



COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL  
AND CONTINUING STUDIES  
*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA*



# *Life Is Learning*

**OLLI AT OU SPRING 2024**





## **THE GOAL OF OLLI AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA**

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Oklahoma is dedicated to promoting lifelong learning and personal growth of older adults through a variety of noncredit courses. Our courses range from one-time offerings such as “Mornings with the Professor” to longer, more specific courses like “Senior Seminars.”

OLLI at OU serves those individuals age 50+ who are curious about unique subjects and who love to learn. Our goal is to create an innovative learning environment that fosters learning through socialization of members and classroom discussion.

## **THE BERNARD OSHER FOUNDATION**

The Bernard Osher Foundation seeks to improve quality of life through the support of lifelong learning institutes such as the one here at the University of Oklahoma. Founded in 1977 by Bernard Osher, the Bernard Osher Foundation has funded more than 100 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes on college and university campuses all over the United States. Continued support from the Bernard Osher Foundation is contingent upon membership, so membership matters. To learn more about the Bernard Osher Foundation, visit [osherfoundation.org](http://osherfoundation.org).

## **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

OLLI at OU has met the initial 500-member goal established by the Bernard Osher Foundation. We must continue to have a robust membership in order to offer as many quality programs as possible.

**OLLI courses are open to anyone age 50+. Membership in OLLI is required to enroll in courses. Our members enjoy the following benefits:**

- The satisfaction of supporting OLLI at OU while enjoying engaging courses from some of the university's most interesting faculty
- Being part of a social network that allows members to interact with peers of a similar age and background
- A parking tag used to attend OLLI at OU courses

## **PARKING DURING OLLI COURSES**

A parking hang tag is required to park in any multi-purpose parking lot. A tag is included with your membership. If you are attending an OLLI course in the OCCE Forum Building, please park in the lot on the southeast side of the building.

## **THE ERNA JONA MACDONNELL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Erna Jona MacDonnell Scholarship Fund has been established to provide OLLI at OU memberships to age 50+ learners so that they may enroll in OLLI at OU courses. The scholarship is need-based, and awards are decided by committee. Those interested in applying for the scholarship should contact the OLLI at OU offices at (405) 325-3488 or [celliott@ou.edu](mailto:celliott@ou.edu).

Erna embraced OLLI courses because they could increase the breadth and depth of her knowledge. No matter what someone's life experiences or education might be, OLLI courses allow members to deepen their knowledge of a familiar subject or explore an unfamiliar one.



# **NORMAN**

Classes held on OU's Norman campus occur in the  
Thurman J. White Forum building:

**1704 Asp Ave.**

**Norman, OK 73072**

Rooms are equipped with audio/visual systems for  
class presentations and complimentary coffee and water  
are provided for each class.

Parking is available with the OLLI parking pass  
included in your membership packet.



**ARCHITECTURE**

**Bruce Goff: Architect and Artist | \$50**

*David Boeck*

Wednesdays | February 21 – March 13, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

This is a course that will look at the architecture projects of Bruce Goff, including a look at the design process he used in developing his projects. His design studios have become famous because of the unique process he used to get the students thinking creatively. Studio 273 was known for using music and music related language to engage their creative activities and developing design solutions around the language and music used. Many times, the results were not buildings, but rather abstract drawings!

This course will also look at how this studio can be applied to any problem-solving initiatives undertaken in any profession and try to explain how this works.



## ART

**It's Never Too Late: An Approach to Acting | \$50***Betsy Ballard*

Wednesdays | April 3 – May 1, 2024 | 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Have you always wanted to try acting and just never got around to it? Have you ever wondered exactly how somebody goes about acting? Are you afraid of speaking in front of strangers, or are you someone who has never met a stranger and can talk to anyone? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, this may be the course for you! Over the 5-week period, you will learn basic stage terminology and technique, you will memorize and perform for the class a brief monologue or two written for the stage, and you and a scene partner will memorize and perform for the class a 3 ½- 5-minute scene from a play.

All members of the class will also read and discuss *The Gin Game*, by D. L. Coburn, as an example of a stage drama. At the course's end, a live stage production of the play will be available for students to attend on Friday, May 3rd from 12 – 9 PM. There will be a Q & A session after the production.

**Art for the Franciscans: Italy in the 1200s – 1400s | \$50***Allison Palmer*

Tuesdays/Thursdays | June 18 - 27, 2024 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.

The Franciscan Order, established by St. Francis of Assisi in the early 1200s, spread across Italy and inspired a new realism in art that anticipated the Renaissance. The *Canticle of the Sun*, a poem written by Francis while on the beautiful mountain La Verna, speaks of his love for humankind, animals, and nature. The visual arts and vernacular preaching helped Franciscan mendicant friars tell the stories of Francis's life and miracles, while promoting his teachings and mission. We'll look at Franciscan art of the 1200s-1400s in Italy that epitomized his love for the natural world, which he deemed a physical expression of the divine.

**The Arts of China | \$50***Paul Bell*

Tuesdays | April 2 – May 7, 2024 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

I have been attracted to Chinese art since I bought my first Chinese object, a carved red lacquer bowl, when I was 14. This marked the beginning of a life-long fascination with all things Chinese, especially Chinese artistic expression. Although initially attracted by its exotic beauty, I found there was much that was enigmatic in Chinese art due to the cultural and aesthetic values of the people who created it. This is not surprising since China is an ancient culture that developed over a period of 5,000 years, largely free of Western influence.

Their unique cultural heritage confers distinctive ways of perceiving themselves, their relationships with others, and their relationship with the world around them. In this course, I will attempt to share my own journey to bridge the gap between appreciating the beauty of Chinese art and understanding the aesthetic values of the people who produced it. The course will begin with a discussion of Chinese aesthetic values and the cultural values from which they are derived.

We will explore different forms of artistic expression, such as calligraphy, painting, ceramics, architecture, poetry, music, and drama, discussing how they reflect Chinese aesthetic perspectives. At the end of the course, participants will have an appreciation of the beauty of Chinese artistic expression and a deeper understanding of how Chinese think about Chinese art forms.



**ART**

**Collaboration! Creating a Musical from Vision to Design to Rehearsal to Performance: An in-depth look at OU University Theatre’s production of *Crazy For You* | \$50**

*Ashton Byrum*

Tuesdays | March 5 – April 5, 2024 | 6:30 – 8 p.m.

*This class will meet at the Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre.*

Join OLLI at OU and the Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre for a look behind the curtains of an OU performance! OLLI members will hear from different departments of the production (music, costumes, direction, choreography, and more) about what it truly takes to make a show come together.

**March 5, 2024**

*Crazy For You* – Music/Lyrics – George & Ira Gershwin, Book by Ken Ludwig  
Structure, Style, Story. Discussion of University Theatre Operations and OU School of Musical Theatre. Auditions for the show. Original Production and Creative Team, Production History.

**March 12, 2024**

Director’s Vision. Interview with Director/Choreographer, Professor Lyn Cramer.  
OLLI Class visits rehearsals – Fine Arts Center.

**Spring Break**

**March 26, 2024**

It’s About The Music! Guest Lecturer, Professor Paul Christman (Musical Director and Conductor). Design Collaboration. Interview with Renee Brode, Lighting Designer.

**April 2, 2024**

Putting it Together – Many Moving Parts! Interview with student Stage Manager (or Stage Management Faculty)  
Watch part of the dress rehearsal.

**April 5 – 14**

*Crazy For You* runs at the Elsie C. Brackett Theatre, and OLLI at OU members will be invited to attend one of the performances.





## FILM

**Not Your Hollywood Blockbusters: Counter Cinema, Indie,  
& Art House Films | \$50***Betty Robbins*

Tuesdays | January 30 – March 5, 2024 | 1 – 4 p.m.

Counter Cinema films, which emerged in the early 1970s, position viewers at a critical, thinking distance from the screen and keep them mindful of the fact they are watching a film. In the 1980s, that label morphed into Indies to designate films created independently of the constraints of studio producers and financiers, while in the 1990s, films unique in stylistic and artistic visions, and often subject matter, took on the label Art House films.

Productions in any one of these categories share one thing: They do not cater to mainstream tastes. Film buffs can view these films in museum theaters and specialty theaters like the Angelika and Film Forum chains. This course will screen two films from each category listed above and include both domestic and international productions. We will discuss how each category of film evolved and screen the works of significant filmmakers who believe filmmaking is an art form.



HEALTH

**Introduction to Buddhism | \$50**

*Ralph Doty & Haven Tobias*

Thursdays | April 4 - 25, 2024 | 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Although it may be the fastest-growing spiritual movement in this country, Buddhism remains a mystery to most Americans. Not entirely a religion, a philosophy or a form of therapy, it is, in some sense, all three.

This course will examine the basic teachings of Buddhism, the differences between the main schools – including a brief look at Zen – and how Buddhism is adapting to America (and vice versa). The text for the course will be Edith Hamilton’s *Mythology*.



## HISTORY

### **Media Controversies from Socrates to Social Media | \$50**

*Peter Soppelsa*

Mondays | May 20 – June 17, 2024 | 10:30 a.m. – Noon

*\*Class will not meet on May 27\**

This four-week course surveys the history of media (information and communication technologies), paying special attention to the media critics and controversial issues that erupt at moments in history when new media technologies emerge, and people try to predict what their social consequences will be.

In week 1, the course opens with the ancient Greek philosopher Socrates and his critique of writing as inferior to speech. In week 2, the course travels to the German lands during the Protestant Reformation to consider the controversies around piracy and intellectual property attending moveable-type printing in the careers of Johan Gutenberg and Martin Luther. In week 3, we'll visit the United States in the late 1800s, from the Age of Reconstruction into the Progressive Era, to explore author-humorist Mark Twain's struggle to accept the typewriter and composer John Philips Sousa's harsh criticisms of the "menace" that the phonograph and recorded music posed for live music performance. In week 4, we will examine the visual media that have dominated our media environment since World War II – film, television and computers.

Throughout the course, we'll consider how people tried to predict the social consequences of new media technologies, asking what they got right and what they got wrong. Finally, we'll consider how this history informs and impacts our own choices about media technology today as we reflect on the broader relationships between media technology and society.



**HISTORY**

**Slavery in World History | \$50**

*Dan Snell*

Wednesdays | February 21 – March 20, 2024 | 1 – 3 p.m.

How depressing to think of centuries of exploitation, but this history ends well when a small group of reformers changed the attitudes of millions from tolerance of slavery to abolitionism. How did this happen?

We start with prehistory and explore the ancient world and medieval changes, leading to the Middle Passage and the forced peopling of the New World. When most human groups have been exploited, why does racism persist? Why does human trafficking ruin lives still? I have ideas but no definitive answers.



**The Chisholm Trail: Its History and Impact | \$50**

*Luann Waters*

Thursdays | March 28 – April 25, 2024 | 1 – 3:30 p.m.

The name conjures images of longhorn cattle on the trail, cowboys following in the dust and the chuckwagon rattling on to the next camp. The Chisholm Trail was one of the longest commercial land routes in American history. To paraphrase Texas writer J. Frank Dobie, “It made possible the greatest and most extraordinary migration of animals controlled by man that the world has ever known.”

Learn about the museums and historical sites along the trail in Oklahoma. Discover the profound cultural importance of the Chisholm and other cattle trails as we review videos and reference materials and engage in class discussions.



## HISTORY

### **Well-Behaved Women Rarely Make History. Or Do They? Let's Talk Bad Girls! Or Good Girls Who Might Have Been Bad! | \$50**

*Sharon Schlicher*

Wednesdays | April 3 – 24, 2024 | 2 – 4 p.m.

Let's discuss the serendipitous women that we only know a little about. Did you know there were seven Cleopatras, and all left their mark on their kingdoms? What about the midwives who defied Pharaoh and REFUSED to kill firstborn sons? Did you know Jesus's birth was attended by midwives and that there are midwife tours in Jerusalem? We have been taught to think Mary Magdalene was a harlot – but was she really? What if she was really a disciple?

Let's discuss the medieval healers who used light and sound during a time when healing was poorly understood and burning at the stake was more than likely. Yes, we know about Amazon Warrior women, but what about the Native American women warriors and the one that unhorsed Custer and likely killed him? Women have always been ignored in history, and we know their accomplishments have been many – let's add these amazing women to our repertoire of knowledge. We will honor them, listen to their music and look at their paintings and pictures.

What about the female pharaohs, popes, and doctors who openly kept their sex a secret? We will discuss why their sex was an issue and how they obtained training and schooling while secretly “being a woman.” Many of them made remarkable accomplishments and received awards and recognition. For some of them, their sex was not revealed until their death.

Let's celebrate women and their accomplishments with an in-depth look at some of their extraordinary lives.



**The Trojan War | \$50**

*Steve Wagner*

Thursdays | February 1 – 22, 2024 | 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Few events have captured the Western imagination as much as the Trojan War. We shall explore the legendary and historical origins of the war, the many players, the course of events over the ten years of battle, the fall of Troy, and (time permitting) the arms and armor, along with the archeology of the site at Hissarlik. Readings from Homer and Virgil.







LITERATURE

**Modern Literature: 20th-Century Latin Americans | \$50**

*Chris Carter & Mark Griffin*

Fridays | February 2 – March 1, 2024 | 3 – 4:30 p.m.

This course will cover five Latin American writers from the 1940s to the 1980s. Our study will proceed for five sessions as follows:

- Feb. 2                      Jorge Luis Borges (1899-1986), *The South* (1944)
- Feb. 9                      Julio Cortazar (1914-1984), *House Taken Over* (1946)  
Carlos Fuentes (1928-2012), *Chac Mool* (1954)
- Feb. 16                     Gabriel Garcia Marquez (1927-2014),  
*A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*  
(published 1955 in *Leaf Storm*).  
*Death Constant Beyond Love* (published 1970, three  
years after his highly influential 1967 *One Hundred Years of Solitude*).
- Feb 23                     Laura Esquivel (b. 1950),  
*Like Water for Chocolate* (1989, translated into English, 1992)
- Mar 2                        *Like Water for Chocolate*, second half

There is no prerequisite for this course. Although it is the latest, the twelfth, in a series on modern literature, it is a brand-new course with different texts. At the first class, a packet of the readings will be passed out to each student. In addition, we ask that you purchase a copy of the *Esquivel* novel.



## MUSIC

**Broadway: A History of American Musical Theatre,  
Part 1: The Beginning | \$50***Marvin Beck*

Thursdays | February 1 – March 7, 2024 | 10 a.m. – Noon

This will be a multi-seminar series that delves into the entire saga of popular music theatre from its roots and inception, tracing the path and evolution from ancient times through its many remarkable eras right up to productions of today. The presentations will feature videos from many of the greatest and most important productions, interviews with some of the luminaries and key history and documentaries. It will combine the fascinating history with the fun and entertainment that can only be found at this level of theatrical excellence.



**The Music of Gustav Mahler and Richard Strauss | \$50**  
*Clive Mander*

Fridays | January 19 – February 23, 2024 | 10 a.m. – Noon

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911) was an Austro-Bohemia Romantic composer and one of the leading conductors of his generation. As a composer, he acted as a bridge between the 19th-century Austro-German tradition and the modernism of the early 20th Century. While in his lifetime his status as a conductor was established beyond question, his own music, comprising symphonies and songs, only gained wide popularity after a long period of relative neglect. He is not one of the most popular of all composers.

Richard Strauss (1864-1949) dominated classical music at the turn of the 20th Century with a series of works that pushed post-Romanticism to extremes and pre-empted the innovations of modernism. His fame arose primarily from symphonic poems in the 1890s and his operas, some of the controversial subject matter, in the following decades. One of the greatest of all opera composers, he profoundly understood the expressive power of the human voice. Strauss was also a prominent conductor and theater director.

Although very different personalities, Mahler and Strauss were to remain friends until Mahler's death in 1911. The two would have long, heated discussions together and corresponded regularly. Mahler once said of Strauss: "Strauss and I tunnel from different sides of a mountain. One day, we shall meet."

The course will consider the lives of the two composers, with an overview of their major compositions. Classes will feature extensive listening to their music together with some analysis.



## MUSIC

**Art and Music in the Early, High, and Late Renaissance | \$50**  
*Gene Enrico / Susan Caldwell*

Mondays | April 8 – May 13, 2024 | 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

This interdisciplinary course will study the interrelationships between art and music within the Western European historical contexts of the early Renaissance, the high Renaissance and the late Renaissance periods, including the rise of Protestantism in the North. The course is broken down into six two-hour sessions:

1. The North (Flanders, Burgundy) in the 15th century
2. Italy in the 15th century
3. The High Renaissance in Italy
4. The late 16th century in Italy
5. Protestantism in the North
6. Venice in the 16th century

Some of the artists to be studied include Jan van Eyck, Van der Weyden, Bosch, Brunelleschi, Donatello, Masaccio, Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Giorgione, Titian, Palladio, Holbein, Dürer, El Greco. Musicians include Dunstable, Dufay, Ockeghem, Josquin, Isaac, Encina, Cara, Arcadelt, Willaert, Palestrina, Lassus, Walter, Bourgeois, Byrd, Rore, Marenzio, Gesualdo, Weelkes and Monteverdi.



**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**U.S. - Russia Relations | \$50**

*Rob Andrew*

Wednesdays | January 17 – February 7, 2024 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Overview of U.S.-Russia Relations over the past 200 years, with special emphasis on World War II, the Cold War, the Post-Cold War Era, and current relations in the wake of Russia's war on Ukraine.

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**The Practice of Diplomacy | \$50**

*Rob Andrew*

Wednesdays | February 21 – March 13, 2024 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

In this course, we look at how a typical US Embassy is organized along with an overview of the State Department. We also review the instructor's career in the Foreign Service and how "real diplomats" actually work, review the most important diplomatic events in the past 400 years and take an in-depth look at US diplomacy since the nation's founding.



## POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Oklahoma: The Worst State in the Union to be a Woman | \$50***Cal Hobson*

Mondays | February 5 – 26, 2024 | 1 – 3:30 p.m.

That's not just my opinion. In reputable surveys, studies, research projects and just plain living experiences, women invariably rank last or in the bottom five when it comes to comfortable economic security, legal protections, high divorce rates, children born out of wedlock, imprisonment possibilities, job opportunities and other negative indicators.

This course, perhaps in many ways the most challenging of my 58 different seminars offered over the last 15 years, will attempt to determine the accuracy of such alarming assessments and, if found to be true, delve into the reasons why they exist in a state blessed with enormous natural resources, a favorable geographic location, widespread and available higher education campuses, technical training opportunities as well as being known for the Oklahoma Standard.

As is the norm for my seminars, experts in the field will present their studies, opinions and evidence to support or oppose the underlying and obvious causalities swirling around the damning conclusion displayed in the title above. Most importantly, lifelong learning students will be encouraged to express their own experiences on the topic, which should guarantee, as usual, a vibrant, open, diverse, yet civil discussion of our subject matter.



**Sixteen Oklahomans You Should Come to Know...  
And Will, if you Enroll | \$50**  
*Cal Hobson*

**Mondays | March 11 – April 1, 2024 | 1 – 3:30 p.m.**

Out of millions who have made the 46th star their home, regardless of how short or long that residency may be, this seminar will introduce to its enrollees brief, 30-minute thumbnail sketches of only 16 such citizens, exploring four per session, who lived and/or live in the 20th and 21st Century. Some selections are obvious – Kerr, Albert, Bellmon and Boren – while others are less known; examples being the first black recipient of our highest military award, the Medal of Honor or an early pioneer worker in the oil and gas industry who is remembered as a risk-taking wildcatter within that profession.

Most are white men, but in defense of my choices, who do you think has dominated the politics, business, religion, wealth and government of our relatively young state? The answer may be as painful as it is obvious, and for confirmation one need look no further than an examination of who currently occupies the sixteen most influential positions in our legislature.

When in office, lawmakers obviously represent their constituents with their votes, but surely they must be influenced as well by their own life experiences. Therefore, to presume elected officials are only reflecting the wishes of those who put them into public service is naive, narrow and, of course, most often wrong. It also sheds evidence on why both parties are marching in step within their respective caucuses. Thus, bi-partisan votes on important issues are no longer commonplace; they are increasingly rare.



## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **The First Gulf War 1990-1991 | \$50**

*Rob Andrew*

Wednesdays | May 15 – June 5, 2024 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

This course will cover major events/battles of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, such as the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, to the build-up of American and Allied forces in the region, the air and ground wars, the Battle of the 73 Easting, incidents that nearly re-ignited the war, and then the Cease-Fire and afterward. Based on instructor's own combat experiences in this war.

### **The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) at 75 | \$50**

*Chris Sartorius*

Wednesdays | April 3 – April 24, 2024 | 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

In April 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will celebrate its 75th anniversary with a major summit of heads of state and government July 9-11 in Washington, DC.

This alliance has helped maintain peace and security among its member states and significantly contributed to Western political and economic stability. This course will explore the origins of NATO, its policies during the Cold War, how it worked to remain relevant after the fall of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact, and the challenges facing the alliance now and into the future.

Join us for a look at the most successful military alliance in history and how American and European leadership has positively shaped the lives of hundreds of millions of people in the US, Europe and around the world.





## **Wrongful Convictions: How Do They Happen? | \$50**

*Susan F. Sharp*

Wednesdays | April 3 – April 24, 2024 | 10 a.m. – Noon

We expect our justice system to be fair and to get it right. Overall, it does. But occasionally, mistakes are made, and individuals get convicted who were innocent of the charge. This course will explore the sources of wrongful convictions. Additionally, we will examine how exonerations of the innocent occur.

The class will focus on various causes of miscarriages of justice, including inaccurate eyewitness identification, flawed forensic evidence, unreliability of government informants, prosecutorial misconduct, and the intersection of race, gender, class and age. Case histories will be provided to help illuminate each of these issues. We also will study the aftermath of exoneration following release from incarceration, including reintegration, government compensation, marginalization, and other social challenges.

In the first week, we will look at several Supreme Court rulings related to how wrongful convictions are dealt with in the US, as well as an overview of wrongful convictions in general. We will also discuss the use of “snitches” and incentivized informants. In week two, we will take a close look at eyewitness identification and false confession. Week three will focus on problems in forensic science, problems with investigations and prosecutorial misconduct. The final week will cover Oklahoma death row exonerations, as well as the aftermath of exoneration.



## SCIENCE

**The Lure of Alaska: Geology, History, Wildlife, Gold, Oil, and Cruising the Inside Passage | \$50***Ken Johnson*

Fridays | April 5 – 26, 2024 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.

This beautifully illustrated seminar is for YOU if you fit into any of these categories:

1. You've been there and want to relive the experience.
2. You will be going there and want to prepare for the trip.
3. You never plan to go there but wonder what all the fuss is about.

Alaska was formed by volcanic activity and accretion of islands and small geologic plates that collided with the northwest coast of North America over the past 200 million years, and geologic processes have emplaced the great stores of gold, oil, and other mineral resources in the State. Glaciers and rivers then molded and shaped the beautiful landscape we see today and set the stage for the various wildlife and humans that inhabit this great American wilderness. For many people, their first visit to the 49th State is by cruise ship from Seattle or Vancouver on the famed “Inside Passage,” a network of waterways that weave between the islands of British Columbia and southeast Alaska.

Ancestors of native Alaskans originally crossed the Beringian land bridge from Siberia during the Great Ice Age. The United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for \$7.2 million (about 2 cents per acre), and a few years later, gold was discovered in the Juneau area (Ohhhh, the Russians must have been mad!). This set off the first rush to Alaska. In 1968, the discovery of oil at Prudhoe Bay led to another rush, this time for “black gold.”



**Psychology of Development and Aging | \$50**

*Joseph Sireci*

Wednesdays | January 17 – February 7, 2024 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This course covers our development and how we change through life. The theories of Piaget and Erikson can be used to learn how our types of thought and social needs change from birth until death, granting a deeper understanding of the evolution of the mind throughout life.

After covering the aforementioned theorists, the course will be primarily discussion-based and focused on self-analysis, how we have changed throughout our lives and how we expect to change in the future.

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**Social Psychology | \$50**

*Joseph Sireci*

Wednesdays | February 21 – March 13, 2024 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

From friends and family to strangers on the street, we are all impacted by others around us. This course would analyze the complexity of our social systems and how we interact with each other.

Topics covered would include social norms, conformity and obedience, guided by the works of Asch and Milgram, as well as the types of love defined by Sternberg and how groups learn to hate and love each other as described by Sherif. Our social lives are complex, and it can often be difficult to understand why people have behaved the way they did. By touching this complexity, we can give greater consideration to our own actions and hopefully learn to create positive experiences for ourselves and those around us.



# OLLI SPRING 2024 REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive my course confirmations by:

Email       Standard Mail

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## PAYMENT

Check\*     Visa     Mastercard     American Express     Discover

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Cost Total: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Make checks payable to the University of Oklahoma.*

Accommodations are available by contacting Chris Elliott with OLLI at (405) 325-3488 as soon as possible.

***All fees are due at the time of registration. We cannot accept payment for registrations at the OLLI at OU office. Registrations are based on a first-come basis. 100% of the course fee will be refunded if enrollment is canceled at least seven days before the program start date. After that date, no refunds will be granted.***

Please send registration form to:  
**University of Oklahoma  
College of Professional and Continuing Studies**  
1610 Asp Ave., Suite 310,  
Norman, OK 73072  
**Registration and Records:**  
(405) 325-6034

## OLLI MEMBERSHIP 2024

**Sign me up to be a member of OLLI!**

PURPOSE CODE: XCLLMEMB

Cost is \$55 and is valid July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

Membership is required to attend courses.

**Already a member!**

**NORMAN | THURMAN J. WHITE FORUM BUILDING**

PURPOSE CODE: XCLLSPRG

- Bruce Goff: Architect and Artist ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- It's Never Too Late: An Approach to Acting ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Art for the Franciscans: Italy in the 1200s - 1400s ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Arts of China ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Collaboration! Creating a Musical from Vision to Design ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Not Your Hollywood Blockbusters ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Introduction to Buddhism ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Media Controversies from Socrates to Social Media ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Slavery in World History ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Chisholm Trail: Its History and Impact ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Well-Behaved Women Rarely Make History ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Trojan War ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Modern Literature: 20th-Century Latin Americans ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Broadway: A History of American Musical Theatre, Part 1 ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Music of Gustav Mahler and Richard Strauss ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Art and Music in the Early, High, and Late Renaissance ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- U.S. - Russia Relations ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Practice of Diplomacy ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Oklahoma: The Worst State in the Union to be a Woman ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Sixteen Oklahomans You Should Come to Know ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The First Gulf War 1990-1991 ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) at 75..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Wrongful Convictions: How Do They Happen? ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Lure of Alaska: Geology, History, Wildlife, Gold, Oil ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Psychology of Development and Aging ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Social Psychology ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Fundamentals of iOS ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Cruising on the Rivers of the United States ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- Former Women Prisoners: Their Personal Stories ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- "Lincoln the Engineer": Education, Technology, and Innovation... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

## OLLI SENIOR SEMINARS SPRING 2024

### OKLAHOMA CITY | PHF CONFERENCE CENTER

- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) at 75..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Oklahoma: The Worst State in the Union to be a Woman ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Sixteen Oklahomans You Should Come to Know ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- OKC Town Talk – Looking Ahead ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

### ONLINE (VIA ZOOM)

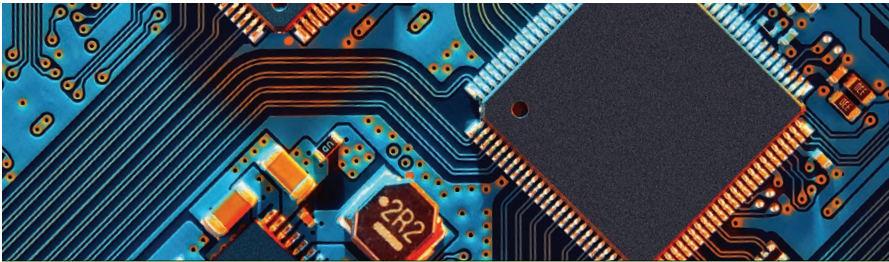
- Born Again: Renaissances in Art ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- OLLI Discussion Group ..... \$0 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Little House and Beyond: Laura Ingalls Wilder ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Taylor Swift: From Country Girl to Global Icon ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Contemporary Israeli Politics..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Christian-Muslim Relations in the 21st Century ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Comparative Religion ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Lure of Alaska: Geology, History, Wildlife, Gold, Oil ..... \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- An Overlooked Health Hazard: Ageism ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- Cruising on the Rivers of the United States ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

### HEALTHY LIVING | NORMAN

- Cruising on the Rivers of the United States ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- Carved in Stone: Gravestone Graphics and Cemetary Customs ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Viking Age: Raiding, Exploration, and Settlements ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- Saint-Paul de Vence, A Little Corner of Paradise ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- Robert Frost in Oklahoma ..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_
- The Pitiful Plight of Women in Oklahoma..... \$5 \_\_\_\_\_





**TECHNOLOGY****Fundamentals of iOS | \$50***Jeremy Hessman*

Thursdays | February 1 – March 7, 2024 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Technology is everywhere in our lives these days, and no more obvious is it than with our phones and tablets. For Apple users, better understanding your device and using more of its features can make your life easier. This course will give users a basic understanding of your iPhone and iPad. We will cover the most general settings, common navigation on the device and security tips.

We will also cover the following additional items:

- Hardware
- Contacts
- Messages
- Maps
- Security and Location Settings
- Siri and Shortcuts
- Control Center
- Notifications and their settings
- Backing up your device (both on a computer and in the Cloud)
- Camera and photo management
- Home screen customization



**MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSOR**

**Cruising on the Rivers of the United States | \$5**

*Ken Johnson*

Tuesday | March 26, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Cruising the rivers and inland waterways of the United States offers an excellent domestic experience, free of passport/customs problems, seasickness and the possibility of entrapment on an ocean vessel that has lost power out on the open seas. Also, if the boat sinks or has a serious problem, land is just a few hundred yards away—and you can always SWIM to shore from a river cruise.

Major U.S. and Canadian waterways where cruises are offered include the Mississippi River and its tributaries (Ohio, Tennessee, and Cumberland Rivers); the Great Lakes; St. Lawrence, Hudson, and Tombigbee Rivers; the Erie, Welland, Delaware Chesapeake, and Tenn Tom Canals; the Intracoastal Waterway; the Canadian Maritime Provinces; the Columbia–Snake River system in the Pacific Northwest; and the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers in California. River boats are much smaller than ocean vessels, typically with 50 to 200 passengers, and they generally make 1 or 2 stops every day at sites of national or local significance. Dorothea (Sweetie Pie = SP) and I have been on eight trips on U.S. rivers and coastal waters over the years. We want to share some of our experiences with you and show the benefits of this leisurely mode of domestic travel.

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**Former Women Prisoners: Their Personal Stories | \$5**

*Susan F. Sharp*

Tuesday | January 30th, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

In this special session, we will bring several female former prisoners to share their experiences and histories in a panel discussion. The women will talk about their incarceration and will provide background information. Questions will be taken in a panel format.



**“Lincoln the Engineer”: Education, Technology, and Innovation | \$5**  
*David Sabatini*

Tuesday | February 13, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Abraham Lincoln. Widely acclaimed as the greatest US president. Less known is that, despite his limited education, he is the only US president with a patent. How could this be? Lincoln was a voracious reader, borrowing any book he could get his hands on; he had an insatiable curiosity – learning all that he could from not only books but all that crossed his path. He also had an amazing technical acumen – teaching himself trigonometry so he could work as a surveyor – and studying Euclidean geometry to refine his logic and reasoning skills, which proved useful to his legal and political careers.

Lincoln pursued leading patent cases (e.g., the famous McCormick Reaper case) and railroad cases (e.g., a lawsuit regarding the first railroad bridge across the Mississippi River). During his presidency, Lincoln’s technical curiosity furthered the Northern war effort by incorporating new technology (e.g., surveillance balloons, ironclads, rapid-fire rifles). Further, Lincoln’s innovation skills led to programs that propelled the US to the technical and economic envy of the world (e.g., Railway Act, Morrill Land Grant Act establishing public universities, National Academy of Science Act).

I propose that Lincoln evidenced all the attributes of a successful engineer. He was well-educated in the fundamentals, skilled in understanding and designing technological advances, and adept at identifying innovative solutions to challenges before him. Thus, I put forward “Lincoln the Engineer.”

# OKLAHOMA CITY

For OLLI members living in the Oklahoma City area, we offer courses at PHF Conference Center on OU's Health Sciences campus:

**655 Research Parkway  
Oklahoma City, OK 73104**

Rooms are equipped with audio/visual systems for class presentations and coffee and water are provided for each class.

Parking information for PHF Conference Center can be found in the course information email sent to OLLI members prior to the start of each class.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE****The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) at 75 | \$50***Chris Sartorius***Tuesdays | April 2 – April 23, 2024 | 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.**

In April 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will celebrate its 75th anniversary and will mark this occasion with a major summit of heads of state and government in Washington, DC from 9-11 July.

This alliance has helped maintain peace and security among its member states and significantly contributed to Western political and economic stability. This course will explore the origins of NATO, its policies during the Cold War, how it worked to remain relevant after the fall of the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact, and the challenges facing the alliance now and into the future.

Join us for a look at the most successful military alliance in history and how American and European leadership has positively shaped the lives of hundreds of millions of people in the US, Europe, and around the world.



## POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Oklahoma: The Worst State in the Union to be a Woman | \$50***Cal Hobson*

Thursdays | February 8 – 29, 2024 | 12:30 – 3 p.m.

In April 2024, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will celebrate its 75th anniversary with a major summit of heads of state and government July 9-11 Washington, D.C.

This alliance has helped maintain peace and security among its member states and significantly contributed to Western political and economic stability. This course will explore the origins of NATO, its policies during the Cold War, how it worked to remain relevant after the fall of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact, and the challenges facing the alliance now and into the future.

Join us for a look at the most successful military alliance in history and how American and European leadership has positively shaped the lives of hundreds of millions of people in the US, Europe and around the world.



**Sixteen Oklahomans You Should Come to Know...  
And Will, if you Enroll | \$50**  
*Cal Hobson*

Thursdays | March 14 – April 4, 2024 | 12:30 – 3 p.m.

Out of millions who have made the 46th star their home, regardless of how short or long that residency may be, this seminar will introduce to its enrollees brief, thirty-minute thumbnail sketches of only sixteen such citizens, exploring four per session, who lived and/or live in the 20th and 21st century. Some selections are obvious - Kerr, Albert, Bellmon and Boren - while others are less known; examples being the first black recipient of our highest military award, the Medal of Honor; or an early pioneer worker in the oil and gas industry who is remembered as a risk-taking wildcatter within that profession.

Most are white men but in defense of my choices, who do you think has dominated the politics, business, religion, wealth and government of our relatively young state? The answer may be as painful as it is obvious and for confirmation one need look no further than an examination of who currently occupies the sixteen most influential positions in our legislature.

When in office lawmakers obviously represent their constituents with their votes but surely they must be influenced as well from their own life's experiences. Therefore to presume elected officials are only reflecting the wishes of those who put them into public service is naive, narrow and of course most often wrong. It also sheds evidence on why both parties are marching in step within their respective caucuses and thus bi-partisan votes on important issues are no longer commonplace; increasingly rare.



## HEALTH

**OKC Town Talk – Looking Ahead | \$50***Mike Adams*

Fridays | March 15 – April 12 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Many of us have experienced the renaissance and growth in the Oklahoma City area in recent years. The 2022 census population data showed that Oklahoma City is now the 20th largest city in the country, surpassing Nashville and Washington D.C.

A few of the accolades for the city promoted by the Greater OKC Chamber of Commerce to prospective new residents and businesses include:

- #2 for young professionals
- Top 10 places where senior adults are most financially secure
- One of 20 best cities in the nation to start a business
- #2 most affordable housing market in the world
- #1 for lowest cost of living among large cities
- Top 20 for best places to travel to in the U.S.

In one 2022 study, Oklahoma City ranked among the top 10 best-run cities in the nation based on categories like financial stability, education, health, safety, infrastructure, and pollution. Perhaps most impressive is the fact that city residents only seem to echo the praise the city's been receiving. Oklahoma City's 2022 resident survey results reveal high levels of satisfaction among those living within city limits, with 81% of respondents rating the city an excellent place to live, 77% calling it an ideal place to work and 70% indicating their satisfaction in raising children here as well.

In this course we will explore what is ahead for Greater Oklahoma City. We will invite city officials, economic development leaders, place makers, and chamber of commerce officials to tell us about Plan OKC, growth projections, public projects, and economic development incentives. Local developers will also tell us about some of their current projects and what is in the pipeline.





# ONLINE (VIA ZOOM)

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, OLLI at OU has offered online courses via Zoom to our members. Attending Zoom classes is a great resource for anyone with mobility issues or who lives a great distance from OU's campuses.

Please note – if you are registered in more than one OLLI Zoom course this semester, there is a separate link for each course. You will receive a separate email for other courses in which you are registered.

Not familiar with Zoom? Instructional materials are available upon request and OLLI staff joins each Zoom class early to assist members with getting connected.

**ART****Born Again: Renaissances in Art | \$50***Timothy Jones*

Wednesdays | February 7 – 28, 2024 | 3 – 4:30 p.m.

When thinking about renaissances in art, the Italian Renaissance is usually the first thing that comes to mind. This series of sessions will focus on other renaissances, some of which are better known than others.

We will explore the circumstances that led to each renaissance, what was being re-born, and the characteristics of art in each renaissance, including the 9th-century Carolingian Renaissance, the 12th-century Renaissance, the 15th-century Northern Renaissance, and the 20th-century Harlem Renaissance.



**HEALTH**

**OLLI Discussion Group | Free**

Wednesdays | February 7 – June 26, 2024 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.

The Discussion Group will meet weekly on Wednesday mornings for OLLI members who would like to share their ideas, feelings, and concerns about what's going on in our world. The purpose is fellowship and learning together through sharing concerns and ideas while responding to others' initiation of other ideas.

This is not your typical OLLI course led by a faculty member. YOU become the leaders and decide what to talk about.



## LITERATURE

**The Little House and Beyond: Laura Ingalls Wilder | \$50***Timothy Jones*

Wednesdays | May 1 – 22, 2024 | 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Laura Ingalls Wilder is best known for her books that began with *Little House in the Big Woods* (1932). Before that, she was a teacher and later wrote the column “As a Farm Woman Thinks” for *Missouri Ruralist* from 1911-1924. *Pioneer Girl*, the annotated version published in 2014 of her original 1930 autobiography, contains information that goes beyond the *Little House* series.

This series of sessions will provide an overview of Wilder’s life and accomplishments and how those have been reconsidered in 21st-century contexts.



## MUSIC

**Taylor Swift: From Country Girl to Global Icon | \$50**  
*Kalyn Prince*

Fridays | February 2 – 23, 2024 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.

From her early days as a country singer-songwriter to her evolution into a global pop sensation, Taylor Swift has had an explosive and controversial career. Swift's cultural influence, including her impact on feminism, politics, and activism, has made her one of the most influential figures in contemporary music.

In this course, we'll dive into Taylor Swift's albums, lyrics, and the evolution of her musical style. We'll also analyze her impact on the music industry, her pioneering use of social media, and her advocacy for artists' rights. Together, we'll contemplate Swift's artistry and place in contemporary pop culture.



## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **Contemporary Israeli Politics | \$50**

*Gershon Lewental*

Tuesdays | January 16 – February 20, 2024 | 1 – 2:30 p.m.

For over 75 years, the backdrop to the Arab-Israeli conflict has been the internal politics of the State of Israel (and before 1948, its predecessor, the Palestine Zionist Executive). Factional disputes have characterized the Zionist movement since its formal beginnings at the first Zionist Congress in 1897. The various political alignments have reflected broader global or regional trends — particularly socialism and neo-liberalism — but also particularistic trends, such as religious Jewish orthodoxy and the identity politics of Jewish refugees from Arab states and their descendants. Today, social polarization paralyzes the Israeli political arena no less than other liberal democracies, with strongly populist elements gaining exposure and popularity through social and traditional media. In addition to all these factors, there is, as noted, the ongoing conflict with the Palestinians, which has traditionally defined the right-wing divide. This course will examine all these issues to shed light not only on the contemporary political situation, but the future prospects for Israel, the Palestinians and the broader Middle East.



**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**Christian-Muslim Relations in the 21st Century | \$50**

*Charles Kimball*

Tuesdays | March 5 – 26, 2024 | 10 a.m. – Noon

Christianity and Islam are the world's two largest religious traditions, comprising nearly half of the world's population today. The history of Christian-Muslim relations has included not only periods of conflict and war but also cooperative, peaceful coexistence.

Political turmoil and the rise of violent extremism present formidable challenges in the 21st century. Clearly, the ways Christians and Muslims relate in the 21st century will impact both religions--and the world. This Senior Seminar will explore obstacles and opportunities for a more hopeful future for interfaith relations as these communities travel the perilous road ahead.

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**Comparative Religion | \$50**

*Charles Kimball*

Wednesdays | January 17 – February 14, 2024 | 10 a.m. – Noon

The five great world religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism) not only vary substantially in many ways, they also share many structural and practical features. This Senior Seminar will explore the central tenets of these religions and reveal intriguing ways they are structured and function in strikingly similar ways.

Prof. Kimball received his doctorate in The History of Religion (Comparative Religion) at Harvard University. He taught and chaired Religious Studies departments for three decades at Wake Forest University and the University of Oklahoma before retiring in 2020.





## **The Lure of Alaska: Geology, History, Wildlife, Gold, Oil, and Cruising the Inside Passage | \$50**

*Ken Johnson*

**Mondays | April 1 – 22, 2024 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.**

This beautifully illustrated seminar is for YOU if you fit into any of these categories:

1. You've been there and want to relive the experience.
2. You will be going there and want to prepare for the trip.
3. You never plan to go there but wonder what all the fuss is about.

Alaska was formed by volcanic activity and accretion of islands and small geologic plates that collided with the northwest coast of North America over the past 200 million years, and geologic processes have emplaced the great stores of gold, oil, and other mineral resources in the State. Glaciers and rivers then molded and shaped the beautiful landscape we see today and set the stage for the various wildlife and humans that inhabit this great American wilderness. For many people, their first visit to the 49th State is by cruise ship from Seattle or Vancouver on the famed “Inside Passage”, a network of waterways that weave between islands of British Columbia and southeast Alaska.

Ancestors of native Alaskans originally crossed the Beringian land bridge from Siberia during the Great Ice Age. The United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for \$7.2 million (about 2 cents per acre), and a few years later gold was discovered in the Juneau area (ohhhh the Russians must have been mad!). This set off the first rush to Alaska. And in 1968, discovery of oil at Prudhoe Bay led to another rush, this time for “black gold”.



MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSOR

**An Overlooked Health Hazard: Ageism | \$5**  
*Julie Ober Allen*

Tuesday | April 16, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Ageism may be the most common and socially acceptable form of discrimination in the US. Over 93% of US adults ages 50-80 report that they experience ageism on a regular basis. Ageism refers to discrimination, prejudice, and stereotypes related to old age, aging processes, and older adults. Older adults are discriminated against in employment, health care, housing, and routine interactions with friends, family, service providers, and strangers. They are subjected to ageism in the media and in their own assumptions about getting older.

Growing evidence indicates that ageism is a risk factor for poor health outcomes spanning cognition, mental health, chronic disease, and premature mortality. It is believed to accelerate biological aging and either cause or exacerbate many health conditions commonly found within the older adult population. Ageism is estimated to contribute to \$63 billion in avoidable healthcare costs every year in the US. Yet, ageism is difficult to address because it is deeply rooted in our culture. Ageist incidents often go unrecognized or are dismissed as humorous, considerate, or complimentary.

This talk will share recent research findings on the prevalence of ageism and linkages between ageism and health. We will discuss a variety of strategies for combating ageism and promoting health among older adults ranging from societal, policy, and organizational changes to promoting positive experiences of aging and reframing our own self-deprecating ageist humor.



## **Cruising on the Rivers of the United States | \$5**

*Ken Johnson*

Tuesday | March 19, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Cruising the rivers and inland waterways of the United States offers an excellent domestic experience, free of passport/customs problems, seasickness, and the possibility of entrapment on an ocean vessel that has lost power out on the open seas. Also, if the boat sinks, or has a serious problem, land is just a few hundred yards away—and you can always SWIM to shore from a river cruise.

Major US and Canadian waterways where cruises are offered include: the Mississippi River and its tributaries (Ohio, Tennessee, and Cumberland Rivers); the Great Lakes; the St. Lawrence, Hudson, and Tombigbee Rivers; the Erie, Welland, Delaware, Chesapeake, and Tennessee, Tom Canals; the Intracoastal Waterway; the Canadian Maritime Provinces; the Columbia–Snake River system in the Pacific Northwest; and the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers in California. River boats are much smaller than ocean vessels, typically with 50 to 200 passengers, and they generally make 1 or 2 stops every day at sites of national or local significance.

Dorothea (Sweetie Pie = S.P.) and I have been on eight trips on US rivers and coastal waters over the years: we want to share some of our experiences with you and show the benefits of this leisurely mode of domestic travel.

# HEALTHY LIVING NORMAN

OLLI at OU has collaborated with the newly opened Healthy Living Norman to offer a unique speaker series throughout the spring semester at their Adult Wellness and Education Center.

Healthy Living Norman can be found at:  
**602 N. Findlay Ave., Norman OK 73069**

OLLI at OU speaker sessions will be offered in the Education Center at Healthy Living Norman, and parking is available onsite.



**MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSOR**

**Cruising on the Rivers of the United States | \$5**

*Ken Johnson*

Wednesday | February 21, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Cruising the rivers and inland waterways of the United States offers an excellent domestic experience, free of passport/customs problems, seasickness, and the possibility of entrapment on an ocean vessel that has lost power out on the open seas. Also, if the boat sinks, or has a serious problem, land is just a few hundred yards away—and you can always SWIM to shore from a river cruise.

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MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSOR

**Carved in Stone: Gravestone Graphics and Cemetary Customs | \$5**  
*Luann Waters*

Wednesday | March 13, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

You can learn a lot from cemeteries: history, biography, genealogy, historic architecture, science and art. If you're thinking it's strange to go to cemeteries to study any of the above, consider sites you may have already visited: Arlington Cemetery, Gettysburg, Greyfriars Kirkyard, Pyramids in Egypt.

By studying a gravestone, you usually learn not only of a person's name, date of birth and death, but also may learn their social memberships, occupation or hobbies and their thoughts on an afterlife.

Some of this information is given through symbols. The language of symbols is international and all around us. Over time, a symbol's meaning can change and make for confusion.



## **The Viking Age: Raiding, Exploration, and Settlements from 793 to 1066 AD | \$5**

*Ken Johnson*

Wednesday | June 12, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

The term “Viking” conjures up images of seafaring pagans raiding, pillaging, and killing their way across Christian Europe in the 8th to the 11th centuries. From their homelands of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, Vikings sailed along the coasts of the British Isles and continental Europe seeking easy targets.

The bloodthirsty and devastating raid on the undefended monastery at Lindisfarne (the “Holy Island”) on the northeast coast of England in 793 AD was the beginning of the apocalyptic Viking age. Raids continued along the coasts of the British Isles and Europe, because the Vikings had perfected their “longships” designed for speed, stability, and agility on the open ocean. The shallow draft of the ships also enabled them to enter coastal waters, estuaries, and rivers where they could land troops easily.

Some of the Vikings were great explorers and traders. They reached across the Atlantic to Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, and even to Newfoundland in North America (and beyond). They also voyaged into the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the Black Sea and Caspian Sea, and established significant settlements in England, Ireland, Russia, and France (Normandy) during the Viking age. Although the end of the Viking age is generally regarded as being the latter part of the 11th century, far-flung Viking (Norse) communities lived on in Iceland and Greenland.



**MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSOR**

**Saint-Paul de Vence,  
A Little Corner of Paradise in the South of France | \$5**  
*Dane McDowell*

Wednesday | April 17, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Forever, the Mediterranean shores have offered dazzling panoramas to painters and inspired a great number of English and American writers. This class will guide you to this serene commune on the Riviera, pausing at strategic sites to give you a taste of the glamour, sometimes tainted with despair, of this magic stretch of land.



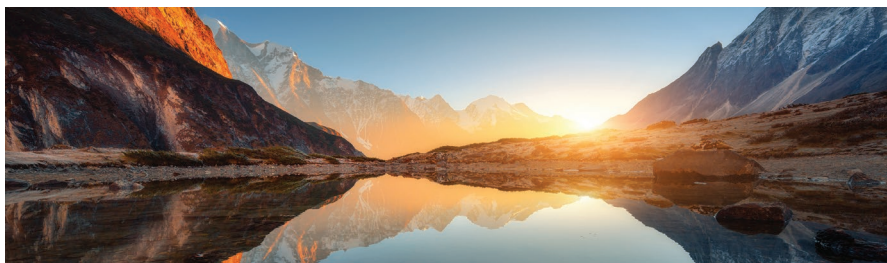


**Robert Frost in Oklahoma | \$5**

*Lisa Seale*

Wednesday | May 15, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

America's favorite poet Robert Frost lectured widely from the 1920s onward and even made two visits to Oklahoma. Many who heard Frost lecture were struck by his easy-going delivery of his own and others' poems and by his witty commentary about contemporary events. Let's take a look at the poems he read here in Oklahoma and at newspaper coverage of his talks here. Bring your own favorite Robert Frost poem, too!



MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSOR

**The Pitiful Plight of Women in Oklahoma... And It Will Probably Get Worse | \$5**

*Cal Hobson*

Wednesday | January 17, 2024 | 9:30 – 11 a.m.

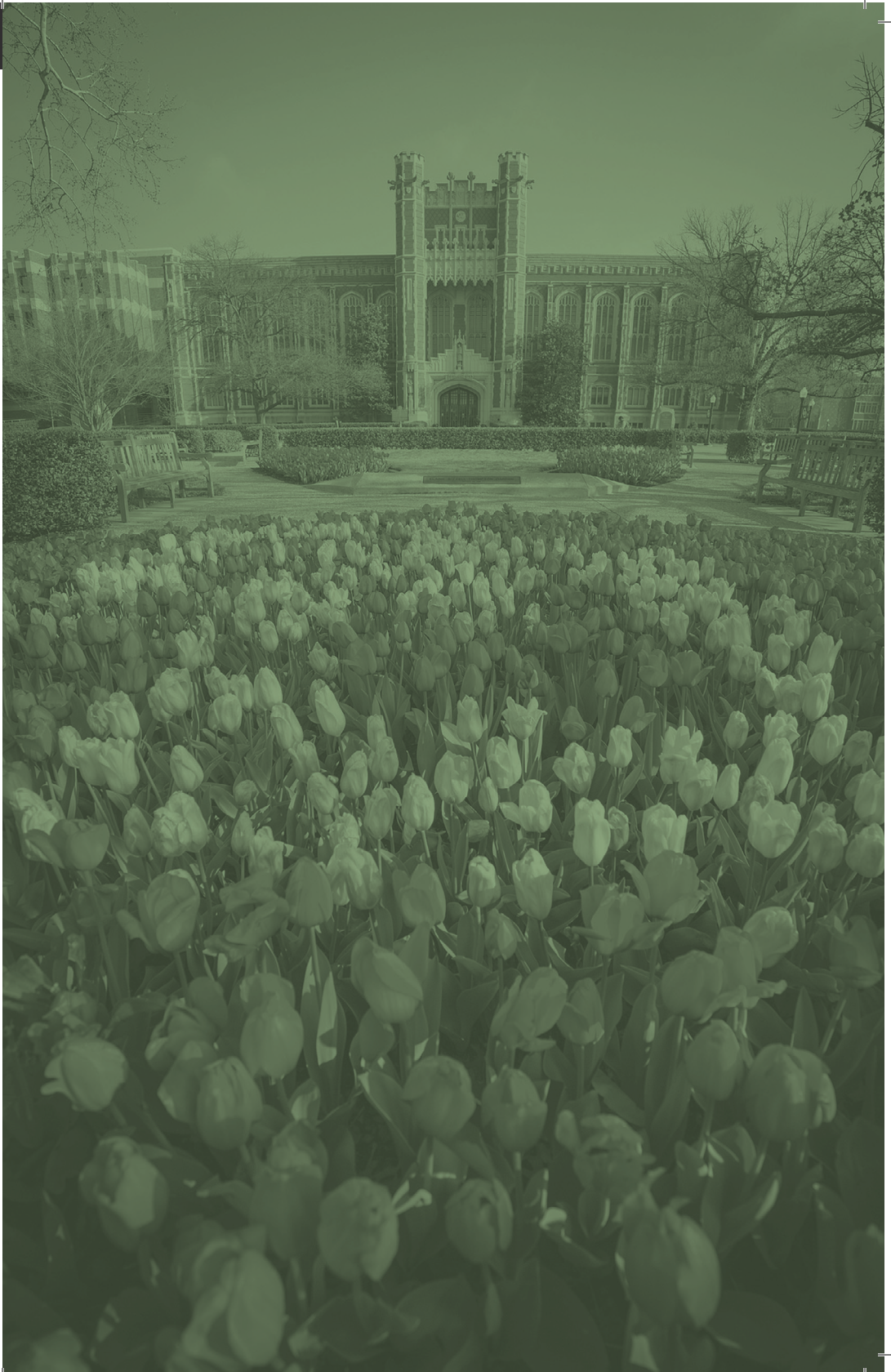
It's not just me thinking that. A *Wallethub* study released in February 2022 revealed indicators such as child poverty, unequal job pay, reduced life expectancy and 22 other metrics that are the reasons we are identified as last in the nation in the treatment of females.

Especially glaring is the pay gap between men and women in this state. Should salaries be frozen as they are today, it would take 52 years for women to catch up. YEARS!

And then there are challenges less obvious, but just as important. Day care, for example. There are wide swaths of this conservative state without adequate number of facilities — especially those that are affordable for our often minimum wage paid moms.

Sadder still, violence against women — and their children — is rampant in the 46th state, which ranks in the worst ten for such destructive and dangerous behavior.

I recognize It's easy to identify the problems; much harder still to fix them. Let's find them together in January 2024 and then work with policy makers to correct them because, if not us, who? And if not now, when?





**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
at the University of Oklahoma**

1610 Asp Avenue  
Norman, OK 73072-6405

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