

OLLI

AT AQUINAS COLLEGE



**Winter Registration
Begins Monday, January 15, 2024**

February 2 - March 28, 2024



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The morning skies in February might be the most beautiful of all the seasons as the bright sun offers a peak at the Spring that will soon follow. Until then, we have wonderful classes, great instructors, warmth and friendship to offer at the Browne Center. Now is a good time to let your friends and family know about our OLLI classes as we are offering half priced memberships – And, they can come join the fun with you.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Dr. Fred Johnson Series: Leave No One Behind 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Michigan History with Dr. Matthew Daley 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Rhythms of the Road: A Musical Journey with Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (ZOOM) 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>The Glitter of Art in the American Gilded Age: American Art, 1876-1920 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>People and Places with Caroline Cook 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>The Presidential Primaries 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Pursuit of Wellness: Changing Everyday Health Practices in Uncertain Times (ZOOM) 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Nova Scotia to the Great American Southwest 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Visit to Edinburgh (Repeat) 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Calvinists & the Indians in the Northeast Woodlands, 1648-1652 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>All You Need Is Love 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Music, Media & Counterculture 1950-1980 (ZOOM) 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Understanding and Addressing Neurological Disorders of the Brain 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p>	<p>John McKay: The Rest of the Story 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Meditation 11:45a.m. - 1:15 p.m.</p> <p>Charleston Architecture 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Before Jerry & Betty, There was Another Prominent Ford Couple in Grand Rapids 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>More of the "Supremes" with Devin Schindler 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>The Sweet House 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Bengal Tigers and Other India Stories 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Germany From Metternich to Merkel (1800-Present) 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>History of Fashion: the 17th Century 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>War in Ukraine: What's Happening in Ukraine and Russia 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Blandford Sugarbush Tour 1:30-2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Streaming: What Is It and How Do I Do It? (Repeat) 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>A History U.S.-Latin American Relations: It's Complicated 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Contemporary Urban Poverty: "Getting By" in Detroit 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Shakespeare's Kings 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Titanic Series (ZOOM) 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Bungling Bureaucrats and Balanced Budgets 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>America's First Ladies - Part 4: White House Widows (Limit 20) 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Prison Perspectives: Incarceration as Viewed by a Former Prisoner and His Warden 1:30-3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>History with Richard Bell (ZOOM) 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Imperial Faberge: Jeweler to the Tsars (ZOOM) 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Celebration of the Arts: The Grand Rapids Jewish Theatre 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>OLLI Oscar Party with Ian 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>The 2024 3rd Party Challenge: The Need for and Barriers to Real Alternatives to Trump v. Biden (ZOOM) 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p>

XOXO

Register for Winter 2024 OLLI Classes



OLLI Membership Levels NOW HALF PRICE!

BRONZE

\$12.50
\$17/class
meeting

SILVER

\$30
\$14/class
meeting

Classes will begin Friday, February 2
There will be both ZOOM and in-person classes.

Registration begins Monday, January 15 at 9 AM

Call 616-632-2430

or email Corey - cm002@aquinas.edu

or Susan - skk003@aquinas.edu

Please only contact ONE of us; not both



- Membership required to take classes.
- Registration is not complete until payment has been received AND processed.
- In order to receive an OLLI credit, a **2 business day** cancellation notice is required by EMAIL OR PHONE.
- Refunds for tuition may be in the form of an OLLI credit or a credit card refund.



OLLI Memberships Make Great Gifts

Need a gift for someone who has everything?

Consider an OLLI membership.

Good through June 2024

Can't Beat Half Price!

OLLI TUITION COURSES

MONDAY

Dr. Fred Johnson Series: Leave No One Behind

Monday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

8 Classes - February 5, 12, 19, 26 &
March 4, 11, 18, 25



Fred Johnson, Ph.D. is a professor of history at Hope College. His primary field of study is 19th Century History. Dr. Johnson has

received many awards, including the Hope favorite and Most Outstanding Professor Awards. He is a former Marine Officer and business leader; in addition, he has written over 9 books. Dr. Johnson recently was awarded an Endowed Chair in his name at Hope College.

February 5 (Donnelly) - Dear Japan, We Are Coming Soon:

The brutality Japanese captors inflicted upon their prisoners of war inspired a heroism which warned that a terrible retribution was coming.

February 12 (ZOOM) - Until All Are Accounted For:

The mammoth distraction caused by D-Day, June 6, 1944 was just what some American warriors needed to save brothers-in-arms from the vengeance of bloodthirsty Nazis and their minions.

February 19 (Donnelly) - The Creed:

Having sworn to never leave a fallen comrade behind, these American warriors put their words into action and attacked.

February 26 (ZOOM) - Saving Those Not There:

One medic and some courageous pilots guaranteed that some beleaguered Green Berets made it home from an incident their bosses denied for decades.

March 4 (Donnelly) - Never Again:

Lessons learned from the evils of one dictator were immediately recalled when another dictator imposed his own brutality and discovered that former lambs had become lions.

March 11 (ZOOM) - Serious Business in West Africa:

London was in no mood to negotiate with thugs and murderers, so it ended a nightmare and brought its citizens home.

March 18 (Donnelly) - Scenic Route to Freedom:

Western hemisphere tyrants who didn't believe that America would go all out to protect its citizens were given new beliefs.

March 25 (ZOOM) - Listen World Never Again Means NEVER AGAIN:

For all of his vaunted wisdom even great King Solomon never would have imagined his legacy becoming a potent sword in the cause of: **FREEDOM.**

Michigan History with Dr. Matthew Daley

Monday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

2 Classes - February 12 & 26



Matthew Daley, Ph.D. is a professor of history at GVSU. Dr. Daley's research focuses on urban, public and social policy; Great Lakes

maritime culture and technology; and public history. He recently served on the Social Studies State Board of Michigan.

February 12 - In Between the Lines, Interurban of West Michigan:

Electric interurban railways reflected both the need for intermediate distance transportation and the nation's fascination with electricity. West Michigan was served by three interurban systems from 1898 to 1932 running from Holland and Muskegon to Grand Rapids, to Kalamazoo, and beyond. They also linked to a much larger network across Michigan and the country. This largely lost transportation network offers insight not only to that era, but a potential future application.

February 26 - A Cross Border Bonanza, Gogebic Iron Range:

The rapid growth of the Gogebic Iron Range in Michigan's Western Upper Peninsula during the 1880s is a little-known story. This presentation looks at the creation of Michigan's final mining region that also sprawled into northeast Wisconsin creating towns, railroads, vice, and riches. The Gogebic Range combines ambition, grit, and community into a Gilded Age tale of boom and eventual bust.

Rhythms of the Road: A Musical Journey with Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (ZOOM)

Monday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

1 Class - February 19



Michael Agron grew up in LA, the heart of the recording & entertainment industry. He loved music so much he wanted to become a recording engineer.

Fate had different plans and he ended up with a successful career in hi-tech, including founding a webinar marketing agency. He has been fortunate enough to fulfill his musical and entertainment passions by offering seven unique popular seminars twelve times to the Sacramento Renaissance Society at Cal State University and to other OLLI organizations across the country.

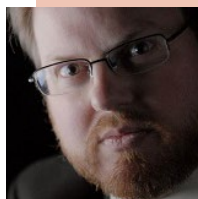
Embark on a tuneful journey through America's rich musical landscape, as we celebrate the iconic songs inspired by our love for travel. This seminar delves into a symphony of styles - from the rhythmic beats of Swing, Jazz, Pop, Rock, Folk, Country, and Soul. Together, we'll explore over a dozen tracks, each echoing our collective yearning for adventure, freedom, and romance. From the timeless harmonies of Glenn Miller to the classic tunes of Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald, The Beatles, and beyond, this session promises to leave you smiling, humming, and

tapping your feet to their enduring rhythms. We will rediscover songs that defined generations, with other additional artists like Peter, Paul & Mary, The O'Jays, and Johnny Cash guiding our musical odyssey. Whether these melodies are old favorites or new discoveries, join us to relive these great American classics and discover stories they tell of our journeys across planes, trains, and automobiles.

The Glitter of Art in the American Gilded Age: American Art, 1876-1920

Monday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

4 Classes - March 4, 11, 18 & 25



Henry Luttikhuisen, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Art History from Calvin University, received his doctorate from the University of Virginia. He currently

serves as Scholar in Residence at GVSU. Henry has published numerous books and articles in his academic discipline. In addition, he has served as the curator of exhibitions at local art museums and galleries.

In this four-week course, we will address developments in American art from the Republic's centennial of 1876 to 1913, when the Federal Reserve Act (initializing the central banking system) and the Revenue Act (establishing federal income tax) were enacted. 1913 was also the year of the famous Armory Show, which introduced modernist art to America. Mark Twain coined the phrase "Gilded Age," suggesting that below the glitz and glamor on the surface of American culture lies greed and corruption. We will look at paintings, photographs, and sculptures to deepen our understanding of the reasons these artworks were made and how they affected American sentiments and ideals.

TUESDAY

People and Places with Caroline Cook

Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

2 Classes - February 6 & March 5



Caroline Cook, chief tour ambassador of GR Running Tours, is all about Grand Rapids' history. Caroline tells fascinating

tales and gives guided tours of the city - highlighting the City's culture, history, and growth.

February 6 - Heritage Hill and Frank Lloyd Wright:

Small in stature, big in legend. This man's contribution to architecture is so big, in fact, that he created a style that became the basis of 20th century residential design in the United States. Not a trend, but a lasting genre. Mr. Wright was introduced to the hill district in Grand Rapids in the early 1900's. Caroline will share information about the storied architect and his contribution to the local architectural landscape in a turn-of-the-century, predominantly Victorian-inspired neighborhood... one home officially FLW, one home semi-official, and two homes officially "influenced."

March 5 - All-Star Athletes and Astronauts:

The history & evidence of "sports" extends as far back as cave drawings. Locally, who are our most famous athletes... those persons who are most proficient in sports and other forms of physical exercise? Who among us are Olympic athletes? Astronauts? Today we are going to visit places & hear stories that remind us of these inspiring heroes, past and present. Just do it!

The Presidential Primaries

Tuesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

2 Classes - February 6 & 13



Donald Zinman, Ph.D. is a professor of political science at GVSU. His research centers upon the presidency, political parties and American political development.

In primaries and caucuses, momentum is everything. Donald Zinman returns to OLLI with a short course that explores how fast-moving momentum can make or break presidential candidacies within just a few days or weeks.

Pursuit of Wellness: Changing Everyday Health Practices in Uncertain Times (ZOOM)

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

1 Class - February 13



Niko Besnier, Ph.D. is a socio-cultural and linguistic anthropologist and the author or editor of ten books. He has taught at the University of Illinois,

Yale University, Victoria University of Wellington, UCLA, and the University of Amsterdam, and currently is Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at La Trobe University in Melbourne.

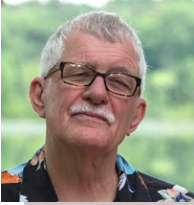
While introducing a 60 Minutes story in 1979, Dan Rather declared, "Wellness, there's a word you don't hear every day." More than four decades later, this word is everywhere. What happened? Niko Besnier contextualizes the unexpected explosion of interest in changes that our societies have experienced in recent decades, including transformations in healthcare provision, changing views of the body, and the increased politicization of health, which became particularly evident during the COVID-19 pandemic. Wellness has emerged as a concern in many societies, but in different forms that reflect local conditions.

COURSES CONT.

Nova Scotia to the Great American Southwest

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

2 Classes- February 20 & 27



Steve Soper is a lifelong traveler who will take us on a virtual tour of the Southwest! In the first week, students will drive with Steve

4,000 miles to Nova Scotia and back. Then take the ferry from Maine across the Atlantic Ocean (OK a small part of it) and drive the length of the province, stopping in Halifax the provincial capital. After visiting nearby Peggy's Cove, the trip will move further north to Cape Breton driving part of the picturesque Cabot Trail and seeing historic Louisbourg. In week two, students will "fly" to the other side of North America and visit four of the most dramatically beautiful places in the United States: Zion and Bryce Canyons, then on to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon finishing up at the South Rim where Steve will end with a helicopter tour allowing students to see why this canyon is indeed grand.

Visit to Edinburgh (Repeat)

Tuesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

1 Class - February 20



Judy Cotner, MA from GVSU, is a teacher (retired after 25 years) and docent at Frederik Meijer Gardens. She is well traveled and loves to tell stories of the places she visits.

The city of Edinburgh was born on a rocky volcanic hilltop. Kings and queens would rule Scotland from the castle that sits atop this massive rock. Common folk lived in tenement houses on the street below. On this Royal Mile, we will visit Saint Giles Cathedral, and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Learn about the dark history and

haunted spirit of Old Town, which includes tales of witchcraft and executions, and inspired J. K. Rowling to write the Harry Potter books.

Calvinists & the Indians in the Northeast Woodlands, 1648-1652

Tuesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

2 Classes - February 27 & March 5



Steve Staggs, Ph.D. is a historian of early North America and author of *Calvinists and Indians in the Northeastern Woodlands*. His

research focuses on the interactions between Indigenous, African, and European peoples.

Steve will continue his lecture series exploring the cross-cultural encounters that took place between Native Americans and New Netherlanders living in the Northeast Woodlands in the period up to 1754. During these years, New Netherlanders were settling throughout the Northeast. As they did, they quickly realized the extent to which they would need to rely on their "Gentile" Indian neighbors. Indeed, Native Americans secured their survival by unwittingly living out the gospel: Indians provided them with food and taught them how to clear the land, cultivate corn, fish the local waters, hunt turkeys, and construct and use canoes and snowshoes.

All You Need Is Love

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

1 Class - March 12



Dave Kampfschulte has been facilitating groups for personal growth for over 28 years as chronicled in his book, *Amazing Circles*.

We express love, have experienced it, and it is the center of many songs, movies, and books. But defining it and learning how to love and be loved is often lost in the web of life. Join Dave as we use Leo Buscaglia's book, *Love* as our jumping off point to explore the many pathways of love and maybe pick up a few hints on how to become a better lover ourselves.

Music, Media & Counterculture 1950-1980 (ZOOM)

Tuesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

3 Classes - March 12, 19 & 26



James Pagliasotti was the first rock & roll columnist in the 60's for *The Denver Post* when the counterculture became a significant

force in society and then gradually faded away. He also worked in freeform radio, and is the author of three books. His first book is titled; **WHAT IT WAS: Growing Up When the Music Mattered.**

This presentation is an impressionistic history of coming of age in the tumultuous post-War years of the Twentieth Century. Mr. Pagliasotti will use lecture, slide show, music and other media to examine the rise of the counterculture, the music that was its voice, and the media that brought together the artists and the audience. This was the dominant popular culture for 15 years or more, and the music that was its voice was so creative we still today call it the Classic Era of Rock Music.

Understanding and Addressing Neurological Disorders of the Brain

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
2 Classes - March 19 & 26



Dan Bergman, Ph.D. is chair of biomedical sciences at GVSU. he teaches anatomy, physiology, sensory neuroscience and other biomedical sciences courses.

In this session, we will examine the current understanding of clinical, behavioral, and molecular aspects of the brain. We will investigate the loss of memory and other cognitive abilities via aging, as well as during neurodegenerative conditions such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, and others. We will cover potential strategies for addressing neurological disorders, such as innovative therapeutic approaches, lifestyle interventions, and the role of early detection and diagnosis. Overall, this course aims to provide valuable insights into the intricate world of neurological disorders and foster a greater understanding of the collective efforts to develop effective treatments and support systems for individuals affected by these neurological conditions.

WEDNESDAY

John McKay: The Rest of the Story

Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
1 Class - February 7



Jon VanderPloeg, an attorney with Hilger and Hammond, is back to tell the rest of the John McKay story.

Meditation

Wednesday, 11:45a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
4 Classes - February 7, 14, 21 & 28



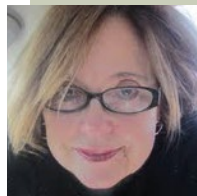
Fred Stella, writer and lecturer, is an ordained Pracharak (Outreach Minister) for the West Michigan Hindu Temple. He is currently president of Interfaith

Dialogue Association and hosts its weekly radio program. Fred has practiced daily meditation for 30 years.

Meditation through mindfulness can help people relax, manage chronic stress, and even reduce reliance on pain medication. It is a way of finding peace, clarity, and happiness. Although the practice has ties to many different religious teachings, meditation is less about faith and more about altering consciousness, finding awareness, and achieving peace. An hour of quiet is good for all so join Fred for all four of these classes or attend on days that work for you.

Charleston Architecture

Wednesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
2 Classes - February 7 & 14



A zealous researcher and architectural tourist, **Pam VanderPloeg** travels to photograph and learn the architectural

history of some of our nation's most interesting cities. She is the author and photographer of **Grand Rapids Downtown Buildings** which was

reviewed by the **Lansing City Pulse** this way: "When you finish leafing through the book, I'm sure you'll be looking to book a weekend visit to Grand Rapids." Pam's also the author of **Ottawa Hills: Early Architects & Builders**.

Charleston's architectural tourism dates back to the 1600s and the history of the low country and "crooked buildings." From construction during the Revolutionary War days to the stunning restored homes of the 1800s, this city has gorgeous buildings in every style, even modern and Art-Deco. Today city historians are also bringing to the public a better understanding of the architecture of diversity and struggle. This class is a photographic journey to one of our nation's oldest and most fascinating architectural landscapes.

Before Jerry & Betty, There was Another Prominent Ford Couple in Grand Rapids

Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
1 Class - February 14



M. Christine Byron is a retired local history librarian for the Grand Rapids Public Library. Her interest in the history of Michigan tourism led her and

her husband to write six books on that subject. She is on the boards



of the Grand Rapids Historical Commission and the Michigan Postcard Club. **Sophia Ward Brewer** is a librarian at Grand Rapids Community

College, specializing in collection development and teaching information literacy.

Joseph C. Ford, enslaved as a youth in Virginia, arrived in Grand Rapids in 1872 and soon after assumed the role of a porter for the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. He also spent over 50 years as the keeper of the Michigan Senate cloakroom, earning him the nickname

COURSES CONT.

“Senator” Joe Ford. In 1881, Joe married Emma S. Warren, setting the stage for a remarkable journey. Emma Ford, a trailblazing African-American woman, defied the odds and became a prominent leader, restaurateur, socialite, public servant, lecturer, wife, and mother. Emma and Joe left lasting marks on both the local and national stages. Their achievements would be remarkable today; but considering the times in which they lived, their accomplishments were extraordinary. Christine & Sophia will breathe life into the remarkable stories of Joe and Emma Ford, a couple who loved each other and loved their community.

More of the “Supremes” with Devin Schindler

Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

1 Class - February 21



Devin Schindler, J.D. is a distinguished professor emeritus at Western Michigan University-Cooley Law School. He has argued three

times before the Michigan Supreme Court and has litigated numerous constitutional issues at all levels of state and federal courts. Professor Schindler is a legal commentator whose remarks have appeared in *Time Magazine* and *The New York Times* and many other media outlets.

The Supreme Court has been busy this year with many critical Court decisions that will have profound impact. In this interactive session, Professor Schindler will continue to discuss the many big cases that were in dispute and look at the ramifications.

The Sweet House

Wednesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

1 Class - February 28



Carol Dodge is the historian for the Sweet House Foundation and the Women’s City Club. Her book, *The Mayor, the*

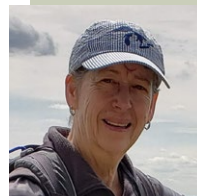
Musician, and the Mansion, was published in March 2023 and is the result of over 30 years of research on Martin Sweet, Ottokar Malek and the Sweet House.

Learn about the well-preserved historic Grand Rapids Sweet House, an architectural masterpiece filled with history and treasures. Meet two prominent men who lived there but have gone unrecognized for years—until now. Carol Dodge’s book reveals more about the house and these men, filling in gaps in the city’s history. Discover Sweet’s ties to Fifth Third Bank, his connection to the Amway Grand Plaza hotel, and the farm that became another prominent place in Grand Rapids. Uncover the origins of the Civic Orchestra and GR Symphony, and why the Sweet House and these men have been the “best kept secret” in Grand Rapids, making the city what it is today.

Bengal Tigers and Other India Stories

Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

1 Class - March 6



Kate Dernocoeur enjoys sharing her travels with armchair adventurers at OLLI! When she’s not out in the wider world, she lives at a place

of great natural beauty along a quiet gravel road in Vergennes Township unpopulated by scary, predators...and she likes it that way.

The *Panthera tigris tigris* is the national animal of India, and among the largest of the wild cats remaining in our world. In 1973, the government of India launched “Project Tiger” to preserve these magnificent animals which were then on the brink of extinction

from poaching and habitat loss. Their numbers have since climbed to about 3,100 individuals living in about 50 protected tiger preserves. In January 2023, Kate and her travel buddy, Margaret, spent several days in three tiger reserves in India in search of the elusive and endangered Bengal tiger, including walking for about 30 miles on foot. You’ll be safe from tiger teeth when you join Kate as she describes this adventure, along with other cool, unusual stuff they did in that distant, exotic country.

Germany From Metternich to Merkel (1800-Present)

Wednesday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

4 Classes - March 6, 13, 20, 27



Gary Stark, Ph.D. is a professor emeritus of Modern European History at GVSU. A specialist on Germany, he has lived in both West and East

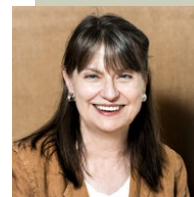
Germany and is the author of several books on Modern and European history and culture.

Why has a land of “poets and thinkers” had such a violent and disastrous modern history? How did this advanced and civilized nation produce Nazism? This series will survey Germany during Hitler’s dictatorship, its postwar existence as two hostile German countries divided by a deadly wall, and today’s reunited Germany as a ‘normal’ nation.

History of Fashion: the 17th Century

Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

2 Classes - March 13 & 20



Suzanne Eberle, Ph.D. is a professor emerita of Art History at Kendall College of Art & Design, where she taught for 41 years. She also serves

on the Sculpture Advisory Committee and Education Committee at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park and on the Arts Advisory Council of Notre Dame’s Raclin Murphy Museum of Art.

In this session we will explore Italian Renaissance clothing and then move into the Tudor and Elizabethan periods. Our investigations will focus on male and female garments, accessories, and grooming habits, as well as shifting ideas about beauty, all placed within a broader cultural and aesthetic context.

War in Ukraine: What's Happening in Ukraine and Russia

Wednesday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
2 Classes - March 20 & 27



Heather Tafel, Ph.D. is a professor of political science at GVSU. Her research centers on post-Soviet Russia, and she also teaches comparative democratization.

Need some updates about Russia's war in Ukraine? In this class, we'll examine recent developments, with one session devoted to Ukraine and one session devoted to Russia. Topics include elections, democracy and autocracy, human rights, and nationalism.

Blandford Sugarbush Tour

Wednesday, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
1 Class - March 20 (Limit 25)



Camilla Voelker, is Blandford Nature Center's Community Programs Manager. She has been at Blandford for nearly

two years and leads many of our community programs for families and adults. She is also a certified herbalist.

Join Camilla as she takes our OLLI scholars on a SugarBush Tour at Blandford. The tour will take about an hour and will cover maple tree identification and tree tapping, and the history of maple syrup production over the centuries. You might even be able to take home some delicious syrup!

THURSDAY

Streaming: What Is It and How Do I Do It? (Repeat)

Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
1 Class - February 8



RGA Tech Support is based in Grand Rapids. The company's mission is to offer an effective, safe, and intimidation free opportunity to

grow one's understanding of today's technology.

Insights will be shared into what "streaming" is, how much it costs, and how to do it. By the end of the class, you will be able to "cut the cord and stream."

A History U.S.-Latin American Relations: It's Complicated

Thursday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
4 Classes - February 8, 15, 22 & 29



Dan Miller, Ph.D., retired Calvin University history professor, majored in history at Westmont College and did so again in graduate school at the

University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill where he received his doctorate.

A former Mexican President remarked "Poor Mexico, so far from God, so close to the United States." What makes Latin America's relationship with the U.S. so complicated? This class will examine the history of their relations from colonial times to the present. For much of that time, the United States dominated the hemisphere, but Latin Americans never stopped trying to pursue their own agendas, sometimes with surprising success. How has this relationship changed over the years and where do things stand now? Let's find out.

Week One: The Origins of U.S.-Latin American Relations.
Week Two: A New Century and a New Foreign Policy.

Week Three: Cold War or Hot War?
Week Four: Debts and Trade, Immigration and Drugs, Democracy and Populism

Contemporary Urban Poverty: "Getting By" in Detroit

Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
2 Classes - February 22 & 29



Jen Lendrum, Ph.D. is an assistant professor of Sociology at Aquinas College where she specializes in gender, urban poverty, health and well-being, gender-based violence and generational trauma.

Despite recent revitalization efforts in downtown and midtown areas in Detroit, many of the neighborhoods remain blighted and socially and economically depressed. Dr Lendrum's research examines the elaborate and ephemeral ways in which households and families in one Detroit neighborhood deal with contemporary urban poverty to "get by".

Shakespeare's Kings

Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
2 Classes - March 7 & 14



Gary Eberle is professor emeritus of English at Aquinas College and an author of fiction and non-fiction books.

With all its colorful pomp and ceremony, the coronation of Charles III last May put the British monarchy in the spotlight and made it look like British royal history was all trumpets and stately processions. The truth is anything but that, as Shakespeare and our weekly supermarket tabloids show. These two classes will show how Shakespeare, in his historical plays, showed how the royal succession was always a mixed jumble of personal and historical realities and follies, including murder, adultery, bastard children, warfare, assassinations, betrayals and forced marriages. It made bloody history and great entertainment, too.

COURSES CONT.

Titanic Series (ZOOM)

Thursday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

2 Classes - March 7 & 14



Sheryl Rinkol, Director of Titanic Education and Engagement for E/M Group, is the author of *Titanic Today* and founder of *Titanically Speaking*.

She has studied and taught Titanic for 40 years. **Ross Mumford** is the Education Coordinator for E/M Group and a former 4th grade teacher. He has taught 15 different Titanic classes across many age levels.

Engage with RMS Titanic's legacy through the first course in a series, each with a distinct topic spread across multiple OLLI catalogs. In 1912, Titanic was the largest ship in the world. Begin your Titanic journey by learning the background of how such a luxurious liner was created. Discover its three construction stages at the Harland & Wolff Shipyard in Belfast, Ireland (modern Northern Ireland). Explore its innovative design built for Edwardian times. The second class, taken together or independently, focuses on voyage preparations for the opulent liner on its first voyage. Explore Titanic's route and port cities and their impact on the Titanic legend.

Bungling Bureaucrats and Balanced Budgets

Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

2 Classes - March 21 & 28.



David Hebert, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Economics at Aquinas College. In addition to his work in higher education, he has also

worked with the US Senate Budget Committee and the Joint Economic Committee in the US House of Representatives. His popular writings

have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Investor's* and with the *American Institute for Economic Research*. His academic work has been published often. He is the editor of "Emergence, Entanglement, and Political Economy," which is part of the series in *Public Choice* for Springer Publishing.

Living within our means is something that most of us seem to be able to do most of the time. Even elected officials seem to have no problem with this in their personal lives as we rarely hear about policymakers having financial difficulties themselves. Despite their myriad differences, democracies around the world share one common feature: persistent and growing deficits. Why is this? Join Dr. Dave Hebert for a discussion of the systemic forces that lead to this and, importantly, what can be done about it.

America's First Ladies - Part 4: White House Widows (Limit 20)

Thursday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

1 Class - March 21



Bonnie David is a graduate of Western Michigan University and taught at East Kentwood High School for 29 years. She has presented Lifelong Learning

classes at Kellogg Community College for over 15 years. She loves teaching classes about the First Ladies of our country!

In 1841, William Henry Harrison became the first U.S. President to die while in office, leaving his wife, First Lady Anna Harrison, a widow. Seven more presidents would follow. We will examine the circumstances of each president's death and focus on the way each widowed first lady spent the rest of her life. A take home "Taste of History" will feature first lady favorites and former White House Pastry Chef, Roland Mesnier's recipes.

Prison Perspectives: Incarceration as Viewed by a Former Prisoner and His Warden

Thursday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

1 Class - March 28



Pam Withrow completed her BA in psychology and pre-law from MSU. She became the first woman warden in the State of Michigan.

Her most recent position was as the Warden for the Michigan Reformatory in Ionia. She received honorary doctorates from GVSU and Ferris State University. She was also inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. **Ron Hammond** was in prison for 36 years - completed a parole term while working full time and being a full time student - and will be graduating from Calvin University in May. He was one of Michigan's juvenile lifers whose sentence was converted to a term of years (40-60 in his case) following an agreement by a prosecutor and the State Appellate Defender's Office.

Ron and Pam will talk about their experiences with Michigan's prison system. Each will describe what they think is needed so offenders can return to their communities ready to assume a responsible and productive life.

FRIDAY

History with Richard Bell (ZOOM)

Friday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

2 Classes - February 2 & March 1



Richard Bell, Ph.D. is a professor of history at the University of Maryland. He has won more than a dozen teaching awards including the

Regents Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. He serves as a trustee of the Maryland Historical Society. He is the author of the award winning book, *Stolen*.

February 2 - Juneteenth, The Destruction of Slavery in the Civil War:

Over the course of four years, enslaved people worked to turn the Civil War into a freedom war. Slowly but surely, they pushed President Abraham Lincoln and his commanders in the field toward embracing emancipation as a war aim and to compel them to take the giant steps forward needed to abolish slavery once and for all. On June 19, 1865, the federal government finally met that objective, declaring slavery dead across the country. This momentous event marked a new birth of freedom—an occasion we now commemorate as Juneteenth.

March 1 - The Wrong Side of History: Loyalists in the American Revolutions:

The loyalists were the losers of the American Revolution. The Americans who rejected independence and who fought to keep the colonies safely within the bosom of the British Empire lost almost everything when the patriots declared victory at the Battle of Yorktown in 1781. History quickly lost sight of them in the years afterwards and looking back now, it's hard to understand why so many ordinary Americans were

actually bitterly opposed to the break with Britain and the birth of a new nation. Join University of Maryland historian Richard Bell as he takes us back in time to examine the American Revolution from their perspective. Focusing on individuals with compelling personal stories, Bell challenges deep-rooted stereotypes of loyalists as sycophantic, cowardly, and selfish persons of means and demonstrates that to understand who the loyalists were, and what they experienced, is to better understand the stakes of the entire American Revolution.

Imperial Faberge: Jeweler to the Tsars (ZOOM)

Friday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

2 Classes - February 9 & 16



Carol Veldman Rudie, Ph.D. is the Education Outreach Coordinator at the Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis. She has become a

favorite of OLLI students here and across the country.

The greatest jewelers of all time are most closely associated with the Romanovs, the richest emperors of all time. They provided adornments for the tsarist court and set fashions for the rest of the European royal families. The end of the Romanov empire might have terminated the ability to continue producing the delicate works but not the mystique. This presentation provides the background to understand their connections and the times that created the presence of such fine artwork.

Celebration of the Arts: The Grand Rapids Jewish Theatre

Friday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

1 Class - February 23



Paul Arnold is a graduate of Michigan State with a degree in Graphic Arts and a minor in Theatre as well as a Masters

of Management degree from Aquinas. Before founding his own advertising and graphic design studio, he was the head Art Director/Creative Director for other agencies. As an actor, he has appeared in 32 musicals or plays as well as four films and a "Hot 'n Now" commercial. He was the Chair of the Jewish Theatre Board and currently is the Executive Director, overseeing the production of three shows each year. Though JTGR productions may have Jewish themes, they are always universal in appeal. The goal is to present cross-cultural experiences in West Michigan, while informing, educating, and engaging patrons. Paul's talk will detail the processes of selecting and producing plays from the perspective of a niche theatrical company in West Michigan. We will also touch on the history of Yiddish and Jewish theater and its place in the American cultural fabric.

OLLI Oscar Party with Ian

Friday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

3 Classes - March 1, 8, 15



Ian MacNeil is the director of the Hope Academy of Senior Professionals (HASP) at Hope College. He earned a BS from Aquinas College

where he developed a passion for movies and lifelong learning which has translated into a decade-long partnership with OLLI.

COURSES CONT.

Roll out the red carpet, cast your ballots, and join the discussion of this year's Academy Award nominees. Ian predicts who *will* win, who *should* win, and who should have been nominated as the newest films from Bradley Cooper (*Maestro*), Martin Scorsese (*Killers of the Flower Moon*), Christopher Nolan (*Oppenheimer*), Greta Gerwig (*Barbie*), Yorgos Lanthimos (*Poor Things*), and Alexander Payne (*The Holdovers*) compete for the film industry's most coveted accolades.

The 2024 3rd Party Challenge: The Need for and Barriers to Real Alternatives to Trump v. Biden (ZOOM)

Friday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

1 Class - March 22



David Ryden, Ph.D., professor at Hope College, has a J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School and a Ph.D.

from the Catholic University of America. His areas of specialization are religion and politics, American Constitutionalism, and parties and elections.

The country appears to be on a glide path to a 2024 Presidential

rematch that no one seems to want. Solid majorities of Democrats, Republicans AND independents want candidates other than Trump or Biden in the upcoming presidential showdown. So why isn't it happening? This session will argue that a genuine third party alternative just might be the key to salvaging our party system. We will examine the structural obstacles to successful 3rd party or independent challenges to the main party nominees, before contemplating several scenarios where a real alternative could overcome these impediments to seriously alter the electoral landscape next fall.

FEBRUARY 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1	2 R. Bell Juneteenth ZOOM 9:30 Symphony Tour 4:30
5 F. Johnson 9:30	6 C. Cook Heritage Hill & Frank Lloyd Wright 9:30 D. Zinman Presidential Primary 1:30	7 J. VanderPloeg John McKay 9:30 F. Stella Meditation 11:45 P. VanderPloeg Charleston 1:30	8 G. Austin Streaming 9:30 D. Miller US-Latin Am. Relations 1:30	9 C. Rudie Faberge Story ZOOM 9:30
12 F. Johnson ZOOM 9:30 M. Daley Interurban of W. Michigan 1:30	13 N. Besnier - Pursuit of Wellness ZOOM 9:30 D. Zinman - Presidential Primary 1:30	14 C Byron, S. Brewer The Other Fords 9:30 F. Stella Meditation 11:45 P. VanderPloeg Charleston 1:30	15 D. Miller US-Latin Am. Relations 1:30	16 C. Rudie Faberge Story ZOOM 9:30
19 F. Johnson 9:30 M. Agron Rhythms of the Road (ZOOM) 1:30	20 S. Soper Nova Scotia 9:30 J. Cotner Edinburgh 1:30	21 D. Schindler SCOTUS 9:30 F. Stella Meditation 11:45	22 J. Lendrum Urban Poverty 9:30 D. Miller US-Latin Am. Relations 1:30	23 P. Arnold Grand Rapids Jewish Theatre 9:30
26 F. Johnson ZOOM 9:30 M. Daley Gogebic Range 1:30	27 S. Soper Nova Scotia 9:30 S. Staggs Calvinists & Indians 1:30	28 F. Stella Meditation 11:45 C. Dodge Sweet House 1:30	29 J. Lendrum Urban Poverty 9:30 D. Miller US-Latin Am. Relations 1:30	

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**POSTMASTER
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JANUARY 5-10, 2024**

**Classes Begin
February 2, 2024**

Find us on 

MARCH 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				I MacNeil Oscar Party 9:30 R. Bell Wrong Side of History ZOOM 9:30
F. Johnson 9:30 H. Luttikhuizen American Art 1:30	C. Cook All Star Athletes & Astronaut 9:30 S. Staggs Calvinists & Indians 1:30	K. Dernocoeur India & Bengal Tigers 9:30 G. Stark Germany 1:30	G. Eberle Shakespeare's Kings 9:30 S. Rinkol, R. Mumford Titanic Voyage ZOOM 1:30	I. MacNeil Oscar Party 9:30
F. Johnson ZOOM 9:30 H. Luttikhuizen American Art 1:30	D. Kampfschulte All You Need is Love 9:30 J. Pagliasotti Music, Media & Counterculture ZOOM 1:30	S. Eberle 17th Century Fashion 9:30 G. Stark Germany 1:30	G. Eberle Shakespeare's Kings 9:30 S. Rinkol, R. Mumford Titanic Voyage ZOOM 1:30	I MacNeil Oscar Party 9:30
F. Johnson 9:30 H. Luttikhuizen American Art 1:30	D. Bergman Neurological Disorders 9:30 J. Pagliasotti Music, Media & Counterculture ZOOM 1:30	S. Eberle, 17th Century Fashion 9:30 H. Tafel War in Ukraine 9:30 Blandford Sugar Tour, 1:30 G. Stark, Germany 1:30	D. Hebert Bungling-Bureaucrats-Balancing Budgets 9:30 B. David - American First Ladies (Limit 20) 1:30	D. Ryden Third Party Candidates ZOOM 9:30
F. Johnson ZOOM 9:30 H. Luttikhuizen American Art 1:30	Bergman Neurological Disorders 9:30 J. Pagliasotti Music, Media & Counterculture ZOOM 1:30	H. Tafel War in Ukraine 9:30 G. Stark Germany 1:30	D. Hebert Bungling-Bureaucrats-Balancing Budgets 9:30 P. Withrow Prison Perspectives 1:30	