

HISTORY



Winter 2024

January 16-March 8

Registration opens October 16

Online + In Person:
Downtown Berkeley + Lafayette!

Courses

Events

Field Trips

Research

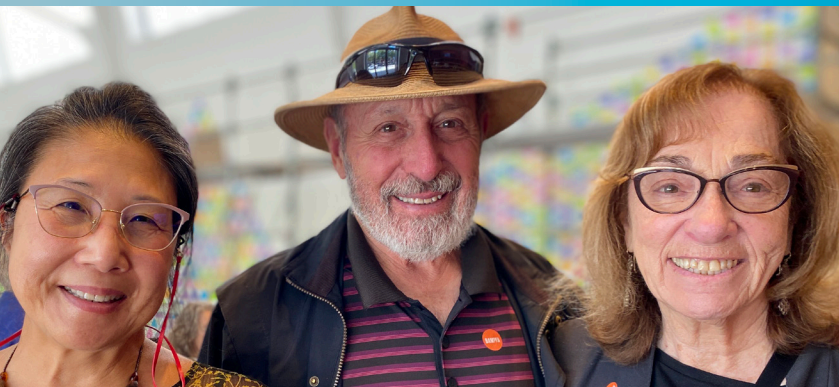
Socials



MUSIC



POLITICS



Discover for yourself olli.berkeley.edu



Registration Opens October 16

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!

Membership

We offer three types of membership — Single Term (\$75), Annual (\$100), and Premium (\$950). Course fees are separate and are based on your choice of membership.

Special Offer

New members can receive \$25 off a Single Term membership! Contact berkeley_olli@berkeley.edu or (510) 642-9934 for code.

Fee Assistance

Enjoy waived membership dues (\$100 value) and 70% off individual course fees.

Gift Membership

Give the gift of an OLLI @ Berkeley membership. Fits everyone perfectly!

Key

 In-Person

 Livestreamed

 Recorded

BEGINS 1/22 (No classes 2/19)

American Civics 101

Alan Perper

9:30–11 a.m. • 6 sessions

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

American Civics 101 is a timely discussion using real-time events and issues to tackle what every person applying for U.S. citizenship needs to know about how our U.S. government actually works!

Alan Perper has trained with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services to develop an adult U.S. citizenship curriculum and has taught civics and citizenship classes across the country.

Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and the Twilight of American Liberalism

Mick Chantler

9:30–11 a.m. • 6 sessions

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

The 1980 presidential election signaled a dramatic shift in America's political outlook. The old New Deal/Great Society consensus was badly battered at the polls. Ronald Reagan and "The New Right" ushered in a new era of populist conservatism. Our course will examine this unexpected turnabout.

Mick Chantler has been a student of American history for over fifty years, with an emphasis on the early years of the Republic. Lately, he has focused on more recent figures: the Kennedys, Teddy Roosevelt, and now Carter and Reagan.

Contemporary Black Women's Narratives

Stephanie Wells

10 a.m.–noon • 6 sessions • GBC 202/204

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

This course will examine novels and short fiction written by Black American and British women from the early twentieth century to the present day, with a focus on thematic threads that run through these texts. Authors may include Larsen, Hurston, Morrison, Ward, Evans, Senna, Gay, Leilani, Jones, and Watkins.

Stephanie Wells has a B.A. from UC Berkeley, an M.A. from University of Virginia, and a Ph.D. from UC Davis, with a focus on modernism and postmodernism in American and British novels and poetry. She currently teaches at College of Marin.

Building a Great Memoir

Louise Nayer

10 a.m.–noon • 6 sessions • GBC 300

\$235 (Premium member: \$80)

For both new and more seasoned writers, learn the basic elements of memoir: sensory detail, scene and summary, dialogue, time-shifts, voice and arc. Do in-class exercises and work with peers. Get feedback from the instructor. Leave class with a body of work and new writing friends.

Louise Nayer is the author of six books, most recently the award-winning memoir *Narrow Escapes*. Her memoir *Burned: A Memoir* was an Oprah Great read. She is a member of The Writer's Grotto.

Diving into the Movies

Harry Chotiner

1–2:30 p.m. • 5 sessions

(ends 2/26)

\$155 (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 five 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 Insterscope Communications.

How Broadway Became Broadway

Peter A. Davis

1–3 p.m. • 6 sessions • GBC 202

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

This course offers an exploration of professional theater in New York City from its inception to the turn of the 20th century. Participants will examine key events, figures, and productions that shaped the evolution of American theater and established Broadway as a global theatrical hub.

Peter A. Davis retired in 2017 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he served as Chair of the Theatre Studies and MA/PhD Programs, as well as Director of Graduate Studies. He is also a professional actor, director, and author.

Learn more and register at olli.berkeley.edu

BEGINS 1/16

The American Revolution and the British Empire

Richard Bell

9:30–11 a.m. • 8 sessions

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

Seen through American eyes, July 4, 1776 marks a triumphant moment: the birth of a bold new nation committed to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Through British eyes, however, the American Revolution looked quite different.

Richard Bell is Professor of History at the University of Maryland and author of *Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and their Astonishing Odyssey Home*, a finalist for the George Washington Prize and the Harriet Tubman Prize.

Hapsburg Capitals: Vienna, Prague, Budapest

Harlow Robinson

1–2:30 p.m. • 6 sessions

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

Explore the intertwining stories of three Central European capital cities in the decades preceding World War I. Residents of Vienna, Prague and Budapest spoke different languages, observed different traditions, and developed unique cultural and political personalities.

Harlow Robinson is Professor of History, Emeritus, at Northeastern University, and the author of five books of biography and cultural history. He earned his B.A. from Yale University, and M.A. and Ph.D. from UC Berkeley.

Personal Essay: Finding Transcendence in the Ordinary

Jane Ganahl

1–3 p.m. • 6 sessions • GBC 300

\$235 (Premium member: \$80)

Each day presents moments that could inspire a personal essay. In this introductory class, you'll learn how to identify these pivotal moments and write about them. Participants will focus on one personal essay, creating a finished product by the end of the six weeks.

Jane Ganahl is a writer, teacher, and the co-founder of Litquake. She wrote the "Single Minded" column, which led to her memoir, *Naked on the Page: The Misadventures of My Unmarried Midlife*.

Behind the Scenes for History Lovers

Adam Hochschild

1–3 p.m. • 4 sessions • GBC 202/204

(1/16, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27)

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

This class is for those who are curious about how history is written. Each session will focus on one of Adam Hochschild's books. He will describe how he investigated the subject, constructed the narrative, and chose particular characters, scenes, and events through which to tell the story.

Adam Hochschild is an acclaimed historian and a long-time writing teacher at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism. He has been a finalist for the National Book Award and is a three-time winner of the Gold Medal for Nonfiction of the California Book Awards.

BEGINS 1/30

How We Decide

Barry Schwartz

10 a.m.–noon • 6 sessions • GBC 202

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

We are all faced with many difficult decisions. We also may have noticed how much difficulty our children and grandchildren are having making the decisions that they face. In this course we will explore the gap between how people should make decisions and how they do make them.

Barry Schwartz taught psychology at Swarthmore College and at Haas School of Business for 50 years. He works on the interaction between economics, psychology, and morality. His books include *The Paradox of Choice*.

BEGINS 1/17

Stockholm: Urban Center of the Nordic Countries

Pierluigi Serraino

9:30–11:00 a.m. • 4 sessions

\$120 (Premium member: \$0)

Stockholm's dominance as a financial and cultural center among the countries facing the Baltic Sea is long established. Its civic tradition has been the source of a remarkable design tradition ranging from architecture and planning, to product design and landscape architecture. This course delves into the

ideas and protagonists of a city with worldwide influence.

Pierluigi Serraino is a practicing architect and educator. He is the author of many books on architecture, including TASCHEN's *Modernism Rediscovered*.

American Folk Music: The Golden Age: 1950–75

Pete Elman

10 a.m.–noon • 6 sessions • F&S

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

This class examines how folk music became integrated into popular music. Musicians discussed will include Leadbelly, Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, the Kingston Trio, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Phil Ochs, Peter Paul and Mary, John Prine, Ian and Sylvia, Gordon Lightfoot, Joni Mitchell, and Leonard Cohen.

Pete Elman has been a musician since 1963. He is a performer, composer, studio musician and producer of 30 albums. He has published four acclaimed books and has created 14 different classes on popular music for OLLI.

Latinx Literatures of Los Angeles

Karina Palau

10 a.m.–noon • 6 sessions • GBC 365

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

No U.S. city has been a hotspot of Latinx creativity quite like Los Angeles. This course will explore poetry, fiction, and plays by Latinx writers invested in using the written word to negotiate forms of urban place-making in the city of L.A.

Karina Palau received her Ph.D. from UC Berkeley's Department of Comparative Literature in 2014 and has been teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at Cal ever since. She's excited to return to OLLI.

The Concerto, Part 1

Alexandra Amati

1–2:30 p.m. • 6 sessions

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

This course explores the concerto, a genre we know especially from the classical and romantic periods, from its baroque origins in vocal music to its "codified" classical structure. It also investigates the genre's cultural and social aspects and functions.

Calendar



IN-PERSON



LIVESTREAMED



RECORDED

MONDAYS

1/22–3/4 (NO CLASS 2/19)

AMERICAN CIVICS 101

ALAN PERPER

9:30–11 A.M.

JIMMY CARTER AND RONALD REAGAN

MICK CHANTLER

9:30–11 A.M.

CONTEMPORARY BLACK WOMEN'S NARRATIVES

STEPHANIE WELLS

10 A.M.–NOON • GBC 202/204

BUILDING A

PERFECT MEMOIR

LOUISE NAYER

10 A.M.–NOON • GBC 300

DIVING INTO THE MOVIES

HARRY CHOTINER

1–2:30 P.M.

(FIVE WEEKS; ENDS 2/26)

HOW BROADWAY BECAME BROADWAY

PETER DAVIS

1–3 P.M. • GBC 202



IN-PERSON VENUES

F&S: Freight & Salvage

2020 Addison St., Berkeley, CA

GBC: Golden Bear Center

1995 University Ave., Berkeley, CA

LLLC: Lafayette Library and Learning Center

3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA

TUESDAYS

1/16–2/20

VIENNA, PRAGUE,

BUDAPEST

HARLOW ROBINSON

1–2:30 P.M.

MEMOIR WRITING

JANE GANAHL

1–3 P.M. • GCB 300

1/16–2/27

BEHIND THE SCENES

FOR HISTORY LOVERS

ADAM HOCHSCHILD

1–3 P.M. • GBC 202/204

(FOUR SESSIONS: 1/16, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27)

1/16–3/5

THE AMERICAN

REVOLUTION AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE

RICHARD BELL

9:30–11 A.M.

1/30–3/5

HOW WE DECIDE

BARRY SCHWARTZ

10 A.M.–NOON • GBC 202



WEDNESDAYS

1/17–2/7



STOCKHOLM

PIERLUIGI SERRAINO

9:30–11 A.M.

SAVING THE ARK

PAMELA BLOTNER

1–3 P.M. • GBC 300

1/17–2/21

AMERICAN

FOLK MUSIC

PETE ELMAN

10 A.M.–NOON • F&S

LATINX

LITERATURES OF LA

KARINA PALAU

10 A.M.–NOON • GBC 365

THE CONCERTO

ALEXANDRA AMATI

1–2:30 P.M.

BEING HUMAN

IN THE AGE OF AI

ROBERT TODD

1–3 P.M. • F&S

2/14–3/6

HELSINKI

PIERLUIGI SERRAINO

9:30–11 A.M.

THURSDAYS

1/18–2/22

IPHONEOGRAPHY

YONI MAYERI

9:30–11:30 A.M.

(NO CLASS 1/25; ENDS 2/29)

AFRICAN LITERATURE

DOROTHY PAYNE

10 A.M.–NOON • GBC 365

TURNING POINTS

SUSAN VAN DYNE

1–3 P.M. • GBC 365

1/25–3/7

UNDERSTANDING THE

NEW COLD WAR

DARREN ZOOK

(NO CLASS 2/15; PRERECORDED 2/22, ENDS 3/7)

9:30–11 A.M.

2/15–3/7

ETTA JAMES AND

RAY CHARLES

PAMELA ROSE

10 A.M.–NOON • LLLC

OPERA FOR LAUGHS

KIP CRANNA

1–3 P.M. • LLLC

READING AS A WRITER

DEBORAH LICHTMAN

1–3 P.M. • GBC 300



Encore Courses

Popular courses recorded a previous term. \$90/each (Premium member: \$0)

Waking Up in the Universe

Gibor Basri

The History Wars: The 1619 Project and Critical Race Theory

Richard Bell

Hows and Whys of Good Cooking

Linda Carucci

Experiencing Nature Through Art: The Cultivation of Perception

Bruce Elliott

The Golden Age of Airship Travel

John Geoghegan

Alexandra Amati holds a Ph.D. in musicology from Harvard. She is Professor Emerita at the University of San Francisco and has just finished a book on women and misogyny in opera.

Being Human in the Age of AI

Robert Todd

1–3 p.m. • 6 sessions • F&S

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

This is a primer for living in the Age of AI. You will learn what AI is (and isn't), where it came from, how it works, and where it's going. You'll get non-technical explanations, jaw-dropping examples, helpful historical contexts, and lots of colorful charts and diagrams.

Robert Todd is an consultant and educator who has built innovative teams and products at places like McKinsey & Co, LinkedIn and San Francisco State University.

Saving the Ark: Artists, Biologists and Architects Collaborate

Pamela Blotner

1–3 p.m. • 4 sessions • GBC 300

\$195 (Premium member: \$40)

Throughout the world, intrepid artists have worked with architects and biologists to create artworks to save threatened and endangered animals. This class will examine the work of several of these artists. It will also consider how art can teach us how to use our own creativity to protect endangered wildlife.

Pamela Blotner has worked for the Houston Zoo and Leatherback Trust and taught at the University of San Francisco, University of Chicago, and Pixar Animation Studios. She is the Vice President of Gallery Route One and a former US Arts Envoy to Burma.

BEGINS 2/14

Helsinki: An Extraordinary Design Capital

Pierluigi Serraino

9:30–11:00 a.m. • 4 sessions

\$120 (Premium member: \$0)

Finland has a long tradition of political and cultural independence. Wedged between Russia and Scandinavia, Helsinki embodies a unique position: that of a relative newcomer to the contemporary European scene. This class covers the exciting trajectory of a city and its proud heritage of extraordinary modern architecture.

See **Pierluigi Serraino** bio on page 3.

BEGINS 1/18

iPhoneography

Yoni Mayeri

9:30–11:30 a.m. • 6 sessions

(No class 1/25; ends 2/29)

\$235 (Premium member: \$80)

Learn how to expertly capture images, edit, and create extraordinary photographs using solely your iPhone. Discover the best practices for photographing by understanding the tools and features built into the camera and digital darkroom that is always with you.

Yoni Mayeri is an award-winning professional photographer and an early adopter of the iPhone. Yoni teaches at UC Berkeley, Stanford, Stanford Research Park, Rancho La Puerta, the Garden Club of America, and more.

African Literature: Negritude, Fanon, and Beyond

Dorothy Payne

10 a.m.–noon • 6 sessions • GBC 365

\$195 (Premium member: \$40)

This course takes its impetus from the social and theoretical underpinnings of the Negritude movement and the work of Frantz Fanon, and aims to illuminate great novels informed by these traditions. Works include Camara Laye's *The African Child*, Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, and Blessing Masariri's *Only Once Are You Immaculate*.

Dorothy Payne is a visual artist, poet and literary critic. She has taught in international schools within eight countries—most recently, Guinea, West Africa. She is the former director and curator of Art Internationale.

Turning Points: Six American Artists and Writers

Susan Van Dyne

1–3 p.m. • 6 sessions • GBC 365

\$195 (Premium member: \$40)

We explore how six outstanding American artists and writers from diverse backgrounds represent critical turning points in their individual lives. Understanding these turning points will help transform our broader sense of American history.

Susan Van Dyne taught at Smith College for 40 years. She enjoys interdisciplinary teaching and sharing lively discussions with participants.

BEGINS 1/25

Understanding The New Cold War

Darren Zook

9:30–11 a.m. • 6 sessions

(No class 2/15; Prerecorded 2/22; Ends 3/7)

\$155 (Premium member: \$0)

It's happening again. The world is splitting into two diametrically-opposed ideological camps, one still championing liberal democracy and the other claiming that illiberal authoritarianism (rather than communism) will ultimately emerge triumphant. In this course we will examine all the main actors and key claims of both sides, and also look at possible pathways to the future.

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

BEGINS 2/15

Etta James and Ray Charles: Lives, Times, and Music

Pamela Rose

10 a.m.–noon • 4 sessions • LLLC

\$155 (Premium: \$0)

Few singers touch our souls as deeply as Etta James and Ray Charles. But each also transcended typical music labels, straddling jazz, blues, country, R&B and gospel to create their own unique soulful sound. This course will explore the lives, times and music of these two masters.

Pamela Rose is a San Francisco jazz and blues vocalist. With seven recordings under her belt, Rose has toured nationally, celebrating remarkable women in blues and jazz. She is on the faculty of the California Jazz Conservatory.

Opera for Laughs: Great Comic Moments in the World of Opera

Kip Cranna

1–3 p.m. • 4 sessions • LLLC

\$155 (Premium: \$0)

"Make 'em laugh!" Opera is not always about tragic dying divas. San Francisco Opera's Dramaturg Emeritus Kip Cranna looks at what makes comic opera truly funny, using video examples (with subtitles) of operatic humor from the 17th century to the present day.

Kip Cranna is Dramaturg Emeritus (Scholar in Residence) at San Francisco Opera, where he served on the staff for 40 years. He has a Ph.D. in Musicology from Stanford.

Reading as a Writer: Two Modernist Classics

Deborah Lichtman

1–3 p.m. • 4 sessions • GBC 300

\$235 (Premium: \$80)

This course invites you to draw from the writing of Faulkner and Woolf to enhance your prose. Topics cover various literary techniques. Classes incorporate lecture, discussion, and in-class writing shared in small groups. At the last meeting, students may submit a short piece to the instructor.

Deborah Lichtman has taught for 30 years. She directed the MFA in Writing Program at the University of San Francisco and was a visiting professor of English at Mills College and UC Berkeley. She holds a doctorate in English from UC Berkeley.

Benefits of Membership

As an OLLI @Berkeley member, you gain access to:

Relevant and revelatory courses in history, politics, science, literature, music, film and more taught by Cal faculty and other scholars

Speaker Events and Town Halls featuring leading thinkers on campus and in their fields discussing some of the most pressing issues of our time

Field trips and Socials led and organized by members

Vital Aging, a monthly gathering that explores issues of special significance to older adults

View our calendar at olli.berkeley.edu for the full list of upcoming events.