the sun, earth, air, and water produce our seasons, weather, and climate.

Along the way we will explore such topics as wind, clouds, precipitation, weather systems, thunderstorms, lightning, hail, tornadoes, and hurricanes and the technologies used to observe and forecast these events. We will also keep an eye on the current weather and forecasts for Colorado.

Book/Materials: The Weather Book, by Jack Williams, 2nd or later edition or Essentials of Meteorology by C. Donald Ahrens.

Class Type: Lecture and discussion

Class Size: 15+

Materials Fee: None

Professor Thomas Corona, Senior Facilitator, has been a meteorologist for over 40 years. He attended Colorado State University, receiving a Masters Degree in Atmospheric Science. Tom taught meteorology courses at Metropolitan State College in Denver and also worked for the NOAA/PROFS program in developing the current AWIPS forecasting system. Tom, now retired, devotes his time to volunteering and music performance, writing, and production.
This course will examine Earth’s geologic climate history and the data and methods that were used to deduce that history. Climate is controlled by the sun and a combination of physical, orbital and chemical variations of the Earth and its atmosphere. Earth’s early climate had “snowball” Earth episodes followed by relatively “hot-house” earth climate for the past 600 million years. We will examine why Earth’s climate has slowly gotten colder in the past 65 million years to its present “ice-house” mode where we have been in a relatively “stable” 10,000 years of our present Inter-glacial. We will discuss why our human activities have changed our atmosphere and why they threaten this “stable” interglacial we’ve been in. The course is presented by a geologist who has a research background in past climates and recognizes that our climate is changing.

Climate change is one part of the sustainability issues to our way of life. We will look at solutions, particularly on energy and biochar as a means of reducing CO2 in the atmosphere.

**Book/Materials:** Strongly recommend to buy and read before class: *What We Know About Climate Change* by Kerry Emanuel, 2nd Edition 2012, An outline of the basic science of global warming and how current consensus has emerged. Easy read. Slides, links, and additional resources posted on the OLLI class link at http://www.denverclimatestudygroup.com/.

**Class Type:** Illustrated lectures/discussion. If there’s enough interest facilitator might be able to coordinate a field trip to National Ice Core Lab located at USGS in Lakewood.

**Class Size:** 15+
**Materials Fee:** None

**Paul Belanger, Ph.D.,** is a retired geologist who has first-hand research background in paleoclimate and paleoceanography using microfossils and stable isotope geochemistry. He has also worked in oil and gas exploration: Amoco, Arco and others. In 1995-1996 he was a research scientist of the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) to better understand past-climate influences in the Western Mediterranean. He is a graduate in geology, with a minor in oceanography from the University of Washington (BS) and Brown University (MS, Ph.D.); he was a National Research Council postdoctoral fellow with the USGS at Woods Hole, MA. In leading the Denver climate study group (see http://www.denverclimatestudygroup.com/) in talks and discussions on climate change, energy issues, and related socio-economic sustainability issues, he has acquired and shared a big-picture view of the present and future climate issues expected to occur.
Franz Kafka (1883-1924) lived in Prague as a German-speaking Jew who wrote short stories during the literary period generally known as Modernism. Few of his stories were published during his lifetime; most were burned. His most famous story, *Die Verwandlung (The Metamorphosis)* is a staple of high school and college literature courses. In that story and many others, the protagonist leads a detached life and faces absurd, insurmountable obstacles, the very model of an existential hero.

Though many think his stories are strange, even bleak, they are imbued with oddly good humor and immense sensibility. My goal in this course is to provide you a different lens through which to regard Kafka’s writing.

**Books/Materials:** Participants must obtain a copy of (Franz Kafka’s) *Complete Stories* (Shocken Books, Inc. © 1971). The book is no longer published but new and used paperback editions for little money are readily available at Amazon, Abebooks.com, and similar consolidators of third-party sellers.

**Class Type:** Intensive reading and all-inclusive discussions

**Class Size:** 10-20

**Materials Fee:** None

**F. Kelly Smith, Senior Facilitator,** received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Iowa, home of the Iowa Writers Workshop. Friends among the faculty and student body of the Workshop have influenced his tastes in fiction since 1965. Kelly has thus far facilitated 14 OLLI literature classes centered on short stories and novels.
Wednesday 1:00 - 3:00

Math for Mathphobics and Others

Facilitator: Marty Caplan

Are you someone who has always been a little bit fascinated with mathematics, but has never quite understood what it is all about? Or are you one of those people whose early experiences with mathematics have caused you to avoid the subject whenever possible? In either case, this may be the class for you. In this class, you will have the opportunity to explore a variety of topics in mathematics in a creative and intriguing way. The topics will include numbers, algebra, geometry, probability, statistics, and calculus. We will work together to solve some interesting problems, and hopefully you will gain an appreciation for the beauty of mathematics. Come prepared to learn together in a joyful and unthreatening way.

Books/Materials: A small calculator is desirable, but not required. Please bring paper and pencil to each class.

Class Type: Lecture/discussion/hands-on activities

Class Size: 15-25

Materials Fee: None

Marty Caplan has been involved in education for more than 50 years. He has been a math teacher and a school principal. He has taught at all levels from kindergarten through college. Since retiring from full-time work, he has done extensive teacher training, and he has helped several schools with their math programs. He has also taught several OLLI classes. His most recent activity has been training teachers and administrators in a girls’ school in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya.
Wednesday 1:00 - 3:00

Racism in America

Facilitator: Janet Kester

How is racism manifested in the United States? What is our part in it? What does systemic racism and hidden racism look like? What can we do about it?

We will discuss the history of racism in the United States (slavery, lynchings and the Civil Rights Movement) and take an in-depth look at the situation today including white privilege, hate and white supremacy, protests, disparities in healthcare, housing, education and more.

Through a combination of articles, videos and speakers, we will learn about varying perceptions of racism in America. After all, it is through our own experiences and perceptions that our reality and our opinions are formed. And our reality is our reality. Our neighbors’ reality is their reality. Different experiences have created wildly different opinions and conclusions about racism in our nation today. Let’s look at those conclusions and see how they were formed.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: Lecture/discussion/guest speakers
Class Size: 10-25
Materials Fee: None

While Janet Kester obtained degrees from the University of Florida and the University of Georgia in the 60s during the intense Civil Rights Movement, events led her to a lifelong passion for social justice in general and racism in particular. She is a retired special education teacher and has helped to facilitate classes for OLLI South in horticulture therapy, care giving, and immigration.
The Great Debate: Advocates and Opponents of the American Constitution

Facilitator: Lattina Adams

The course will follow the outline of The Great Courses – The Teaching Company course of the same name which has 12 (30-minute) lectures by Professor Thomas Prangle of the University of Texas at Austin. Each week, we will listen to either one or two of the lectures and discuss the content.

Charged with amending and improving the Articles of Confederation, the Founding Fathers looked not only to the successes and failures of great republics throughout history, but they used the Great Debate to weave an entirely new document, which stands today. What these men did in the sweltering summer of 1787 was incredibly improbable at the time.

The purpose of this course is not to highlight specific arguments over details of the U.S. Constitution, but rather to explore the rich debate itself between the two fundamentally conflicting visions of a healthy republic. Resolving this debate resulted in the creation of three branches of government and the Bill of Rights. We will learn which of the founding fathers were advocates and which were opponents of the new U.S. Constitution and why. We also will explore their positions and examine the fundamental political differences which were passionately debated and how the founding fathers engaged in the soul-searching compromise to give birth to the Great American Experiment that is the U.S. Constitution.

DU Portfolio will be used to store all handouts and other course materials and suggested readings so participants may access these online between classes.

Book/Materials: Facilitator will provide material and suggested readings through DU Portfolio.

Class Type: Lecture/discussion

Class Size: 10-25

Lattina Adams served in the U.S. Air Force from 1982-1990. She holds a BS in Accounting, a BS in Computer Information Systems, and an MS in Computer Information Systems. After the Air Force, she worked at the Colorado Office of the State Auditor and in other executive departments in auditing and other financial positions, as well as database administration and data analytics. She taught kindergarten through high school as a substitute teacher, and taught computer classes as adjunct faculty at DU and Regis University at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Since retirement, she enjoys theatre, travel, bicycling, walking — and loves OLLI classes. She became interested in The Federalist Papers about three years ago, and facilitated this class at OLLI West last year.
The Indefinable George Gershwin

Facilitator: Barbara Thorngren, Master Facilitator

Come along on a trip through the world of George Gershwin, extraordinary pianist, successful songwriter, composer for the concert stage, and controversial and sometimes enigmatic man. We'll learn about his life, his approach to composition, his collaboration with his brother, and his personality, but we will keep a focus on his music and listen to many of his tunes and stage works.

Be prepared to add your comments and to enjoy an excursion into the past.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: Lecture/discussion
Class Size: 15-25
Materials Fee: None

Barbara Thorngren, Master Facilitator, is a former teacher and school librarian who has facilitated OLLI classes on topics ranging from music of the Romantics to "Across the Arts in the 19th Century" for over ten years.
Astonishing discoveries have been made in the field of astronomy in recent years, some of which equal or exceed the revelations of Copernicus, Newton and Einstein. This course will review some of the discoveries about our solar system and the evidence of planets orbiting many if not most other stars. We will also discuss the prospects for life on other worlds and the chances of finding it.

**Book/Materials:** None  
**Class Type:** Lecture  
**Class Size:** 15-35  
**Materials Fee:** None

**Dr. David Shander** is a retired cardiologist and Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He practiced predominantly at Rose Medical Center for about 40 years. He has had an all-absorbing interest in the sciences since childhood and for the past 15 years has been a volunteer at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in the Space Odyssey exhibit. He has facilitated a number of classes for OLLI including this one on three previous occasions at OLLI Central.
TED Talks with Lively Discussion

Facilitator: Jerry Mercure

TED Talks is an international speaker’s forum providing a platform for “Ideas Worth Sharing” using the internet to reach the widest possible audience. Speakers are pre-screened and fact checked for quality control. Some of these ideas are particularly worth discussing toward increasing our understanding.

The facilitator has selected talks and subjects for the class that cover a broad range of issues. Two talks will be presented and discussed in each class.

Book/Materials: None
Class Type: Lecture, discussion
Class Size: Minimum of 10
Materials Fee: None

Jerry Mercure was an engineer with Texas Instruments, BDM, TRW and Northrop Grumman for 35 years where he designed, developed, integrated, tested, operated and maintained systems for military applications. At TI, he was part of the design team to develop one of the first commercial GPS receivers. He landed in Colorado in 1998 and enjoys biking, skiing, OLLI classes, and the Asian Art Association. Email: jmercure@comcast.net
OLLI East Curriculum Committee

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**Science, Research, Technology**
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Committee Members: Shelly McHugh

**Religion, Psychology, Philosophy, Social Science**
Chairperson (acting): Ron Goodwin, goodwin0822@msn.com
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**Visual and Performing Arts**
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Who Are the Facilitators?

They are people….just like you!

At the heart of OLLI are our facilitators and curriculum. OLLI is successful because every term we have an intriguing curriculum and a “faculty” of dedicated people volunteering their time to make it happen.

The majority of OLLI facilitators have never taught a class in their lives. They all find many different ways to organize a class based on the topic and their style – some prepare discussion questions from the text they have chosen; some prefer using lecture tapes and building a discussion around them; others have members of the class give reports; and many invite guest lecturers.

How can you find out about becoming a facilitator?
It is quite easy. Begin by simply indicating your interest to anyone on the Curriculum Committee or Paul Simon. They will be delighted to answer your questions and offer suggestions.
For information about classes at each OLLI site:

**OLLI at DU**
https://universitycollege.du.edu/olli

**OLLI Boulder**
Susan Mears
https://portfolio.du.edu/olliboulder

**OLLI Central**
John Baumgartner
https://portfolio.du.edu/olli

**OLLI East**
Paul Simon
https://portfolio.du.edu/ollieast

**OLLI-on-Campus**
Joanne Ihrig
https://portfolio.du.edu/ollioncampus

**OLLI South**
Connie Dawson
https://portfolio.du.edu/ollisouth

**OLLI West**
Susan Schmetzer
https://portfolio.du.edu/olliewest