Online Registration Arrives for Winter Term!

OLLI Central Members can select their classes online for the first time for the Winter Term!

Online registration has arrived after thorough preparation designed to make the process as simple and easy as possible.

OLLI South registered online for the Fall Term and praised the process as clear and straightforward. It also reduced manual errors and saved the staff countless hours having to input registration information into the system. Here is what OLLI South members reported:

“AWESOME. No glitches, fast, efficient, even asks for class assistants!”

“Easy and seamless.”

“Easy as pie.”

“My husband, a first timer at OLLI, thought it was great!”

An email will be sent to OLLI members late in October, directing them to a prominent REGISTER button on the OLLI Central website. That means members can register online early, or about a week before the printed catalog becomes available on Nov. 6.

Members will pay for their $130 tuition via credit card, although they may select an option to send in a check. Paper registration forms also will be available within the printed catalog for those who chose to forego online registration.

Points to Remember:

• Those registering online will be asked to prioritize their selections – an important requirement to ensure a smoother enrollment process.

• Members will be notified of a specific day and location to get help registering online.

• The same personal email cannot be used to register two different members; those who share email addresses should obtain a second email address before registering.

The following pictures taken from the OLLI South website illustrate how easy it is. When you click on the Register button, the first screen asks for you to enter your personal information, just as was required in filling out the paper form.

Next you move to the course selection. This is a scrolling screen with each individual class listed by day of the week and then by facility. You would scroll to your desired course and check below the title to register.

You can check as many courses as you would like. However, as mentioned above you must prioritize your selection when multiple course are selected.

When you are done selecting courses you tap the Next button and it will take you to a screen where you can enter your credit card information (or you can mail a check to OLLI). It's that easy!

The registration experience at OLLI South largely was flawless. As time goes on, we hope everyone will register online.
Members of the OLLI Chorale, an Interactive class, perform at their final gathering for the Spring 2017 Term at Bnai Havurah. At the piano is popular instructor Robyn Yamada from the Denver Center for Performing Arts.

Winter Term: Speaker Series on Aging

A fascinating lineup of topics and practitioners will highlight an OLLI Speaker Series on Aging for the Winter Term that begins Jan. 16. The series was developed by Richard Passoth, Religion and Philosophy chair of OLLI Central’s Curriculum Committee. The lineup:

- “Stages of Aging,” Janice McCullum, president, Denver Hospice
- “What is Continuing Care and Signs and Reality of Assisted Living Card,” Jill Ross, Assisted Outreach Coordinator, Covenant Village
- “How Family Dynamics Can Affect Eldercare Planning,” Debbie Reinberg, geriatric care manager and court-appointed guardian
- “Difficult Medical Decisions,” David Matlock, Anschutz Medical Center
- “Caregiving: From Mystery to Meaning,” Sara Honn-Qualls, Director, Aging and Gerontology Center, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
- “Health as Life Adaptation: Resilience, Flexibility, Adaption,” Rahini Kanniganti, Medical Director, Denver Hospice

For more information see the Winter Term catalogue that will be posted in the OLLI Central website and available in the OLLI office on Nov. 6.

Midday Morsels: Emergency Preparedness, Restaurants

OLLI members and guests are invited to two free Midday Morsels lunchtime presentations during the Fall Term, both at First Plymouth Church.

The first event, on Thursday, Oct. 12, is Emergency Preparedness at Home. The presenter is George Hellewell, previously the community emergency response team coordinator for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at Volunteers of American who now makes disaster preparedness appearances throughout the community.

The second event, on Thursday, Nov. 8, is on Everything You Need to Know About Denver-Area Restaurants by longtime radio host and restaurant critic Warren Byrne.

No reservations are required. Both presentations take place from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. You are encouraged to bring your own lunch.

OLLI Cheaper Than Starbucks!

We are not sure if this is saying more about OLLI or less about Starbucks. Ah, but of course this is more about OLLI.

Cost of an OLLI term: $130

If a member takes one 8-week class, that works out to $16.25 per week, or $8.12 per hour of class time.

If a member takes two 8-week classes, that works out to $4.06 per hour of class.

For three classes, it’s $2.71 per hour!
By now we’ve adjusted to our new class sites of First Plymouth Church and Augustana Lutheran Church, augmenting classes at Harvest Bible Chapel and on campus. Change doesn’t come easy. However, OLLI members are resilient. We thank you for your patience.

To take a quick look at the inner workings, from a logistics standpoint it’s a bit of a jigsaw puzzle. Some facilitators request specific sites, days or times for their classes. We also are limited by the number of rooms a facility allows us to use on a weekly basis. So when you see empty rooms, they probably weren’t available to us – or not for 8 weeks.

Operations Manager Darcey VanWagner did an excellent job assembling the pieces to the puzzle. We know a few glitches occurred with audio-visual equipment, so again, thank you for understanding. In an ideal world we’d have our own building for OLLI Central with an on-staff tech guru and flowing coffee! We are not yet living in that ideal world.

We enjoyed a terrific relationship with Central Christian Church for 19 years. We understand their need for space for their new school, which is why we introduced two new facilities. We continue to look for even better solutions. Meanwhile, our focus remains on OLLI at DU’s mission. That mission is providing educational classes to individuals 50 years of age or older. This mandates clear priorities, and those priorities are our facilitator-lead education classes that do so well to satisfy our curiosity, broaden our knowledge, keep us active mentally, and encourage social interaction.

One of our challenges this term was finding appropriate space for some of our Interactive classes. The academic classes constitute the “must-have” components of OLLI. Interactive classes are the “nice-to-have” components. So while we understand Interactive classes broaden OLLI’s palette, they necessarily come after our attempt to satisfy the educational classes.

That said, the number of classes will increase for Winter Term. You should find a fascinating and diverse array of offerings!

I can’t say enough about our wonderful volunteers, without whom OLLI isn’t possible. From the facilitators to the class assistants to our greeters the first two weeks of each term to those who helped stuff envelopes and folders in the office to our dedicated Advisory Council and Curriculum Committee members – THANKS!

Your Advisory Council at work: From left: Gayle Lipson, Glenn Cooper, OLLI Executive Director Barbe Ratcliffe, David Ramsey, Richard Reinish, Bonnie Payne (president), Sydney Myers, Tom Bieging and Michael Sherwood, OLLI Central’s new budget officer. Not pictured: Lois Kay and Nancy Cain, president of the Curriculum Committee. All A.C. and C.C. members are volunteers that help guide the program.

OLLI members filled a room to hear political research consultant Floyd Ciruli present “A FY-17 Fall Term Kick Off: Nine Months into the Trump Presidency: “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly!” at Harvest Bible Chapel on Sept. 8.
OLLI Honors Facilitators

OLLI Central facilitators who achieve milestones were honored at the annual Facilitator Dinner on May 25 at Heather Gardens in Aurora. Those who have facilitated 10 classes were designated as Senior Facilitators. Facilitating 15 classes earned an award as Master Facilitator and those who have facilitated 25 classes earned the brand-new Diamond Facilitator Award.

Facilitators are the lifeblood of OLLI, and we salute these volunteers for sharing their time and talent with us:

**SENIOR**
Mark Burger, Sheldon Fisher, Sheldon Friedman, Gerson Greenburg, Mac McHugh, Steve Nadler, Judith Vlasin

**MASTER**
Gil Hermann, Larry Matten, Sydney Myers, Laura Rubin

**DIAMOND**
Jerry Henderson, Deanna Manchion, Mo Mathews, Dick Reinish

Ice Cream Social

OLLI at DU Executive Director Barbe Ratcliffe enjoys ice cream with Shelly and Mac McHugh at OLLI Central’s volunteer appreciation ice cream social at the end of the Spring 2017 term.
Facilitator Workshop

Veteran facilitators Mac McHugh (left), Jay Baugher and Dede Pahl helped facilitators get off to a strong start by conducting a Facilitator Workshop at First Plymouth Church on Aug. 30. Baugher and Pahl are Curriculum Committee sub-committee chairs.

Coming Attractions: Winter Term

To whet your appetite for Winter Term at OLLI Central, here are some of the planned courses and their facilitators:

- The Cold War, Tom Giordano
- Crusade in the Southwest Pacific, Mac McHugh
- History of the Winter Olympics, Rita Alexander
- Historic Cities in Central Mexico & Mexican History of the 19th Century, Abe Grinberg
- The Life and Revolutionary Times of Abigail Adams, Reva Greenburg & Nan Morehead
- Sherlock Holmes, Bill Dorn
- Economic Principles and the 2008 Recession, Steve Winber
- The Brothers Karamazov, Bill West
- My Reading Life by Pat Conroy, Linda Katchen
- What the Buddha Taught, Mike Prevedel
- Emotional Intelligence, Maria Valdez
- Neo-Liberalism, Mitch Stewart
- Surprising Trends in War & Peace, Bob Rose
- Confronting Finitude, An OLLI at DU Lecture Series, Dick Lamm & Buie Seawell
- History of Life, Larry Meckel
- What the Bleep Do We Know About Theoretical Physics, Peter Gilbert
- Artificial Intelligence, Pat Smith & Terry Ortlieb
- Foreign Films, Dick Reinish
- Visionaries: Matisse and Picasso, Deanna Manchion
- French Films & French Culture, Helene North
- The British Invasion: The Beatles & Monty Python, Deanna Manchion
- Classical Music Now: A Retrospective on Musical Performance, Steve Weston
- 100 Years of America's National Parks, Larry Walling
- The World of Yesterday, by Stefan Zweig, Rita Johnson
- Ted Talks, Gordon Appell
- Speaker Series: Active Minds, Ann Tull

And of course, we will offer multiple sessions of our popular Current Events and Great Decisions classes!
Mark Your Calendar

**October 12**
First Plymouth Church, 11:45 – 12:45

**October 13**
Hot Topic Luncheon, “Heads up! Reducing Your Risk for Dementia”
Park Hill Golf Course, 11:30 – 1:30

**November 3**
Fall Term Ends
(except for scheduled makeup classes)

**November 6**
Winter Term catalog posted on website

**November 8**
Midday Morsels. “Everything You Need to Know About Denver-Area Restaurants.”
First Plymouth Church, 11:45 – 12:45

**January 16**
Winter Term opens

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**In Memoriam**
Nancy Simon
Charles Reece
Ann Chafee
Nadine Von Storch

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**The Registration Process in a Nutshell**

*By Stu Gentry*

Have you ever wondered what happens to your OLLI class registration once you submit it... and why you end up with the classes you do? One of the goals of OLLI at DU is to reach as many adult learners as possible. What this means in practice is that we try to find a balance between giving each OLLI member as many of the courses they want as possible, while also putting a priority on allowing all members to be able to attend at least some of the classes that they request.

Trying to find this balance between competing objectives is a time-consuming process. The easy approach would be to use a simple first-come-first-serve approach. The problem with that strategy is that if too many of the early registrants sign up for 4 or 5 popular classes, they could potentially block others from having a chance to take any classes.

Instead, our process is to manually look at the prioritization that each of you provides with your registration. “Prioritization?” you ask. The fine print on the registration form asks you to list your classes in order of preference. If there is room available we will put you on the roster for all your classes. But as a course begins to fill then we start to go back and look at whether you listed the particular class as perhaps your 4th or 5th choice. If this is the case then you may get dropped from the roster to allow someone who is only asking to attend 1 or 2 classes. What we are trying to avoid is any members getting totally shut out from attending OLLI classes that term.

And why can’t we simply expand the class size to allow more members to attend? Sometimes the format of the course requires a smaller class size. But the other limitation is simple classroom availability. There are only a limited number of large classrooms and all classrooms have a maximum seating capacity.

We are a victim of our own success. But this is a good problem to have. One of the core strengths of OLLI South is our sense of community where all members are considered important.