OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Learning Never Retires

FALL 2025 CATALOG

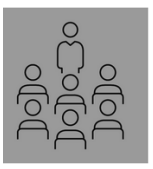
FALL 2025 KEY DATES:

July 7 - Registration Opens

July 28 - Registration Closes

September 8 - Semester Starts

November 21 - Semester Ends



IN-PERSON

HYBRID

ZOOM

S-101 Social & Behavioral Sciences Building, Stony Brook, NY 11794-4304

stonybrook.edu/olli | 631-632-6554 | olli@stonybrook.edu

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

As you peruse our catalog, we hope you will find some new workshops that interest you (although old favorites are fine, too!) If, while looking through our catalog, you get an idea for a new workshop you would be willing to lead or co-lead, please let our Curriculum Committee know. We are always looking to expand our offerings with the help of our dedicated, talented and engaged membership.

All information provided in this document is *subject to change.*

On Campus Workshop Locations:

- *Social & Behavioral Sciences Building (SBS)*
- *Wang Center*
- *Student Activities Center (SAC)*
- *Student Union*

Workshop Formats:

- H **Hybrid:** These workshops will be held in person and on Zoom simultaneously, with the workshop leader conducting the workshop from the Stony Brook campus. At the time of registration, members will have the option of registering for either the in-person section or Zoom sections of the workshop
- I **In Person:** Members will come to the Stony Brook campus or select off campus locations to attend these workshops.
- Z **Zoom:** Members will attend these workshops virtually on Zoom.

Registration Information Available at:

www.campusce.net/stonybrookolli

INDEX BY TITLE

Workshop Name	Workshop Leader	Page
20th Century American Presidential Elections	*Kenneth Geils and Dana Geils*	10
A Celebration of Rock and Soul Music	*Bob Hayes and Susan Steinmann*	8
A Journey into the Great Divide of Human Consciousness	*Anthony A. Esposito*	13
A Musical Journey of Pop Artists	*Gary Field and Suzanne Field*	8
A Survey of Enjoyable Music	*Fred Friedberg*	8
Adolescent Literature for Adults: Banned Books	*Ellen Perz*	11
Advanced Mahjongg	*Diane Fischer and Karen Jaffe*	10
Adventures in Art and Photography	*Eric Lohse*	12
Am I My Father's Son?	*Luciano Sabatini*	10
American Plays	*Colleen Rudman and Kathi Matos*	8
Beginning Bridge Part II	*Linda Good and Merna Avril*	10
Behavioral Neurosciences Amazingly Simplified: Don't Retire! Rewire! Refire!	*Paul Mohan*	13
Casual Cards and Games	*Mary and Scott McMullen*	10
Centennial 2025: Art Deco, The Jazz Age, and The Great Gatsby	*Amy Benjamin*	9
Chemistry Basics Part II	*Debra Pastore*	13
Conversational French	*Catherine McDonnell*	11
Creative Photography	*Doris Diamond*	12
Current Events	*Len Farano*	11
Digesting a Good Book	*Dana Geils*	11
Digital images for people who don't know a damned thing about them	*Michael Boren*	12
Duplicate Bridge	*Arnie Fox and Sherry Shore*	10
Español: presente, pasado y futuro	*Anahi Walton Schafer*	11
Fiber Arts Corner (Knitting & crocheting)	*Anahi Walton Schafer*	8
Genetics Testing	*Silvia Spitzer*	13
Google FREE Stuff? Yes, BUT, You will need to spend time to learn HOW to use them	*Thom Brownworth and Mark Correa*	10
Great Books	*Anita Edwards*	12
Great Short Stories - Flannery O'Connor	*Joe Perlman*	12
History Through Literature	*Joseph Napolitano, Laura Filipino and Judy Albano*	12
How the Universe Works	*Robert and Angela Bari*	13
Ici on parle francais	*Catherine McDonnell*	11

Workshop Name	Workshop Leader	Page
Ici on parle francais	*Catherine McDonnell*	11
Introduction to the Macintosh Computer	*Frank De Rubeis*	9
Journey of the Soul: A Fresh Look at Life, Death, and the Rest—in Peace	*Rabbi Shalom Ber Cohen*	13
Learn to Draw - For Beginners	*Richard Bova*	8
Let's Put on a Play!	*Debbie Starker*	8
Let's Talk Sports!	*Jeff Hollander and Larry Fein*	10
Meditation and Mindfulness	*Karen Santoro*	10
Memoir Writing	*Dorothy Schiff Shannon*	12
Mysteries of the Human Mind	*Larry Wilson*	13
Navigation, Dead Reckoning to GPS	*Richard Bova*	9
"Near Death" & "Spiritually Transformative Experiences" - How These Experiences Change Lives In A Meaningful Way	*Catherine Chapey*	13
New York Times Science Seminar	*Bonnie Marks and Allen Sachs*	13
Now That's Entertainment!	*Jeff Hollander, Diane Hollander and Larry Fein*	9
Op-Ed, Your Opinion of Their Opinion	*Ken Buxbaum and William Russell*	11
Original Star Trek - Beyond the Final Frontier	*Peggy & Bob Oliva*	9
Poetry Out Loud	*Florence Mondry*	12
Poetry Workshop	*Geraldine Kaplan and Bob Stone*	12
Protest Songs/Songs of Hope of the '60s	*Marc Comerchero*	9
Putting the garden to sleep	*Anahi Walton Schafer*	14
Randy Newman: One of America's Greatest Song Writers and Film Score Composers That You May Not Have Ever Heard Of	*Rick Rubin*	9
Religion: Around us and within us	*Bob DeCostanzo*	14
Rights, Camera, Action!	*Tony Parlatore and Laura Joseph*	11
Science of Natural Healing	*Wayne Snell*	10
Scrolling Ourselves to Death: Attention Fragmentation in the Digital Age	*Martin Levinson*	9
Seasonal Crafting	*Pam O'Brien and Nancy Pally*	8
So You've Always Wanted to Act	*Debbie Starker*	8
Sophie's World: A Philosophical Novel - Part 3	*Richard Hart*	12
Stained Glass Workshop	*Susan Vlahakis, Diane Streuli, Linda Hamatz*	8
The Big Band Era, It's History and Music	*Marty Rubenstein*	8
The History of Native Americans and Their Long Journey to Long Island	*John Gobler*	11
The Lives of Stars and the 'Job' of the Universe	*Ralph Maust*	14

Workshop Name	Workshop Leader	Page
The Mystery Novel as Literature: The History of the Mystery	*Tasha H. Greenberg*	12
The Near-Death Experience	*Gregory Alexander*	14
The Psalms: Finding Modern Meaning in Ancient Words	*Stephen Karol*	15
The Rolling Roman Revolution	*Thomas Hayes*	11
The Science Behind Living Your Best Life	*SBU Center for Healthy Aging*	10
The Twilight Zone	*Robert Mirman and Jay Zuckerman*	10
The World's Greatest Geological Wonders	*Edwin Cohen*	14
Topics in Art History	*Angela Bari*	8
Tragic Theater	*Arthur Bernstein*	12
Watercolor Studio	*Bob Stone and Dorothy Sterrett*	9
Women You Should Know	*Ella Nyc, Mary Hance and Fran Leiboff*	9
World War II	*Paul Knel*	11
Writers at Work (previously named "The Craft of Writing")	*Amy Benjamin and Mary Ann Sommerstad*	12
Yoga 101	*Denise Teague*	10

Index by Day

MONDAY

10:15 - 11:30 AM

History Through Literature 12
Literature and Writing

The Twilight Zone 10
TV, Film and Entertainment

Meditation and Mindfulness 10
Health and Wellness

Poetry Workshop 12
Literature and Writing

12:00 – 1:15PM

Mysteries of the Human Mind 13
Science and Philosophy

Introduction to the Macintosh Computer 9
Computers and Technology

How the Universe Works 13
Science and Philosophy

Current Events 11
History and Politics

A Celebration of Rock and Soul Music 8
Arts and Music

1:45 – 3:00PM

Let's Put on a Play! 8
Arts and Music

Randy Newman: One of America's Greatest Song Writers and Film Score Composers That You May Not Have Ever Heard Of 9
TV, Film and Entertainment

Adolescent Literature for Adults: Banned Books 11
Literature and Writing

The Psalms: Finding Modern Meaning in Ancient Words 15
Science and Philosophy

Topics in Art History 8
Arts and Music

New York Times Science Seminar 13
Science and Philosophy

TUESDAY

8:30 - 9:45 AM

Scrolling Ourselves to Death: Attention Fragmentation in the Digital Age 9
Computers and Technology

10:15-11:30AM

The Big Band Era, It's History and Music 8
Arts and Music

Am I my Father's Son? 10
Health and Wellness

The Lives of Stars and the 'Job' of the Universe 14
Science and Philosophy

The Rolling Roman Revolution 11
History and Politics

Yoga 101 10
Health and Wellness

12:00- 1:15PM

A Journey into the Great Divide of Human Consciousness 13
Science and Philosophy

Protest Songs/Songs of Hope of the '60s 9
Arts and Music

Great Short Stories - Flannery O'Connor 12
Literature and Writing

Google FREE Stuff? Yes, BUT, You will need to spend time to learn HOW to use them 10
Computers and technology

American Plays 8
Arts and Music

1:00 – 4:00PM

Duplicate Bridge 10
Games and Leisure

1:45 – 4:00PM

So You've Always Wanted to Act 8
Arts and Music

1:45 - 3:00PM

Seasonal Crafting 8
Arts and Music

Behavioral Neurosciences Amazingly Simplified: Don't Retire! Rewire! Refire! 13
Science and Philosophy

Journey of the Soul: A Fresh Look at Life, Death, and the Rest—in Peace 13
Science and Philosophy

3:30 - 4:45PM

The Science Behind Living Your Best Life 10
Health and Wellness

WEDNESDAY

8:30- 9:45AM

Ici on Parle Francais 11
Language and Communication

8:30- 11:30AM

Watercolor Studio 9
Arts and Music

9:30- 11:30AM

Advanced Mahjongg 10
Games and Leisure

10:15- 11:30AM

Conversational French 11
Language and Communication

Digital images for people who don't know a damned thing about them 12
Photography

Women You Should Know 9
Arts & Music

12:00-1:15PM

The World's Greatest Geological Wonders 14
Science and Philosophy

Original Star Trek - Beyond the Final Frontier 9
TV, Film and Entertainment

Poetry Out Loud 12
Literature and Writing

Digesting a Good Book 11
Literature and Writing

"Near Death" & "Spiritually Transformative Experiences" - How These Experiences Change Lives In a Meaningful Way 13
Science and Philosophy

THURSDAY

8:30 - 9:45AM

Chemistry Basics Part II 13
Science and Philosophy

10:00- 3:00PM

Stained Glass Workshop 8
Arts and Music

10:15- 11:30AM

The Near-Death Experience 14
Science and Philosophy

A Musical Journey of Pop Artists 8
Arts and Music

Science of Natural Healing 10
Health and Wellness

Tragic Theater 12
Literature and Writing

The History of Native Americans and Their Long Journey to Long Island 11
History and Politics

12:00 - 1:15PM

Español: presente, pasado y futuro 11
Language and Communication

Casual Cards and Games 10
Games and Leisure

Now That's Entertainment! 9
TV, Film and Entertainment

Let's Talk Sports! 10
Games and Leisure

1:00 – 4:00PM

Beginning Bridge Part II 10
Games and Leisure

1:45 – 3:00PM

Putting the garden to sleep 14
Health and Wellness

Fiber Arts Corner (Knitting & crocheting) 8
Arts and Music

Writers at Work (previously named "The Craft of Writing") 12
Literature and Writing

A Survey of Enjoyable Music 8
Arts and Music

3:30- 4:45PM

Sophie's World: A Philosophical Novel - Part 3 12
Literature and Writing

FRIDAY

8:30- 9:45AM

20th Century American Presidential Elections **10**
History and Politics

Adventures in Art and Photography **12**
Photography

9:30 – 11:30AM

Memoir Writing **12**
Literature and Writing

10:15-11:30AM

World War II **11**
History and Politics

Centennial 2025: Art Deco, The Jazz Age, and The Great Gatsby **9**
TV, Film and Entertainment

Religion: Around us and within us **14**
Science and Philosophy

Navigation, Dead Reckoning to GPS **9**
Computers and Technology

Learn to Draw - For Beginners **8**
Arts and Music

Creative Photography **12**
Photography

12:00-1:15PM

Op-Ed Your Opinion of Their Opinion **11**
History and Politics

Genetics Testing **13**
Science and Philosophy

Great Books **12**
Literature and Writing

1:45- 4:45PM

Rights, Camera, Action! **11**
History and Politics

The Mystery Novel as Literature: The History of the Mystery **12**
Literature and Writing

3:30-4:45PM

Religion: Around us and within us **14**
Science and Philosophy

FALL 2025 WORKSHOPS

ARTS & MUSIC

A Celebration of Rock & Soul Music
Bob Hayes and Susan Steinmann

In this workshop, we will view and listen to some of Rock and Soul Music's greatest performers. Besides enjoying some of their finest songs and albums, we will explore their early, formative years. This will help us to better appreciate and understand their musical craft. Our workshop is designed to be interactive, with member participation being most welcome. Your thoughts and experiences about the music of the era can add greatly to our grasp of each of the artists we will view. For example, your recollection of a particular song or album adds to our appreciation of the music. Also, if you attended any concerts of the performers, we discuss in the workshop it would be great to hear about your experiences.

A Musical Journey of Pop artists
Gary Field and Suzanne Field

This workshop will provide biographical data and musical highlights via You Tube of Pop Artists of the period encompassing the 50's through the 80's. The goal of our workshop is to provide an informative, nostalgic and enjoyable musical experience.

A Survey of Enjoyable Music
Fred Friedberg

This workshop will present a broad overview of music that begins with the lyrical poems of the Middle Ages, the harmonies of the Renaissance, and the drama of the Baroque era. We will preview both solo and symphonic works through the classical and romantic periods with an emphasis on high energy pieces. The modern era will cover both music and dance including flamenco, tango, classical guitar, jazz (Count Basie, Big Band, others), Gypsy song, Mariachi, and Mambo.

American Plays
Colleen Rudman and Kathi Matos

We read aloud and discuss American plays. We will cover three plays during the semester, ranging from light to serious. Additionally, we will learn about the playwrights, consider criticisms, and discuss relevant features of the selections. It is hoped (but not required) that participants will be eager to take on roles – let your inner Bernhardt or Miranda shine through! The objective is to familiarize workshop participants with great drama and have fun!

Fiber Arts Corner (knitting & crocheting)
Anahi Walton Schafer

Bring a project, an unfinished piece, a piece gone bad ,...or just some yarn, knitting needles, a crochet hook, the will to learn and patience to keep going. Any skill level is welcome and help will be available!

Learn to Draw - For Beginners
Richard Bova

This workshop is an introductory drawing class that will start with sketching basic shapes, adding tone and shading and making use of perspective drawings. It is a 7-week workshop designed for beginners with little or no drawing experience and is an introduction to the next class, Drawing Workshop.

Let's Put on a Play!
Debbie Starker

Participants will be expected to commit to accepting a role in a play to be chosen (based on class size and make up). Memorization, though preferable, is not mandatory as the play will be performed as a staged reading. Attendance is very important as rehearsals will take place weekly.

Seasonal Crafting
Pam O'Brien and Nancy Pally

Participants will use their creativity to complete various crafts for the upcoming holiday seasons from Autumn through the December Holidays. We are going to do a little bit of everything including paper crafts, painting, and decoupage. Fun and accessible crafts for all skill levels.

So, You've Always Wanted to Act
Debbie Starker

Emphasis on performance, 1st semester members will be encouraged to choose a monologue (2nd semester participants will be encouraged to perform a dialogue with a classmate) to be performed and perfected throughout the semester. Memorization is highly encouraged but script-in-hand is acceptable.

Stained Glass Workshop
Susan Vlahakis, Diane Streuli, Linda Hametz

This workshop is recommended for those who already have experience with the basic skills of cutting, grinding and soldering. It is a cooperative learning environment where members help one another to improve their techniques, sharing ideas, and suggestions.

The Big Band Era, It's History and Music
Marty Rubenstein

The big band era was the time that the GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK flourished. There were swing bands, sweet bands, and classic jazz bands all who played the music of our great composers. Join us and listen and learn, A great part of our american culture.

Topics in Art History
Angela Bari

In this workshop, we explore the history and holdings of the Metropolitan Museum of Art from the ancient to the modern

and from Old Masters to Contemporary Art. We will also discuss special exhibits and related works at other museums, including the Frick Collection, the Whitney, the Museum of Modern Art, and others.

Protest Songs/Songs of Hope of the 60s I

Marc Comerchero

Let's go back to the 60s and early 70s and revisit years of tumultuous political and social climate, which inspired some iconic songwriters to compose legendary songs of protest and hope. Listening to these songs will most certainly lead to some healthy discussion of the news and concerns from way back!

Watercolor Studio I

Bob Stone and Dorothy Sterrett

In this workshop, we will explore more advanced techniques/concepts in watercolor painting. We will create watercolor paintings and constructively critique each other's work. Participants should be experienced in the creation of watercolor paintings, along with basic drawing skills. We will reference the work of established artists to inform our work. Our goal is to grow together as watercolor artists.

Women You Should Know I

Ella Nyc, Mary Hance and Fran Leiboff

The focus this semester will be on women innovators and inventors who have made invaluable contributions to society through the ages.

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Google FREE Stuff? Yes, BUT, You will need to spend time to learn HOW to use them I

Thom Brownworth and Mark Correa

Through hands-on In-Person Workshop sessions we will look at an array of Google Apps for their usefulness in our lives. We will also see how to make them work for us. The people who come will choose which Google Apps to learn and practice.

Introduction to the Macintosh Computer I

Frank De Rubeis

The purpose of this course is to teach the fundamentals of the Macintosh computer. The course will include a discussion of the current Operating System (OS) and some of the older versions of MacOS. The course will start with setting up your computer and go on to discuss system functions, the Mac hardware (e.g., mouse, ports, hard drive, etc.), included software (e.g. Pages, Numbers, Photo, etc.), networking, communications (e.g. email, messaging, etc.), printing, and other computer uses. At the end of the course, the student should be familiar with how to set up and use the computer so as to be able to go on and learn the more advanced features and software of the Mac. Bringing a laptop to class might be useful, but it is not required.

Navigation, Dead Reckoning to GPS Z

Richard Bova

The workshop starts by exploring the early methods of navigation (Dead Reckoning and Celestial). We will then discuss modern satellite-based navigation systems such as GPS, how it works and its applications. Finally, we will consider a GPS-like Galactic Positioning System that could one day help us travel across the cosmos.

Scrolling Ourselves to Death: Attention Fragmentation in the Digital Age I

Martin Levinson

This four-session course will examine attention fragmentation in the digital age using information and insights from The Sirens' Call by Chris Hayes, Amusing Ourselves to Death by Neil Postman, and The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt.

TV, FILM & ENTERTAINMENT

Centennial 2025: Art Deco, The Jazz Age, and The Great Gatsby I

Amy Benjamin

We will explore the cultural touchstones that defined and enriched American life one hundred years ago. Each session will begin with a look at the history and exemplars of Art Deco, which was introduced to the world in Paris in 1925. We will then listen to some wonderful music of the 1920s-30s (Dancing optional) and learn about its context. We will then focus on the historical references in *The Great Gatsby*, the iconic Long Island literary treasure.

Now that's Entertainment Z

Jeff Hollander, Diane Hollander and Larry Fein

Join us for another trip down "Memory Lane" as we highlight some of the greatest entertainers of our lifetimes. Several are still performing today despite being OLLI eligible. We'll take you back to the 20th Century using their biographies, performances, interviews, bloopers and as much gossip as we can uncover to make them even more interesting than you remembered. You'll be challenged to guess who it is each week. In addition, we promise the stars will make you smile and provide us all with a stress-free zone. We've reserved a prime seat on the aisle for YOU!

Original Star Trek- Beyond the Final Frontier I

Peggy and Bob Oliva

In each session of this workshop, we will watch an episode of "Star Trek: The Original Series" which first aired in the late sixties and starred William Shatner. We will then go beyond the adventure of exploring strange new worlds with James T. Kirk and his diverse crew, and discuss the episode's use of metaphors, portrayal of mankind and its future, philosophy, ethical questions raised, production notes, and more. We'll take a trip back to the sixties and talk about how the era influenced the show and how it, in turn, affected its viewers.

Randy Newman: One of America's Greatest Song Writers and Film Score Composers That You May Not Have Ever Heard Of I

Rick Rubin

The workshop will cover the discography of Newman including his film scores and personal life.

The Twilight Zone
Robert Mirman and Jay Zuckerman

I teach this course with Robert Mirman. We present two episodes per week as well as present information about the life of Rod Serling. Each episode is discussed with a focus as to how the work of Mr. Serling is as relevant today as it was when the program was produced.

GAMES & LEISURE

Advanced Mahjongg
Diane Fischer and Karen Jaffe

This is a workshop for those who already know the Mahjongg basics. We will cover strategies and have time to play several games. Participants MUST have the 2025 american mahjongg card. We recommend the large print version. OLLI supplies the sets.

Beginning Bridge Part II
Linda Good & Merna Avril

We will be continuing from class one, we will learn overcalls and advances, take out doubles, strong doubles, penalty doubles, and competitive auctions.

Casual Cards and Games
Mary and Scott McMullen

NEW TIME/LONGER SESSIONS! The Casual Cards and Games workshop is open to all OLLI members, whether they have taken the workshop in the past or are new to this workshop. This fall, we will have an extended time workshop to allow players to gain more experience with the games. There will be a mix of games played in past workshops and one or two new games. Each session will start with an explanation of a game's rules and strategies and then participants will play. Each game is played for one to three weeks. Come join in the fun and camaraderie.

Duplicate Bridge
Arnie Fox and Sherry Shore

We will continue to enhance our bridge skills in a duplicate environment. Participants should have knowledge of conventions and techniques from previous semesters. Contact either workshop leader if you are unsure whether this workshop is appropriate for you.

Let's talk Sports!
Jeff Hollander and Larry Fein

Join us this fall to analyze New York/LI's nine major sports teams' championship potential. We'll discuss the Mets and Yankees' playoff chances, player performances, and the impact of the NFL draft. Our 'Tuesday Morning Experts' will share opinions, enhanced by timely videos and guest speakers. We'll also follow SBU's teams. We look forward to you joining our all-star roster.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Am I My Father's Son?
Luciano Sabatini

This is a men's discussion group designed to discuss issues of aging in our society. The primary focus will be on the changing roles of men as they move from leadership positions in the family, work, community organizations to lesser positions of influence as they retire, become grandfathers, experience a decline in physical abilities, lose intimacy and their mortality becomes ever-present. The topics will come from the members as each will be asked to lead a discussion on a particular issue. Ground rules will be established to encourage an open, interactive atmosphere where participants feel comfortable to discuss these issues.

Meditation and Mindfulness
Karen Santoro

The practice of meditation and mindfulness can lead to lowering stress, developing a more positive outlook, and helping to deal with physical challenges in our everyday lives. Smile, relax, and free your mind by practicing meditation and mindfulness.

Science of Natural Healing
Wayne Snell

Explore holistic approaches to healthcare and discover various natural-based treatments and methods that are both clinically proven and readily available. This workshop integrates The Great Course DVD by Professor Mimi Guarneri, M.D. A short Meditation will be at the end of each class.

The Science Behind Living Your Best Life
SBU Center for Healthy Aging

Explore the science of well-being in this engaging series led by experts from Stony Brook's Center for Healthy Aging. Topics, based on ongoing research, span fall prevention, brain and joint health, nutrition, mental well-being — empowering you to stay active, informed, and connected.

Yoga 101
Denise Teague

Yoga 101 welcomes all including those who are new or have little experience with yoga. We will focus on the basics of yoga at a pace that is not overwhelming and in an environment that is safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental. Students will be introduced to yoga postures through step-by-step verbal descriptions and demonstrations. Emphasis is placed on student understanding, safety, and stability.

HISTORY & POLITICS

20th Century American Presidential Elections
Kenneth Geils and Dana Geils

This is the beginning of a 3 or 4 semester workshop on historic 20th century presidential elections. The fall term will begin with 1928. Each election is unique with ties to our past; as well, political seeds are sown for future races. We'll look to the midterms in 2026 too, & beyond as well.

Current Events
Len Farano

Participant discussion of current events, with an occasional emphasis on politics and changing laws.

Op-Ed , Your Opinion of Their Opinion
Ken Buxbaum and William Russell

Op-Ed provides the opportunity to join in discussions of the political, social and economic issues currently affecting our lives. Each week three different volunteers present newspaper, internet or magazine opinion articles, that can be read aloud in five minutes or less and make for lively discussions by members with differing points of view. While every volunteer has the opportunity to comment first or last on their own article, they may want to sit and listen as everyone gets a chance, face-to-face, to voice his or her opinion on the subject.

Rights, Camera, Action
Tony Parlatore and Laura Joseph

This long-running OLLI workshop not only entertains but also discusses legal, ethical, moral, and social issues portrayed by the motion picture industry. Classic films are intertwined with new releases, documentaries, and bio-pics to cover a wide range of subjects which foster interesting and lively debate! Laura and Tony discuss each featured film, concentrating on the "back stories", production, and "reel" versus "real" portrayals. You will see some "oldies" in a new way and be introduced to some films you might have missed but can now enjoy!

The History of Native North Americans- Their Long Journey to Long Island
John Gobler

This course will take you on the journey of the Native North Americans to Long Island that starts in Siberia some 30,000 years ago. Along the way we will learn of their hardships, their amazing cultural developments, their crafts, skills, living styles and their societal norms. I think you will be astonished about what we will discover about their first 14,000 years in North America, and finally saddened by their demise at the hands of European explorers and settlers in the last 1,500 years of their existence. This is truly an epic journey and story!

The Rolling Roman Revolution
Thomas Hayes

Julius Caesar's rise and eventual demise is often seen as the end of the Roman Republic. But the 100 years before Caesar's death were a time of tumult, dictatorships and violent partisanship. This workshop will draw on ancient sources as well as modern scholarship to examine this slow motion revolution which eventuated in the Roman Imperial state.

World War II
Paul Knel

We will discuss the personalities and events that were involved in the War.

LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION

Conversational French
Catherine McDonnell

This workshop is geared to the intermediate level, to give French language learners practice in listening and speaking. We will start each session with a very brief grammar review, then break up into small groups for short discussions/questions/answers based on a pre-arranged topic suggested by the participants: i.e. food, colors, pets, childhood, travel, etc. Together we will finish each session by reading from a contemporary French novel and use this also as a basis for discussion and vocabulary enrichment. We will try to speak French as much as possible. BUT - Your spoken French does NOT have to be perfect: all that's necessary is a willingness to participate in a very friendly and relaxing atmosphere!

Español: presente, passado y future
Anahi Walton Schafer

My goal is to help your proficiency and fluency in Spanish when trying to carry a real-world conversation. We will touch upon some grammar keypoints, but only as grammar helps you communicate. In my view, perfection is the enemy of the good. Be bold and unbound.

Ici on Parle Francais
Catherine McDonnell

This workshop is a continuation of 'French for Beginners.' We will continue learning basic vocabulary and grammar through a wide variety of activities, with a focus on conversation. All materials will be provided. So, come learn to speak French and have fun!

LITERATURE & WRITING

Adolescent Literature for Adults: Banned Books
Ellen Perz

Discover the power of literature written for adolescents. These novels are not just for young adults – they are rich in theme, prose, and character, making them an engaging reading experience for adults as well. In this session, we will be focusing on banned books. Join our informal, discussion-based classes to explore these "controversial" novels. NOTE: Different novels will be read this semester. Books can often be read in one day.

Digesting a Good Book
Dana Geils

Read a book. Have a lively discussion with other OLLI members in a friendly atmosphere. Examine the style and quality of the writing, the characters, the plot, the themes/problems explored and consider the what-ifs, hows and whys as well. Reading both fiction and nonfiction, we will be reflecting on the issues addressed, thinking about how our own experiences affect our understanding of the material and what our reactions are to comments other members have made.

Great Books
Anita Edwards

Read three novels by late nineteenth/early twentieth century regional writers. My Antonia, by Willa Cather, tells the story of an immigrant girl in Nebraska. The Awakening, by Kate Chopin, concerns a young wife living on Grand Isle, Louisiana. The Age of Innocence, by Edith Wharton, takes us into the society of "Old New York" during the Gilded Age.

Great Short Stories - Flannery O'Connor
Joe Perlman

Each week we will discuss 1 -2 of her stories in depth, using the structured discussion method. Participation in previous Great Short Story workshops is not required since each year we focus on a different writer.

History through Literature
Joseph Napolitano, Laura Filipino and Judy Albano

Join in stimulating discussions about works of historical literature. This is a collaborative workshop in which members are expected to participate in and lead discussions.The co-leaders will assist as needed in leading workshop sessions. Our discussions include but are not limited to the author, historical period, character and plot development.

Memoir Writing
Dorothy Schiff Shannon

You are the repository of the stories of your time. We will be both storytellers and historians. Memoir writing is a group effort in which we support and critique one another's work, to produce memoirs worthy of preservation.

Poetry Out Loud
Florence Mondry

A workshop for the discussion of poetry presented by volunteer members in order to discover together the pleasure and beauty of poems and get to know the poets who created them in an environment conducive to understanding what makes a poem a poem.

Poetry Workshop
Geraldine Kaplan and Bob Stone

The focus of this workshop is the craft of writing poetry. Participants bring in their poetry and share their work with the group. The goal is to point out the strengths of the writing with the goal of encouraging the writer to continue writing and improve their skills in writing poetry.

Sophie's World: A Philosophical Novel – Part 3
Richard Hart

In Fall 2025 we will conclude our reading and analysis of SOPHIE'S WORLD, the lengthy novel that we studied in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025. We will begin with the Existentialism of Kierkegaard and proceed on through 19th and 20th Century developments in philosophy. No class October 2.

The Mystery Novel as Literature: The History of The Mystery
Tasha H. Greenberg

Revisiting a workshop I first offered in 2012, I would like to again present, in chronological order, the development of the mystery novel. We will begin by examining the earliest French and British authors, and then include American writers. We will continue to add more authors (primarily English language) through the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Tragic Theater
Arthur Bernstein

We'll read and discuss three plays drawn from the Western Canon. Their identity will be determined this summer and provided to OLLI.

Writers at Work (Previously "The Craft of Writing")
Amy Benjamin and Mary Ann Sommerstad

A round-table presentation and discussion of members' writing in various genres, such as fiction, non-fiction, poetry, essays, and scriptwriting. Emphasis is on effective writing techniques, rather than overall storytelling, so presentations are limited to 500 words. Longer works may be excerpted or serialized over the course of the term.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Adventures in Art and Photography
Eric Lohse

A workshop for all interested in sharing their images, whether photographs or paintings. Each session will view and discuss the images with the goal of achieving effective images. All skill levels are welcome. Look, laugh and learn.

Creative Photography
Doris Diamond

The focus of this workshop is creative photography ideas and methods. The objective is to inspire the participants to try lots and lots of ways to enhance their photos as well as to try new subjects and in-camera techniques.

Digital Images for People Who Don't Know a Damned Thing About Them
Michael Boren

Can you edit your iPhone photos? Do you know what the auto feature does? Can you create an album and then share it? If you can then my congratulations but this course may not be for you. This course is for iPhone (iPad is ok sorry no Android) users who spend a lot of time yelling at it. We will cover all the icons for taking pictures, editing pictures and finding them. For the daring I'll show you how to download free versions of Adobe Lightroom and Express so you can play with the big kids. Wondering if you really are too advanced or not advanced enough? Then email me mborenimages@gmail.com to discuss if this is for you. Make sure you put Course Questions to separate you from the tons of spam we all receive

SCIENCE & PHILOSOPHY

A Journey into the Great Divide of Human Consciousness
Anthony A. Esposito

The Great Divide, the Explanatory Gap, The Hard Problem of Consciousness. Familiar terms used to describe the "gap" between the subjective and objective world of our experience. While mid-twentieth-century split-brain research identified separate functions of both the right and the left hemispheres, little was understood of the evolutionary niche from which this brain morphology originates. In the presentation, we will explore the ways we navigate this divide and the world each hemisphere brings to our conscious experience. Much of this presentation is inspired by a study published by Dr. Iain McGilchrist, titled The Master and His Emissary.

Behavioral Neurosciences: Don't Retire! Rewire! Refire! H

Paul Mohan

We focus on the Causes of Behaviors (Emotional vs. Regulatory): the fascinating NS of Smell and Taste on Appetite & Nutrition; how NS of Pain, Emotion, Genetics influence them.
To make the workshop FUN and Enjoyable, we avoid the complexities of Neurosciences (NS). Instead, we use: Simplified Presentations, Video Clips, Fun Exercises and Discussion interspersed with MUSIC and COMEDY to illustrate:
1.How to Enhance MEMORY, LEARNING and Motivation.
2. Neuro-degenerative conditions (e.g., Dementia, AD, Parkinson's): Detecting Early Symptoms and ways to Lower or Eliminate their risks.
3.NS of Music – Cognitive & Physical Exercise - Sleep – Five Senses – Inter-Personal Relations.
4.Using the above to AVOID STRESS and helping us to Age Gracefully – Leading to Happier, Healthier, and more Enjoyable Lives!
Please note: A Science Background is NOT necessary! The only prerequisite is an "open mind." ·The only resources you need to bring are your "creative juices." *It is important to note that any medical information (via videos, presentations, discussions or otherwise) is NOT intended to replace professional medical advice; and should NEVER be used for self-diagnosis or self-treatment.*

Chemistry Basics Part II Z

Debra Pastore

Chemistry is evident in our daily lives. This workshop will provide you with a basic understanding of chemistry. Understand the basics of the atomic theory, elements, compounds, acids and bases as well as nuclear and organic chemistry to name a few. You may begin to see the world through the lens of a chemist.

Genetics Testing I

Silvia Spitzer

An anthropological look at who we are? Where did we come fromTesting for the presence or absence of specific genes and mutations now plays an important role in multiple areas of medicine, including infectious diseases, oncology and genetics. This course will provide an overview of the science behind these tests and how they are used in diagnosis and management. Previous knowledge in this area is not necessary.

How the Universe Works I

Robert and Angela Bari

Physics and related sciences describe how the universe works. This semester, we will explore scientific advances from antiquity to the early 21st century. Both the very small and the extremely large will be discussed in terms of the evolving ideas in quantum mechanics and cosmology. Strange phenomena on the middle scale, such as superconductivity, will also be discussed. Interesting aspects of the human side of the creation and development of scientific discovery will be conveyed, with an emphasis on the lighter sides of those events and the people involved. This non-mathematical workshop will be geared to non-physicists, but those with physics knowledge are welcome, and everyone will be encouraged to participate.

Journey of the Soul: A Fresh Look at Life, Death, and the Rest—in Peace H

Rabbi Shalom Ber Cohen

Who hasn't wondered what happens when we die? We know what happens to the body. But what happens to the soul at birth and again at death? Is there really a "better" place after this one? Do our loved ones continue to connect with us? Can I relate to an afterlife if I'm not spiritual? At once practical and powerful, reflective and relatable, Journey of the Soul teaches a Jewish perspective on life that begins before birth and lasts well after a person's passing. It's a journey we all take, and it's yours to explore.

Mysteries of the Human Mind I

Larry Wilson

This workshop will be an in depth look at the working of the human mind and how it affects our behavior. We will cover topics such as how evolution, competition, and culture have affected the human mind. We will also look at such things as the differences between the male and female mind and how the autistic mind works. This class is a combination of lecture, video, and class discussion.

New York Times Science Seminar I

Bonnie Marks and Allen Sachs

This is a collaborative workshop where members take turns each week leading the discussions. Our guide is the New York Times Science section published every Tuesday. Volunteers introduce the articles and tell why the article is important. The workshop continues the discussion from this point. We also share and discuss significant articles from other sources.

"Near Death" & "Spiritually Transformative Experiences" - How These Experiences Change Lives In A Meaningful Way Z

Catherine Chapey

In this workshop we will learn about Near Death Experiences (NDE's) and Near Death Like or Spiritually Transformative Experiences (STE's).
We will listen to different speakers that will share about their NDE's and STE's. When we have a speaker join us, there will be time for Q and A after our speaker shares. We will come to understand how their life journeys were altered through these extraordinary life changing events. We will discover how these experiences have changed them for the better. We will also explore some of the obstacles these

people have gone through as a result of their NDE's and STE's and have overcome. We will come to an understanding of how these obstacles have eventually been a catalyst for them to be able to live their life in a more authentic and purposeful way. We will explore together as a group what we have learned from these NDE's and STE's. We will discuss how their experiences have been transformative and how these people then go on to help others to understand that we are much more than just our physical existence. We will discuss the implications of such experiences on society as a whole. We will also discuss how these Extraordinary Experiences are life changing, not only for the NDE and STE Experiencers, but also for the many that hear their stories. I hope you can join us as we delve into this fascinating topic of Spiritually Transformative Experiences and Near Death Experiences and how knowing and learning about these experiences can change our world for the better.

Putting the garden to sleep

Anahi Walton Schafer

The end of Summer is the time to take stock, plant, and plan! We will discuss "leave the leaves" , an approach that provides numerous benefits, including creating habitat for wildlife, enriching the soil, and reducing the need for labor-intensive cleanup.

Religion: Around us and within us

Bob DeCostanzo

Prophets, founders, miracles, afterlife, sacred texts, sacred places, Heaven, Hell, and evil. We will use Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism to focus on key religious concepts, but we will have a look at many more religious traditions.

The Lives of Stars and the 'Job' of the Universe

Ralph Maust

Where do stars come from? How are they born, live and die? How do they 'make energy' and new forms of matter? How and when did we (humans) figure all this out? And, what is the 'job' of the Universe? In this open-ended workshop we will explore these questions and, using a 'digital planetarium' on our tablets or smart phones, discover where in our night sky we can see answers. We'll also be building a one ten-billionth scale model of our solar system to help get a true feel for the enormity of space and time.

The Near-Death Experience

Gregory Alexander

In this workshop, we will review the stages of the near-death experience (NDE) using many examples, and put the near-death experience into an historical and scientific context.

The Psalms: Finding Modern Meaning in Ancient Words

Stephen Karol

We will be reading and discussing 15 to 20 psalms that can have meaning for you—whether you are religious or not. The Psalmist experienced hope and despair, faith and fear, joy and sorrow—just like us.

The World's Greatest Geological Wonders

Edwin cohen

We will be using videos from "The Great Courses" to tour some of the World's greatest natural wonders. Some of these are: Santorini, the Grand Canyon and the Himalayas.

Many thanks to our workshop leaders for your passion, commitment and hard work.

You are key to the success of our program!

GET INVOLVED!

JOIN ONE OF THE OLLI at SBU COMMITTEES OR COUNCILS!

OLLI EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (OEC)

In collaboration with the OLLI Program Director, the Executive Council ensures that the programs mission and vision are adhered to by working to encourage a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and engaged membership that fosters mutual respect, understanding, and collaboration amongst the membership, OLLI staff & SBU.

Chair: Karen DiPaola
kadipaola@gmail.com

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Proposes and establishes curriculum policy, develops new curricula, recruits and trains new workshop leaders, and evaluates the effectiveness of workshops and other curricular activities each term.

Co-Chair: Mary Hance
mfhance@aol.com
Co-Chair: Ella Nyc
Ellanyc@icloud.com

ARTS COMMITTEE

Supports a broad view of artistic expression; promotes and organizes activities that showcase members' creative abilities.

Chair: Geri Kaplan
gerikparisi@gmail.com

TRAVEL & LEISURE COMMITTEE

Organizes and promotes a variety of cultural and educational activities on and off the Stony Brook campus, evaluates such activities, and makes recommendations for future activities.

Chair: Helen Emmerich
hjemmerich@gmail.com

MEMBER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Provides support to members *(especially new members),* organizes social events, encourages members to participate as volunteers; ensures that needs, concerns, and suggestions of all members are addressed; and promotes the OLLI program within the community & surrounding areas.
Chair: Sue Mruz
suemruz@yahoo.com

OLLI TIMES COMMITTEE

The OLLI Times committee is responsible for all aspects of producing the OLLI Times magazine that will inspire OLLI Members to participate more fully in the program by showcasing our many talents.

Co-Chair: Camille Abelson
Co- Chair: Naomi Leszkiewicz
ollitimes@stonybrook.edu

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Responsible for promoting the OLLI program through print and electronic media and informational events with the goal of promoting awareness of OLLI in the local community and of increasing OLLI membership.

Chair: Laura Joseph
laura.i.joseph@gmail.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Responsible for developing budgets, overseeing financial performance, and ensuring compliance with financial policies. They also assist in long-term financial planning to support the organization's goals.

Chair: Francine Leiboff
beachhouse1848@gmail.com

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For more information: