OLLI Fall 2022 Catalog

September 12 – October 31, 2022

Stay Curious.
OLLI… Where Learning Never Retires.
HELLO OLLI FRIENDS!

It’s back to school time for OLLI at SSU, where learning never retires! We have an exciting array of classes to choose from this fall. We’ve also continued providing options for attending classes at the SSU campus or virtually via Zoom, where you can enjoy them from the comfort of your home, office or while traveling.

If you love the in-person camaraderie and the SSU campus atmosphere, take a class and enjoy lunch with friends at the Lobos eatery on campus or a local Rohnert Park or Cotati restaurant. You can also bring a lunch and simply sit and enjoy the beauty of SSU.

Join OLLI for a glimpse of Theodore Roosevelt’s America, listen in on Memphis Soul Music, and understand the Science behind Sci-Fi or the Romanticism of Classical Music. Explore Vincent van Gogh’s life, take a Broadway Mini-Series, or join in the conversation and learn about the dynamics of the November Midterm Elections. Take a glance at the history of the Women of Ukraine, review the U.S. Constitution or step into the Mesozoic era, the Time of Reptiles.

Join OLLI for a fantastic learning adventure this fall! We guarantee you will have a great time while expanding your mind.

See you in class!

Leslie Brutocao, Director

“Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.”
– Chinese Proverb

CONTACT OLLI

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Join our OLLI community on Facebook!

Visit www.facebook.com/OLLIatSSU and like our page for OLLI updates, clubs and events and to connect with OLLI friends
TIME TO GET SOCIAL!  

OLLI FALL 2022  
Course Preview and Open House

Wednesday, August 31  
Sonoma State University  
Person Theater

10:00 – 11:45 a.m.  
Doors open at 9:00 a.m. for a light breakfast reception

$5 parking fee at SSU campus

RSVP at: olli.sonoma.edu by Tuesday, August 30 by 12 noon

The OLLI Open House features instructor presentations of fall course offerings.

Fall class registration is available at Open House | Credit Cards or checks accepted.

Please follow SSU COVID-19 Protocols: wear a mask while indoors; show proof of vaccination; complete the SSU Wellness Screening form in person or online at: covid19.sonoma.edu/screen

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
WITH AN OLLI SCHOLARSHIP DONATION!

Your donation can make a difference by providing a scholarship to a senior in our community! Any senior who wishes to take an OLLI class and expand their knowledge should be able to participate, and YOU can make that happen. Using the enclosed envelope, please designate your donation for the “OLLI Scholarship Fund.” A donation of $95 will cover the cost of one class for an appreciative OLLI Scholarship recipient.

Know someone that could benefit from an OLLI Scholarship? Have them contact OLLI at olli@sonoma.edu.
Theodore Roosevelt’s America

Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt was one of perhaps five or six truly transformative presidents in American history. A cultivated, scholarly aristocrat, Roosevelt entered politics during the nation’s “gilded age.” During his thirty years in public service, he resolved to restore the “heroic, manly virtues” and a sense of sublime destiny to American life. This course will examine the career of this remarkable—if abrasive and authoritarian—American statesman.

_Instructor: Mick Chantler_

Memphis Soul Music: Grit, Grease, and Grace and American Music

The soul that came out of Memphis in the 1960s transformed the landscape of popular music. It was rhythm and blues; it was rock and roll. It was the sound of the Deep South, the incredible voices that came from the black church and the rhythms of the land. Its legacy has lasted more than 50 years, and it will continue to live on as long as people appreciate the soulful sounds of countless greats like Stax-Volt, Otis Redding, James Brown, Dusty Springfield, Aretha Franklin and many others. We will look at the impact this genre has had on American music.

_Instructor: Pete Elman_
TUESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 13 – OCTOBER 18
9:30 – 11:30 a.m. @SSU Campus – Green Music Center: GMC #1058 | Course #3570

The Science behind Science Fiction
Since 1965, science fiction has undergone incredible growth and evolution in books, movies and TV series. It now competes with conventional fiction in literary merit and imagination. Discover where fiction stretches scientific truth in service of a compelling story and where stories simply assume the scientifically impossible. Examine great Sci-Fi works, showing how the genre grapples with issues of great import for humanity. After a historical review, this course focuses on a particular aspect of Sci-Fi in each subsequent lecture, ending with speculation on humanity’s ultimate fate. This course is also inspired by experiences gained during a 30-year career as a NASA scientist with a lifelong passion for mind-bending science fiction.

Instructor: Warren Wiscombe

TUESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 13 – OCTOBER 18
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. @SSU Campus – Schulz #3001 | Course #3571

Romanticism and Revolution: The Birth of Individual Expression in Classical Music
At the beginning of the 19th century, almost all western countries waged revolutions, turning their system of governments from monarchies to democracies. At the same time, artists like Beethoven began writing music meaningful to themselves. They began to write music for personal fulfillment and artistry. This course will start here and explore how different prominent romantic composers found their unique voices and what they had to offer classical music.

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Harrison

WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14 – OCTOBER 19
9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ZOOM/ONLINE | Course #3572

Garry Trudeau: From Doonesbury to Alpha House
Garry Trudeau has written Doonesbury for over 50 years and has also branched out into politically inspired TV series like Tanner 88, Tanner 2004 and Alpha House. This course covers highlights of Garry’s path and his explanations of the irony of the deceptions of the American public. John Goodman stars in Alpha House, along with a powerful cast. Video clips, commentary, context and a whole bunch of laughs.

Instructor: Martin Marshall
Vincent van Gogh: His Art—His Life—His Legacy

Vincent van Gogh is one of the most well-known and influential artists in the history of Western art. This course examines the ways Van Gogh’s interests and abilities developed during his short 10-year career: how he created a visual language to achieve the effects he wanted, how his intentions changed over the course of a decade, and how encounters with other artists, relocations and spiritual crises turned him in new directions. Largely self-taught, through examination of his watercolors, works on paper and paintings and scores of letters to his younger art dealer brother Theo, this course examines this iconic artist's thoughts and theories of art.

Instructor: Maureen O’Brien DeGeller

Photo Credit: The Library of Congress
**SIX-WEEK – P.M. CLASS – $95**

**THURSDAYS, SEPTEMBER 15 – OCTOBER 20**
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. @SSU Campus – Salazar Hall #1029 | Course #3576

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**Reading the U.S. Constitution**

Studies show that over 85 percent of Americans have never read the U.S. Constitution as adults. This course examines the political, cultural and economic forces that led to the writing of this document, contrasted with the Articles of Confederation, and why the latter failed. Study the drafters, their political finesse, their struggles and the inner workings of the Convention, which produced the oldest, continuing, and most successful governmental roadmap in history. Finally, examine the Bill of Rights and the Amendments to learn what forces made them necessary, what they mean and what their impact is today. (Students are asked to bring a copy of the U.S. Constitution to class.)

*Instructor: Bill O’Connor*

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**SINGLE / TWO-HOUR CLASSES – OLLI À LA CARTE – $25**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**
ZOOM/ONLINE | Course #3577

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**Argonauts in Skirts: Women in the California Gold Rush**

The California Gold Rush re-ordered many people's worlds and the world itself. The experiences of Gold Rush women are an important but neglected part of our state's creation story. They provide excellent frameworks for understanding the richness of our state's history and the inequities in the distribution of rewards. Many Indigenous women lost the universe as they knew it when violence, rape and genocidal policies devastated their communities, while many European-American women were gaining freedom and opportunity. Chinese-born women struggled to survive, while African American and Mexican/Californiana women successfully reinvented themselves. The stories of the Gold Rush women help us understand how women shaped the story of California, even as their lives were shaped by ideas about women, race and Manifest Destiny.

*Instructor: Leah Halper*
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. @SSU Campus – International Hall #104 | Course #3578**

**Research in Memory Disorders: Where Are We Now?**

While the population is getting older and memory issues become more common, a vast body of research offers hope for delaying or preventing cognitive decline. No one ‘magic bullet’ has been identified, though the ongoing research is getting closer to identifying prevention strategies and possible treatment modalities. The course will review ongoing pharmaceutical research, nutrition and behavior modification research, including possible intervention strategies for early memory loss.

*Instructor: Allan Bernstein*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

**ZOOM/ONLINE | Course #3600**

**Images of Ukrainian Women: Amazons and Mothers**

From myths of Amazons and giant Soviet era-created public artworks to news images of millions of mothers escaping the 2022 Russian invasion with their children, Ukrainian women have been portrayed as warrior-like, resilient, beautiful and maternal. This lively presentation follows images of Ukrainian women through archeological evidence of ancient Trypillian and Scythian cultures to contemporary scholarship on Ukrainian feminism. Dr. Held will share folk traditions and anecdotes based on active participation with women activists in the heart of Ukraine and appreciation for their history and unique cultural traditions.

*Instructors: Catherine Held*

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**THREE-WEEK – A.M. CLASS – $60**

**FRIDAYS, SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 14**

**9:30 – 11:30 a.m. @SSU Campus – International Hall #104 | Course #3579**

**Rainer Maria Rilke: His Mentors and Teachers**

The three lectures focus on the individuals Rainer Maria Rilke described as his early mentors and teachers. These include Lou Andreas-Salomé, Auguste Rodin, Jens Peter Jacobsen and Paul Cézanne. This course examines the lives and works of these remarkable creators and how their artistic influence shows up in Rilke’s writings.

*Instructors: Jon Jackson*
Age of Reptiles: Evolution of Scales & Feathers during the Mesozoic Era

For over 180 million years, reptiles ruled the Earth, dominating the land, sky and seas. During the Mesozoic Era, dinosaurs lived alongside Pterosaurs and marine reptiles, while mammals evolved underfoot. As the climate changed and the environment evolved, reptiles diversified into the largest land animals to ever evolve, massive marine predators and flying reptiles as large as small planes. Today, paleontological studies are unearthing new and exciting information about Mesozoic life. A great reptilian diversity is revealed in rocks that tell a story of reptile evolution, ecosystem complexities, changing climate, natural disasters and mass extinctions.

Instructor: Nicole Myers

“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think”
— Albert Einstein

OLLI FALL 2022 COURSE FEES

| Single Six-Week Course: $95

Bundle A:
Two (2) Six-Week Courses:
$150 (savings of $20 per course)

Bundle B:
Three (3) or more Six-Week Courses: $225 (savings of $20 per course, or more)

| Single Three-Week Course: $60

| Single 2-hour Course (OLLI à la Carte): $25
*No Member Registration Fee if only taking OLLI à la Carte classes.

OLLI Member Registration Fee – $20*

*The Member Registration Fees are paid during fall, winter and spring terms for six-week and three-week courses. For OLLI member benefits information, visit olli.sonoma.edu.

Online registration instructions at http://olli.sonoma.edu/register
GUIDELINES FOR IN-PERSON CLASSES DURING COVID-19

• Wear a mask while in classroom

• Complete a Visitor and Guest Wellness Screening the day of visit to the SSU campus

Fill out the online form at: covid19.sonoma.edu/screen

• Provide proof of vaccination when attending in-person classes at SSU

SSU COVID-19 Policies and updates: covid19.sonoma.edu

In-Person Class Participants
receive an email the day before class with directions, parking information, possible class materials, and current SSU COVID-19 protocols. Note: Preregistration is recommended for in-person classes due to limited seating availability in some classrooms.

Online Class Participants
receive an email the day before class with the class Zoom link and class materials. Class materials are also at olli.sonoma.edu/course-materials. If you miss a Zoom class, you can request to receive the recording at olli@sonoma.edu.

HOW TO FIND US!
Map and Directions to the SSU Campus:
DIRECTIONS TO SSU:

Hwy. 101 to Rohnert Park Expressway exit. Turn east onto Rohnert Park Expressway and follow to its end at Petaluma Hill Road. Right on Petaluma Hill Road to the stoplight at East Cotati Avenue. Right on East Cotati Avenue to Main Entrance of the campus on your right. Information Booth is straight ahead (purchase parking passes).

Classes will be located at several buildings on campus. Registered OLLI students will receive an email with a campus map, parking information, and online parking permit purchase information the day before class.

$5 daily parking fee. Additional SSU Maps/Directions: www.sonoma.edu/maps

“Commit yourself to lifelong learning. The most valuable asset you’ll ever have is your mind and what you put into it”
— Brian Tracy

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH OLLI

If you are interested in volunteering for OLLI, please contact OLLI at olli@sonoma.edu.

Volunteers support:

OLLI Advisory Board – Quarterly meetings to strategize about future planning. Topics center on financials, university updates, growth, special events, donor recognition and community partnerships.

Curriculum Committee – Conducts an annual review of course proposals for the following program year. Other functions include brainstorming new course topics, assisting with marketing OLLI to potential instructors, reviewing course evaluations and instituting faculty recognition and programs.

Outreach Committee – Identifies and implements marketing initiatives to recruit students and works to strengthen our ties to the community.

Classroom Ambassadors – Handle classroom logistics including course rosters, make announcements and act as a class host.

Do you have an idea for an OLLI club?
Share your idea with OLLI at olli@sonoma.edu. OLLI clubs are run by OLLI volunteers.