



## Summer 2024

June 3–June 28

Registration opens  
April 22, 2024



## COUNTERCULTURE

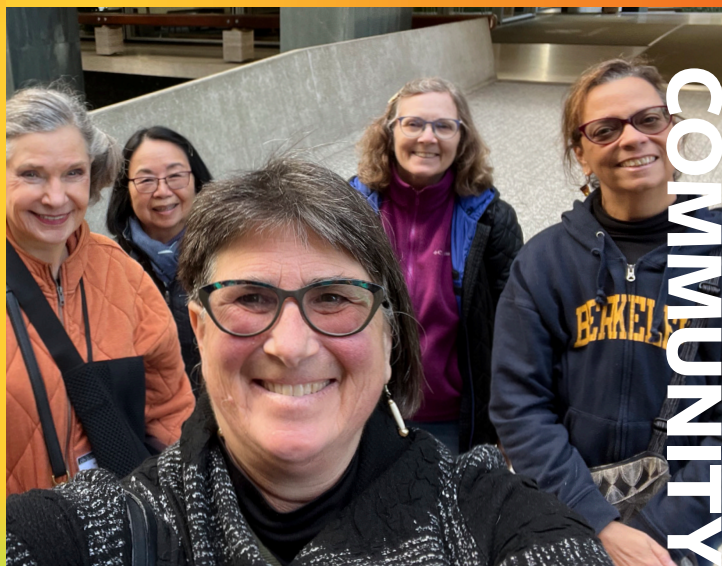
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## COMMUNITY

## Hands-On with Generative AI

Robert Todd

10 a.m.–noon • GBC 202/204

**\$155 (Premium member: \$0)**

The capabilities of Generative AI models like GPT4, Claude, and Google’s Gemini are profound and profoundly weird. To harness their creative and analytical powers, it helps to understand a little about how they work — and then get your hands dirty. In this theory+practice course, we’ll look at the latest AI tools and learn some principles, practices, tips, and tricks for getting the most out of them. It will be a fun, pragmatic, and perplexing parlay with the intelligences that are on a path to replacing our own. There, I said it. If you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em!

**Robert Todd’s** career lies at the confluence of technology, learning, and human behavior. As a pioneer in online education at San Francisco State University, to his tenure as a digital learning luminary at DigitalThink, McKinsey, and LinkedIn, he pushed boundaries. He splits his time as a lecturer on the social impact of AI and advising a portfolio of AI-powered edtech startups.

## Diving Into the Movies

Harry Chotiner

1–2:30 p.m.

**\$120 (Premium member: \$0)**

This class will foster the fun, vitality, and warmth of friends sharing a conversation about a great film they’ve just seen. Prior to class, students will watch four films selected for their engaging themes, issues, storytelling, and acting. Class is comprised of lecture and discussion. **Note:** The film list will be provided before the start of the course.

**Harry Chotiner** served as an editor at *Socialist Review* magazine, a reader at Zoetrope Studios, and a story editor at CBS. He was a vice-president at 20th Century Fox and Interscope Communications.

# Tuesday, June 4 – June 25

## Economics to Know Before the Election

Jon Haveman

10 a.m.–noon • GBC 202/204

**\$155 (Premium member: \$0)**

Economics plays a central role in the functioning of every aspect of society. This course will address a set of prominent policy issues where economics is at their core. We will explore their origins as policy matters, the underlying data and evidence, and what policy levers are available to deal with them. Lectures will be standalone, taught by a subject matter expert — all of whom have a Ph.D. in Economics. Potential topics include Climate Change, Healthcare Economics, Economic Inequality, and others. Presentations will be determined by what is most topical at the time of the course.

**John Haveman** is the Executive Director of the National Economic Education Delegation (NEED). An expert on economic policy, Dr. Haveman holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan.

## Brand New Beat: *Rolling Stone* Magazine and the San Francisco Counterculture, 1967–77

Peter Richardson

1–3 p.m. • GBC 202/204

**\$155 (Premium member: \$0)**

As unlikely as it seemed in 1967, *Rolling Stone* magazine was recently described as “the journalistic voice of its generation.” How did an undercapitalized West Coast rock publication, edited by a 21-year-old college dropout, become one of the most important magazines of the 1970s? *Rolling Stone* served up a generous portion of sex, drugs, and rock-and-roll to one of the most prominent demographics in recent American history, but the magazine had no monopoly on those topics, and they don’t explain its extraordinary success. What else distinguished the San Francisco upstart from its competitors in a crowded media marketplace?

**Peter Richardson** has written critically acclaimed books about Hunter S. Thompson, the Grateful Dead, *Ramparts* magazine, and radical author/editor Carey McWilliams. A longtime lecturer at San Francisco State University, Richardson has also written for *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *Los Angeles Times Book Review*, and *San Francisco Chronicle*.

## Regional Italian Cookery

Linda Carucci

9:30–11:30 a.m.

(No class 6/19; makeup class 6/21)

**\$120 (Premium member: \$0)**

The secret to understanding “Italian food” lies in appreciating the differences among the country’s twenty regions. Geography, weather, and cultural customs are just some of the factors that dictate each region’s distinctive food traditions. Rather than a singular cuisine, Italian cookery can more aptly be thought of as a mosaic. In these demonstration cooking classes, we explore the traditional culinary specialties of four regions of Italy: the pescatarian and vegetarian cookery of Liguria in the northwest, the lusty cuisine and specialty pastas of central Italy’s Lazio region, the satisfying cucina povera (or peasant food) of Puglia in the southeast, and the vibrant island cuisine of Sicily, Italy’s largest region. Recipes are provided.

**Linda Carucci** is the author of *Cooking School Secrets for Real World Cooks*. A professionally trained chef, Linda was Dean of the California Culinary Academy and Julia Child Curator of Food Arts at COPIA.

## Our Brains: Movement, Stroke, and Stem Cells

Peter (Henry) Ralston

1–3 p.m. • GBC 202/204

(Three sessions; no class 6/19)

**\$120 (Premium member: \$0)**

This course provides an introduction to normal brain function and how that function can be altered in neurological diseases. Movement disorders, such as Parkinson’s disease and ALS/Lou Gehrig’s disease, are conditions that alter our ability to walk safely, speak, swallow, and perform daily activities. Strokes are vascular events that may deprive us of the ability to move, feel, speak, and/or perceive the world. Stem cell therapies are in their infancy yet have the potential to improve many neurological disorders, such as spinal cord injury and Alzheimer’s disease. There are no prerequisites for this course.

**Peter (Henry) Ralston** was trained at UC Berkeley, UCSF, and University College London. As Professor at UCSF, he directed the Medical School course in neuroscience. Following retirement, he has taught OLLI courses about the brain for nearly a decade.

# Thursday, June 6 – June 27

## The Paris Olympics: Sport as Politics and Culture

Darren Zook

10 a.m.–noon • GBC 202/204

**\$155 (Premium member: \$0)**

With Paris preparing to host the 2024 Summer Olympics, it is the perfect time to step back and situate this grand event in a proper global context. Why do countries compete to host the Olympics, even with endless reports of financial loss for other host countries years afterward? And what is the larger geopolitical project behind what appears to be merely an international sporting event? Paris has put its reputation on the line for these Olympics, and we will situate the Paris games in a comparative context with other Olympics from the past. The Olympics have always been much more than the sports they showcase — they have also been a festival of cultural and political pageantry for the countries that host them.

**Darren Zook** teaches in Global Studies and Political Science at UC Berkeley. His interests include comparative politics, cybersecurity, human rights, and international law.

## Cinema of South Asia

Abhijeet Paul

1–3 p.m.

**\$120 (Premium member: \$0)**

South Asia is home to Bollywood as well as many national and regional cinemas. We will dive deep into mainstream (Bollywood/Hindi cinema) and regional cinema covering a wide range of genres: drama and narrative, musicals, romance/romcom, social, arthouse, and much more. The course promises a visual feast of South Asian cinema and welcomes you to think critically about the many facets of South Asian visual cultures.

**Abhijeet Paul** is a Continuing Lecturer in South and Southeast Asian Studies at UC Berkeley. He also teaches Asian American Studies at Laney College, Oakland. He holds a Ph.D. in South Asian Studies from UC Berkeley. He is a filmmaker and critical theorist of cinema of the global South.





**The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UC Berkeley is a learning community of more than 2,500 inquisitive adults 50+ with a passion for exploration, engagement, and connection. All are welcome!**

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## Encore Courses

*Encore videos are made available on the first day of the term Monday, June 3 and remain available through Saturday, August 31. The cost of encore courses is \$90 (Premium members: \$0). For complete descriptions and bios, visit [olli.berkeley.edu](http://olli.berkeley.edu).*

### How Broadway Became Broadway

Peter Davis

### Behind the Scenes for History Lovers

Adam Hochschild

### Etta James and Ray Charles

Pamela Rose

### How We Decide

Barry Schwartz

### Helsinki: An Extraordinary Design Capital

Pierluigi Serraino

**Summer Shorts** are one-time livestreamed and recorded events that take place on Friday mornings from 10 – noon. Each Summer Short is \$30 for all membership types.

### 6.7 Cast Out of Eden: The Untold Story of John Muir, Indigenous Peoples, and the American Wilderness

Robert McNally

John Muir is rightly lauded as the nature mystic who added wilderness to America's vision of itself. That vision came at a cost, however: the dispossession of the tribal peoples whose homelands the national parks once were. Muir argued for wilderness that would offer spiritual enlightenment to the conquerors, not the Indigenous peoples they conquered. This talk tells this neglected part of John Muir's story, his take on the tribal nations he encountered, and his embrace of an Indigenous-free wilderness ethos.

**Robert Aquinas McNally** has long sought out stories linking the human and the wild. His recent book-length works — *The Modoc War* and *Cast Out of Eden* — continue that concern by focusing on little-known aspects of America's troubled and troubling history with Indigenous peoples and their homelands.

### 6.14 Beyoncé's Revolutionary Shout-Outs: The Politics of Citation in *Lemonade*, *Homecoming*, and *Renaissance*

Sarita Cannon

Throughout her career, Beyoncé has celebrated the women who have shaped her growth, thus engaging in the Black feminist tradition of citation. We will explore this practice in three of Beyoncé's masterworks: *Lemonade*, *Homecoming*, and *Renaissance*. How might we think about Beyoncé's shout-outs as an act of resistance that highlights the unrecognized work of Black women artists? What are the limits and possibilities of such gestures? And how might Beyoncé's citational practice model new approaches to creating counternarratives that center Black women?

**Sarita Cannon** is Professor of English at San Francisco State University, where she teaches 20th-Century U.S. Literatures. She is the author of *Black-Native Autobiographical Acts: Navigating the Minefields of Authenticity*.

### 6.21 Conspiracy Theory: What It Is, Why It Matters

Tamim Ansary

This talk explores the phenomenon known as Conspiracy Theory in culture and history. Here, we're not concerned with particular conspiracy theories; we're looking at Conspiracy Theory as an archetypal structure around which particular stories form. On the one hand, we'll examine the psychological mechanisms that give this type of narrative its seductive appeal. On the other hand, we'll look at when and where in history this type of narrative has flared up most aggressively; we'll ask what those periods had in common, and consider what this implies for the metastasizing Conspiracy Theory of our own times.

**Tamim Ansary** writes about history, culture, identity, and the issues that arise in zones where civilizations overlap. His books include *Destiny Disrupted*, *A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* and *The Invention of Yesterday*, which explores world history as an interaction among global narratives.

### 6.28 Across the Jordan

Marwan Hanania

Delivered from Jordan, this lecture offers a take on current realities in the Middle East as experienced both in daily life and in news media representations. What does the view from Jordan look like, and how does it differ from that view which Americans are receiving? How does the war in Gaza impact not just Israelis and Palestinians, but the wider social and cultural fabric of the Middle East, and the sociopolitical realities of the wider world?

**Marwan Hanania** received his Ph.D. in History from Stanford. He teaches history at Santa Clara University. Marwan's research interests include the social, political, urban, and economic history of the Middle East.