



OSHER  
LIFELONG  
LEARNING  
INSTITUTE

SONOMA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

# OLLI Spring 2022 Catalog

Monday, April 11 – Friday, May 20, 2022

**OLLI... Where Learning Never Retires.**

**SONOMA  
STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF  
EXTENDED  
& INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

1801 E. Cotati Ave., Rohnert Park, CA 94928-3609 | [olli.sonoma.edu](http://olli.sonoma.edu) | 707-664-2691

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# DEAR OLLI COMMUNITY,

Does your spring to-do list include spring cleaning, planting a garden, hiking Sonoma County trails, visiting friends and family, or enjoying some much-needed entertainment and musical performances?

If so, you're in luck!

SSU offers many entertainment options, from dance and music performances to professional musical performances at the beautiful Green Music Center. Departments throughout SSU offer speaker programs at the end of the academic year. For concerts and music, go to [music.sonoma.edu/events](https://music.sonoma.edu/events). Enjoy a hike to the Fairfield Osborn Preserve led by an SSU Naturalist (visit [cei.sonoma.edu](https://cei.sonoma.edu)) or support the SSU Dance at the Spring Performance Festival, April 28 – May 7. Tickets are available through <https://tickets.sonoma.edu/>. Find activities at SSU by visiting the website, [sonoma.edu](https://sonoma.edu), then click on “Events.”

OLLI has plenty to entertain you this spring. Take a stroll down memory lane with your knowledge of the Kennedy family, enjoy rock music history, learn about the greatest hits of the history of science, or take in 100 years of Jazz music. Whether you love movies, history, music, or science, there is something for everyone. Bring family, friends, and neighbors to an in-person or online class at SSU. OLLI... where learning never retires.



Happy Spring!

**Leslie Brutocao, Director**



## JOIN US...

### OLLI Spring 2022 Course Preview

Enjoy class presentations by OLLI faculty!

**Monday, March 21 10 – 11:45 a.m. ONLINE/ZOOM**

Register for Zoom Course Preview beginning  
March 14 at: [olli.sonoma.edu](https://olli.sonoma.edu), *Announcements section.*

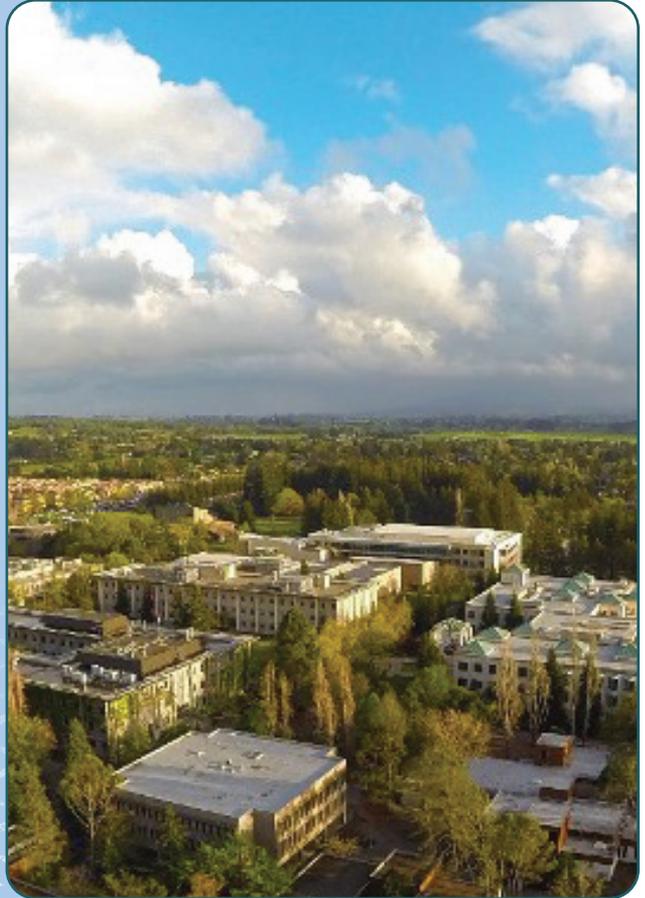
GIVING  
DAY **APR 7  
2022**

SSU Giving Day, Thursday, April 7, 2022, is an opportunity to donate to OLLI@SSU and other SSU departments you support.

Whether you give \$20 or \$200, your gift makes a difference. **65%** of OLLI funds come from course fees, **25%** from Osher Endowment earnings, and **10%** from donations. OLLI relies on donations to help with program costs, and to provide OLLI student scholarships.

To donate to **SSU Giving Day**, go to [sonoma.edu/give](https://sonoma.edu/give), click on *Schools and Departments*, then *Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)*.

*Thank you for considering OLLI in your charitable contributions.*



# OLLI SPRING 2022 CLASSES

MONDAY, APRIL 11 – FRIDAY, MAY 20  
IN-PERSON AND ONLINE CLASSES

SIX-WEEK CLASSES: \$95

## Mondays, April 11 – May 16

10:00 a.m. – Noon (ONLINE/Zoom)



Photo Credit: *The Library of Congress*

### The Kennedy Dynasty

America has had several prominent family political dynasties over its 250-year history. The Adamses, the Harrisons, the Roosevelts, and the Bushes immediately come to mind. But no family was more influential—or glamorous—over a prolonged period than Joseph Kennedy and his progeny. For over seven decades, the Kennedys served on government commissions, in the diplomatic corps, in the halls of Congress and the Senate, and for an abbreviated term, in the White House. The Kennedys were cultural icons for millions, spawning fashion trends, making physical fitness chic, and epitomizing American “coolness.” Whether one admired or hated the Kennedys, no one can deny their lasting significance in our nation’s history. The course will examine the personal lives and political careers of these remarkable men and women.

*Instructor: Mick Chantler*

## Mondays, April 11 – Thursday, May 12

1–3 p.m. (ONLINE/Zoom)



**Note:** The 6th class will take place on **Thursday, May 12, 1–3 p.m.**

### Let It Rock: The Mount Olympus of American Rock Bands, 1965–1995

This course will take a deep dive into the music and story of six of the greatest American rock and roll bands and groups that defined the genre. The rich history of rock and roll is full of brilliant songs and singers. Still, the essence of rock and roll has always been the rock and roll band—that small—usually four to seven-piece—ensemble made up of young musicians who caught lightning in a bottle together, taking their blues, R&B, rockabilly, early rock, country, folk and even jazz influences and combining them to create music that is timeless and inspiring.

*Instructor: Pete Elman*

**Tuesdays, April 12 – May 17**

**10:00 a.m. – Noon (IN-PERSON/SSU Campus – Cooperage 2)**

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### **Greatest Hits from the History of Science**

Did you know that the term “scientist” is less than two hundred years old. Yet, investigations and pursuits that we now consider “scientific” have been going on for more than two thousand years. Have you wondered what the differences and the similarities are between science and technology? What motivated the studies of the Ancient Greek philosophers in describing the physical world? What was the cross-pollination between Renaissance art and science, and when did scientific research become “professional?” We will explore these and other significant transitions in the progress and directions leading to today’s miraculous discoveries and the applications that give us our contemporary high-tech world. We will examine the linked trajectories of scientific instruments and scientific discoveries. Along the way, we will encounter the sometimes-idiosyncratic personalities who have seen further than others into the mysteries of nature.

*Instructor: Nelson R. Kellogg, Ph. D.*

**Tuesdays, April 12 – May 17**

**1–3:45 p.m. (IN-PERSON–SSU Campus–Cooperage 2)**

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### **Stories by The Bay: Films Made in San Francisco**

San Francisco has been a draw for filmmakers almost as long as there have been movies. The city’s beauty has continually lured visual storytellers with its unforgettable vistas, magical fog, and the water that surrounds it. In this course, San Francisco will be the star of the films examined in class, six of which will be screened in their original versions. We’ll pay particular attention to identifying landmarks and points of interest and their use in and impact on the films. The movies we examine will allow us to view the city at various times in the past, offering us history lessons and the opportunity to assess our Bay Area neighbor’s roots and subsequent growth.

*Instructor: Barbara Spear*



**Wednesdays, April 13 – May 18**  
10:00 a.m. – Noon (ONLINE/Zoom)

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### **Hunter S. Thompson: 50 Years Later**

Hunter S. Thompson remains a cultural icon more than five decades after his first bestselling book, yet his writing has received surprisingly little critical attention. Focusing on Thompson's literary formation rather than his celebrity, this course examines one of the most distinctive American voices in the second half of the twentieth century. It argues that Thompson's literary formation was primarily a Bay Area story (with a Sonoma County chapter) and details his remarkable experiences during that brief but eventful period. Although Thompson mainly focused on exotic provincial subcultures before 1968, we will trace his growing interest in American politics, intense hatred for Richard Nixon, quirky mode of literary production, and astute critique of mainstream journalism. Finally, we will map the extraordinary sequence of characters, influences, events, and transformations that led Thompson to his unique niche in American letters.

**Instructor:** *Peter Richardson, Ph. D.*

**Wednesdays, April 13 – May 18**  
1–3 p.m. (ONLINE/Zoom)

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### **Exploring Jazz: The First hundred Years**

The course exposes students to the best jazz in each of its styles from the 1920s to the present. The classes offer active listening to recordings and video performances of the most prominent jazz musicians, such as Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, John Coltrane and many more innovative musicians. The instructor combines musical examples, explanations of jazz theory, and its unique characteristics with an understanding of how the music developed with the history of the African Americans who created it. Jazz will be understood in its musical and historical dimensions. The instructor will also illustrate the attributes of jazz by demonstrations at the piano.

**Instructor:** *Len Lyons*

**Wednesdays, April 13–May 18**  
3:30–5:30 p.m. (ONLINE/Zoom)

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**The Crisis of Trust: Philosophy and Aligning Trust**

Trust at all levels of our society is in a crisis. At the level of our government, some of us are willing to bet our lives on fakes and charlatans while being hostile to more trustworthy people. Record low levels of trust in government, police, our justice system, technology, science, and each other have been reported. What should be done about this? What is the most intelligent way for you to align your trust in these systems? We will look at this from a philosophical standpoint and explore the value of intelligent mistrust and skepticism and how trust and trustworthiness are, in fact, distinct concepts. We will examine arguments made by ancient and modern philosophers on the proper role that trust plays in our lives and how to make well-formed and principled decisions. This will be a great class—trust me!

*Instructor: John Sullins, Ph.D.*

**Thursdays, April 14–May 19**  
10:00 a.m.–Noon (IN-PERSON—SSU Campus—Cooperage 2)

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**Go For Baroque**

The Seventeenth Century was a turbulent era filled with extraordinary advancements in scientific and philosophical thought, in the realm of music, many other intellectual areas. However, these advances coincided with the madness and retribution of the Counter-Reformation and witch-hunts. Serious efforts at nation-building were made visible by artistic structures on a monumental and glorious scale that reflected the epic egos that created them. For the first time, women too made a noticeable contribution to public art production. Every adjective used to describe this period should be superlative, and it is into this larger-than-life scale that the Baroque style was born. This class will examine the Baroque period's visual arts, political realities, and socio-cultural environment.

*Instructor: Heidi Chretien, Ph.D.*



**Thursdays, April 14–May 19**  
3–5 p.m. (IN-PERSON–Darwin 103)

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### **The Story of Earth Conveyed by Rocks**

The Story of Earth exceeds 4 billion years, and much of planetary history is forever lost. Together, we will take a trip through space and time to investigate what is known of the formation and evolution of the Earth and seek the locations where ancient clues have been unearthed. We will delve into how time and events leave their marks in minerals and rocks and analyze how scientists unravel the chemical clues. As we explore planetary-scale events that have changed the Earth, we will also follow the footsteps of biological evolution. Our focus on unraveling billions of years of natural history study on Earth's rocks and the signatures of life embedded within them.

*Instructor:* Nicole Myers

**THREE-WEEK CLASS: \$60**

**Fridays, April 15–April 29, 2022**  
10:00 a.m. – Noon (IN-PERSON–Darwin 103)

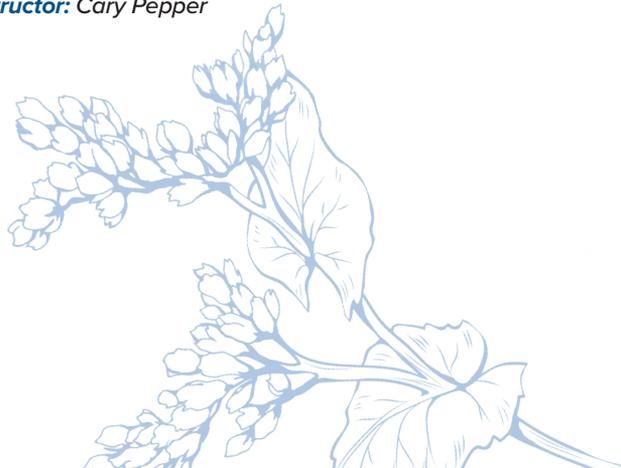
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### **Films of Hitchcock**

The Master of Suspense, Alfred Hitchcock tantalized, thrilled, and terrified us for years, all the while reminding us, “It’s only a movie.” In this course, we’ll explore three of his classic films from 1954 through 1960: *Rear Window* (1954); *North by Northwest* (1959); and *Psycho* (1960).

*Instructor:* Cary Pepper



## OLLI À LA CARTE – SINGLE TWO-HOUR CLASSES: \$25

FRIDAYS, MAY 6 – MAY 20 (IN-PERSON AND ZOOM/ONLINE)

### Friday, May 6

10:00 a.m. – Noon (IN-PERSON – SSU Campus – Darwin 103)



#### Fibber McGee and Molly Win WWII

During WWII, when radio was America's primary home entertainment and information source, the government had much information to get out to the "home front." But rather than try to commandeer air time, officials worked with entertainment programs to get the word out about saving rubber and scrap metal, avoid spreading rumors, staying off trains, and numerous other things citizens could do to support the war effort. Radio producers generally cooperated, but none more enthusiastically or entertainingly than Fibber McGee and Molly, who hosted one of the most popular programs on the air. This lecture will provide numerous examples of how the show kept audiences laughing while simultaneously keeping them informed about how best to support the troops.

*Instructor: Alan Bell*

### Friday, May 13

10:00 a.m. – Noon (IN-PERSON – SSU Campus – Darwin 103)



#### Understanding the Information Landscape: Becoming Media Savvy

The rise of social media has changed the information ecosystem, which encompasses how we discover, consume, and share information. It simultaneously improves our ability to be connected and informed and our ability to be misinformed and (sometimes inadvertently) sow division. This short course is designed to help you understand how and why so much information is shared on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and give you strategies and tools for vetting what is credible, deciding what should be shared and protecting your privacy online.

*Instructors: Hilary Smith and Rita Premo*

Friday, May 20

10:00 a.m. – Noon (ONLINE/Zoom)



Photo Credit: The Library of Congress

### The Dreyfus Affair: Upheaval in Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century France

This lecture explores the growing nationalism, anti-Semitism and competing anti-German sentiment that swept across France in the late 19th century leading to one of the world's great scandals: the Dreyfus Affair of the 1890s. In their efforts to prosecute a Jewish officer, the French high command (and French society in general) is torn apart as the resulting scandal threatens the army's honor and its central place in an increasingly destabilized French state.

**Instructor:** Jared N. Day, Ph.D.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ON OLLI WEBSITE:

[OLLI.SONOMA.EDU](http://OLLI.SONOMA.EDU)

Instructor Bio provided on individual  
class registration pages.

Registration for Spring 202 Classes opens  
**Wednesday, March 16, 2022**

Register Online at <http://olli.sonoma.edu/register>

Register by phone at **707-664-2691**.

Pay by credit card or check, instructions provided.

## OLLI SPRING 2022 COURSE FEES

**Spring 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 a list of OLLI member benefits, go to [olli.sonoma.edu](http://olli.sonoma.edu).*

**Single, Six-Week Course: \$95**

**Single, Three-Week Course: \$60**

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

**\*Single, 2-hour Course (OLLI à la Carte): \$25**

**\*No Member Registration Fee if only taking  
OLLI à la Carte classes.**

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

Instructions for online registration at <http://olli.sonoma.edu/register>

**No tests.  
No grades.  
No papers.**  
Just the joy  
of learning.  
  
Stay Curious.



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## **IN-PERSON CLASSES AT SSU GUIDELINES DURING COVID-19**

### **OLLI students must wear masks while indoors**

OLLI students must complete a Visitor and Guest Wellness Screening the day of their campus visit prior to attending class: <https://covid19.sonoma.edu/screen>

The CSU requires that SSU students, faculty, and staff be vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination when attending in-person classes.

SSU Covid-19 Policies and updates: <https://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 SSU protocols.

### **Online Class Participants**

receive an email the day before class with the class Zoom link and possible class materials to enhance their learning experience. Note: if a Zoom class is missed, request the recording at [olli@sonoma.edu](mailto:olli@sonoma.edu)

Visit [www.sonoma.edu](http://www.sonoma.edu) for Spring 2022 class updates and additional OLLI Information.

For SSU Campus Map and parking information: <http://olli.sonoma.edu/location-parking>

**Do you have a question or need assistance with a class?**  
Email OLLI at [olli@sonoma.edu](mailto:olli@sonoma.edu), or call OLLI at 707-664-2691



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