



At the University of Oregon

The Oregon Sage

Monthly newsletter from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Oregon

Volume 3, Number 9

September 2013

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CENTRAL OREGON—Open House: Iran's History and People

Tuesday, September 10, 2:00–4:00 p.m., Bend Senior Center
Iran, or Persia, is the home of one of the world's oldest civilizations. Iran has had an historic and strategic influence on its Central Asia neighbors. Currently, Iran's enormous oil and natural gas reserves greatly influence world energy markets.

Jack Meacham, a retired professor at the University at Buffalo and a member of OLLI Eugene since 2009, learned about Islam in part by living in Turkey, Bosnia, and Herzegovina. He traveled to Iran in 2010. His lecture and photographs will focus on Iran's long history, architecture art, and Iran's cities and people today.

This event, held at the Bend Senior Center, will be open to the public—be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to attend our first Open House for Fall 2013.

OLLI-CO Annual Members' Picnic

Sunday, September 8, 3:00–6:00 p.m., Mountain High Gazebo, Bend
Join OLLI-CO for the annual picnic on Sunday, September 8 at 3:00 p.m. at the Mountain High Gazebo on Bend's south side. This fall gathering is a time for

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EUGENE/SPRINGFIELD—Fall Film Series:

From Page to Moving Pictures

Mondays, September 9–December 16, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Yes, that's right. From the pages of all-time classic novels to the silver screen of modern moving pictures; these films started life as books, many of them read as family entertainment before electricity was even common. Works by classic authors Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, Alexander Dumas, and Shakespeare, along with those of more modern writers, Daphne Du Maurier, Oscar Hijuelos, James Hilton, William Goldman, and John Le Carre, serve as the source for our fall line-up of film stories.

Join us most Monday afternoons to learn about these classic movies from classic books—everything from *Jane Eyre* and a *Tale of Two Cities* to *Stand By Me* and the *Mambo Kings*. As Siskel and Ebert used to say, "See you at the movies!"

Those who wish to discuss the films and the literary originals are encouraged to join in post screening discussion sessions. A full list of the films and books is included on the OLLI-UO website in the highlighted events announcements.

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Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

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UNIVERSITY
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Central Oregon



OLLI-CO Editor's Note

Summer is about over and we can all settle into a full fall calendar of OLLI activities.

Online learning is exploding with websites

like Coursera, offering a broad spectrum of free courses that can be streamed on your home computer. So why do you need OLLI, when you can view these courses at home? Each of us likely attends OLLI study groups for a different reason. So what might these reasons be?

First, there are the facilitators, who gather supplementary information to enrich our discussion. Then, of course, there are those attending the class. OLLI members come from various professions and careers. We have physicists, chemists, biologists, engineers, social workers, psychologists, lawyers, marketing specialists, and many more. The diversity of our membership means that any topic is discussed from a variety of perspectives. The discussions

are rich, providing new insights into the subject. So why do we need OLLI? Because viewing and discussing the topic at hand is a richer and more enlightening experience when done in an OLLI group than it could ever be viewing the same lessons at home by oneself.

This fall brings a wide range of courses. There are new offerings of a fiction book club and a writing workshop. The news is filled with articles on Iran. Come and hear a talk on Iran's history to better understand the influences that have fashioned these events. Climate change is vigorously debated in the news; attend the short course on Meteorology to better understand these debates. Ever wonder why someone you know behaves strangely? The study group on the Mysteries of Human Behavior might just explain it.

Come on out and participate in the new courses; your life will be richer for the shared experience.

Jeanne Freeman

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good food, great conversation, reconnecting with old friends, and relaxing in the fresh—hopefully cooler—air.

The governing council provides a report on the state of our organization, and the program committee will talk about some of the exciting new courses. Roasted chicken and soft drinks are provided. Members are asked to bring a salad or side dish to share. Call the OLLI-UO/Academic Extension office at 800-824-2714 to RSVP and tell them how many people will be coming. Family is invited to join us for this Sunday event. Don't miss out on the fun, food, and fellowship.

Special thanks to Lynn Haynes for arranging for this site.

RSVPs requested by Tuesday, September 3.

Directions: Mountain High

Gazebo is a gated residential area off Knott Road. Going south on the Parkway, exit at Baker/Knott Road exit and turn left (east). On the left (north) a little past China Hat Road is the entrance to Mountain High. Just inside the entrance turn left into a public parking lot near the swimming pool. The Gazebo will be evident from there.

Through the Wormhole

Mondays, September 16, 23, and 30, 10:00 a.m.–noon

Join OLLI-CO for a three-part DVD study group—*Through The Wormhole*. This Science Channel series, hosted by actor Morgan Freeman, explores the deepest mysteries of existence—the questions that have puzzled mankind for eternity.

Now, science may be able to provide us with answers instead of

philosophical theories. *Through the Wormhole* brings together the best minds and ideas from the edges of science—Astrophysics, Astrobiology, Quantum Mechanics, String Theory, and more.

The titles of these episodes ask the questions: “Did We Invent God?”, “Is There A Superior Race?”, and “Can We Eliminate Evil?” These are three mornings you don't want to miss.

Facilitator: Harlie Peterson

The Mysteries of Human Behavior

Mondays, September 16–December 2, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Beginning Monday, Sept. 16, OLLI-CO members **Kelly Arnoldus** and **Barbara Jordan** will facilitate a new DVD study group, “Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behavior.” The Great Course instructor is Mark Leary, PhD, a professor of psychology

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and neuroscience at Duke University. “The course is designed to teach people to think about the behaviors they experience every day from a scientific point of view.” Professor Leary has been “particularly interested in the ways in which people’s emotions, behaviors, and self-views are influenced by their concerns with other people’s perceptions and evaluations of them.” <http://bit.ly/14dF63M>

The lectures explore “provocative phenomena such as memory, self-esteem, stress, risk taking, personality development, conflict and differences between men and women.” Things that can influence our behavior and emotions are our “evolutionary history, cultural factors and self-awareness, the ways that you talk to yourself in your own mind.”

Some aspects of “thought, emotion, and behavior have been difficult to answer using scientific methods.” The lectures will also address other topics, such as “overeating, fear, political attitudes, mental illness, motivation, etc.”

Join OLLI-CO for new insights into the human psyche. Check the calendar for course titles.

Nonfiction Book Group

***The Mansion of Happiness: A History of Life and Death* by Jill Lepore**

Tuesdays, October 1 and 15,
10:00 a.m.–noon

“With her characteristically sharp-edged humor and luminous storytelling, Lepore regales us with stories that follow the stages of life... her inspired commentary on our shared social history offers a fresh approach to our changing views of life and

death,” according to a review in *Publishers Weekly*.

“Renowned Harvard scholar and *New Yorker* staff writer Jill Lepore has written a strikingly original, ingeniously conceived, and beautifully crafted history of American ideas about life and death from before the cradle to beyond the grave.

How does life begin? What does it mean? What happens when we die? “All anyone can do is ask,” Lepore writes. “That’s why any history of ideas about life and death has to be, like this book, a history of curiosity.” Lepore begins with a seventeenth-century Englishman who had the idea that all life begins with an egg, and ends it with an American who, in the 1970s, began freezing the dead. As much a meditation on the present as an excavation of the past, *The Mansion of Happiness* is delightful, learned, and altogether beguiling.” (from Amazon.com)

Facilitator: Bill Sugnet

Fiction Book Group

***The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared*, by Jonas Jonasson**

Tuesday, October 8,
10:00 a.m.–noon

According to *Kirkus Reviews*, this is a “silly and wonderful novel. [The scenes] will just keep readers amused almost nonstop, and that’s a feat few writers achieve. A great cure for the blues, especially for anyone who might feel bad about growing older.”

“After a long and eventful life, Allan Karlsson ends up in a nursing home, still in good health, and about to turn 100. A big celebration is in the works, but Allan isn’t interested

and he’d like a bit more control over his vodka consumption. He escapes, climbing out the window in his slippers and embarking on a hilarious and entirely unexpected journey, involving, among other surprises, a suitcase stuffed with cash, some criminals, and an elephant.

Allan has a larger-than-life story: Not only has he witnessed some of the most important events of the twentieth century, he has actually played a key role in them. He has traveled the world, sharing meals and more with everyone from Stalin, Churchill, and Truman to Mao, Franco, and de Gaulle. Quirky and utterly unique, *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* has charmed readers across the world.

Facilitator: Gerry Sharp

The World Was Never the Same

Wednesdays, September 4, 11, 18 and 25, 10:00 a.m.

We will resume our weekly sessions with the Rufus Fears DVD study group on Wednesday, September 4th. In September we will begin examining significant historical events of the nineteenth century continuing through September 11, 2001. Join us as we continue with the “events that changed history.”

Topics and session facilitators TBA.

News and Views

Wednesdays, beginning September 4, 12:15–1:45 p.m.

News and Views resumes on September 4 with all the vim and vigor our members can supply. We are an energetic group of people with an interest in local, national, and international

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3 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Book Discussion Group

[study group] *Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World* by Liaquat Ahamed
Facilitator: Ed Lee. (UOBC)

Noon—Round Table Luncheon— Crossings at The Riverhouse

[social] For reservations, contact Harlie Peterson, harliepete@hotmail.com, or call the UO Bend Center office at 541-728-0685.

4 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. The World Was Never the Same: Events That Changed History [DVD study group] Adam Smith (1776) vs. Karl Marx (1867); Charles Darwin Takes an Ocean Voyage (1831). Facilitator: TBA (UOBC)

12:15 p.m. News and Views

[discussion group] Facilitator: Carolyn Hammond (UOBC)

8 Sunday

3:00 p.m. All Member Picnic [social]
Mountain High Gazebo, Bend.
RSVP to the UO Bend Center Office, 541-728-0685.

10 Tuesday

2:00 p.m. Open House [lecture] Iran's History and People. Presenter: Jack Meacham (BSC)

11 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. The World Was Never the Same: Events That Changed History [DVD study group] Louis Pasteur Cures a Child (1885); Two Brothers Take Flight (1903). Facilitator: TBA (UOBC)

12:15 p.m. News and Views [discussion group] Facilitator: Carolyn Hammond (UOBC)

12 Thursday

9:00 a.m. Writing Workshop [study group]
Facilitators: Gerry Sharp and Linda Charny (UOBC)

13 Friday

1:30 p.m. Meteorology—Weather Fundamentals [short course]
Instructor: Ron Thorkildson (UOBC)

16 Monday

10:00 a.m. Through the Wormhole
[DVD study group] Facilitator: Harlie Peterson (UOBC)

1:30 p.m. Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behavior [DVD study group] Solving Psychological Mysteries; How Did Human Nature Evolve? Facilitators: Kelly Arnoldus and Barbara Jordan (UOBC)

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17 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Book Discussion Group
[study group] *Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World* by Liaquat Ahamed Facilitator: Ed Lee (UOBC)

18 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. The World Was Never the Same: Events That Changed History [DVD study group] *The Archduke Makes a State Visit* (1914); *One Night in Petrograd* (1917) Facilitator: Ron Webber (UOBC)

12:15 p.m. News and Views
[discussion group] Facilitator: Carolyn Hammond (UOBC)

19 Thursday

9:00 a.m. Writing Workshop [study group] Facilitators: Gerry Sharp and Linda Charny (UOBC)

20 Friday

1:30 p.m. Meteorology—Weather Fundamentals [short course] Instructor: Ron Thorkildson (UOBC)

23 Monday

10:00 a.m. Through the Wormhole
[DVD study group] Facilitator: Harlie Peterson (UOBC)

1:30 p.m. Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behavior [DVD study group] *Where Do People's Personalities Come From?; How Can Siblings Be So Different?* Facilitators: Kelly Arnoldus and Barbara Jordan (UOBC)

24 Tuesday

1:30 p.m. Program Committee Meeting
Chair: Helen Pruitt, 541-382-7827 (UOBC)

25 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. The World Was Never the Same: Events That Changed History [DVD study group] *The Day the Stock Market Crashed* (1929); *Hitler Becomes Chancellor of Germany* (1933). Facilitator: TBA (UOBC)

12:15 p.m. News and Views
[discussion group] Facilitator: Carolyn Hammond (UOBC)

26 Thursday

9:00 a.m. Writing Workshop [study group] Facilitators: Gerry Sharp and Linda Charny (UOBC)

27 Friday

1:30 p.m. Meteorology—Weather Fundamentals [short course] Instructor: Ron Thorkildson (UOBC)

30 Monday

10:00 a.m. Through the Wormhole
[DVD study group] Facilitator: Harlie Peterson (UOBC)

1:30 p.m. Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behavior [DVD study group] *Why Do People Need Self-Esteem—Or Do They?; Why Do We Have Emotions?* Facilitators: Kelly Arnoldus and Barbara Jordan (UOBC)

Locations

All meetings held at the UO Bend Center, 80 NE Bend River Mall Drive, unless otherwise stated.

University of Oregon Bend Center
80 NE Bend River Mall Drive, Bend
Bend Senior Center
1600 SE Reed Market Rd., Bend

Key

UOBC = UO Bend Center
BSC = Bend Senior Center
TBA = To Be Announced

Parking at the UO Bend Center

OLLI-UO members and their guests should use the shopping center parking spaces at the side of the building when attending OLLI meetings and classes. Please note that the parking lot in front of the Duck Store should be left open for the store's customers.

Questions?

Call 800-824-2714

Grid calendars available from the office or online at <http://osher.uoregon.edu>

Renewals

Mail renewals and membership applications to:

OLLI-UO Central Oregon
1277 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1277

Or call the OLLI-UO office to renew, 800-824-2714

UO Staff Contacts:

OLLI-UO Program Director:
Ruth Heller, 800-824-2714

UO Bend Center Manager:
Martie Steigleder, 541-728-0685

OLLI Committee Contacts:

Council President:
Mike McAllister, 541-389-3430

Program Chair:
Helen Pruitt, 541-382-7827

Activities and Travel:
Gerry and Bruce Sharp,
541-526-1399

Membership Outreach Interim Chair:
Russel Hopper, 541-647-4626

Central Oregon

Learning Circle

Monthly Schedule

Monday

10:00 a.m. Through the Wormhole: third, fourth and fifth weeks in September

1:30 p.m. Understanding the Mysteries of Human Behavior: third, fourth and fifth Mondays in September

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Book Discussion Group, first and third weeks

Noon Round Table Luncheon: first week at Crossings at The Riverhouse

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. The World Was Never the Same: second, third and fourth weeks in September

12:15 p.m. News and Views: weekly

Thursday

9:00 a.m. Writing Workshop: second, third and fourth weeks in September

Friday

1:30 p.m. Meteorology-Weather Fundamentals: second, third, fourth weeks in September

We welcome member proposals for study or discussion groups! Share your interests and expertise with other members or explore a new topic together. Contact the OLLI-UO office, or the Central Oregon Program Chair, if you're interested in proposing or leading a new group.

For questions, call the OLLI-UO office at 800-824-2714.

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news. We meet for an hour-and-a-half just after the close of the Wednesday morning program to discuss current events. Every opinion is welcome.

Writing Workshop

Thursdays, September 12, 19 and 26, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

“The most damning revelation you can make about yourself is that you do not know what is interesting and what is not.” So sayeth Kurt Vonnegut.

If you have always wanted to express yourself through words but are afraid you will be boring, or if you simply don't know how to begin, join us on Thursday, September 12, at 9:30 a.m., to help plan a Writing Workshop.

Under the theory that writing is a teachable creative art, learned largely by the act of doing it, OLLI-CO is introducing this program to provide a place for members to freely discuss, and indulge in, the act of writing in a supportive atmosphere.

This workshop will be a member-driven program: you will decide how structured—or unstructured—it is; how much formal instruction to provide; how much time to spend writing in the company of others; and whether to offer a forum for those who wish to share efforts.

On September 19, **Richard Lyons**, a retired University of Oregon writing professor, will be on hand giving advice he shared at his popular short story presentation last spring. We hope to have monthly return appearances from Mr. Lyons. Join us as we take a behind-the-scenes look at the art of writing.

Course Managers: Linda Charny and Gerry Sharp

Meteorology—Weather Fundamentals

Fridays, September 13–October 11, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

In 1971, **Ron Thorkildson** graduated from OSU with a degree in atmospheric science and enjoyed a career as an applied meteorologist. Join OLLI-CO and Ron as he shares his knowledge to give us a better understanding of how weather is created.

In this course you will learn about: the composition and thermal structure of the atmosphere; the Coriolis effect and how it drives the global wind circulation; how weather data are coded on surface maps from which high and low pressure regions and fronts are drawn. This course will also cover the relationship of ambient, dew point and wet bulb temperatures and their importance, how to read online weather models, cloud types and their classification, and how wind chill is determined.

Thorkildson worked for the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for thirty-three years in Portland and Vancouver. He retired in 2005 and moved to Sisters in January of 2006. He currently serves on the American Society of Civil Engineers' subcommittee on Atmospheric Icing, and is a member of the Oregon Chapter of the American Meteorological Society.

Coming in October

Gems and Minerals, from Earth to Jewels

Thursday, October 3, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
UO Bend Center

Ever wondered how that rock on the ground became that rock on your

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Eugene/Springfield



OLLI-UO Special Announcement

A committee convened this summer to draft nominations for the 2013-2015 Council. Current members **Pam McClure Johnston, Gordon Nagai,**

Anne Niemiec and **Karen Seidel** have accepted nominations for a second term. **Bobbi Webster, Linda Jensen, Elaine Stewart** and **Gary Spizizen** are newly nominated for Council.

OLLI members who wish to make additional nominations should first ask the individual's permission, and then submit a written nomination to Nominating Committee representative Jean Coberly, or to Program Director Ruth Heller, before the Council meeting on Friday, September 13.

In October, immediate past President **Phyllis Villec**, two-term member **Ken Capron**, and **Jack Meacham** will complete their terms of Council service. **Jerry Horgan**, who also would have completed his term next month,

left the Council earlier this year due to health concerns. We would like to offer our appreciation to these Council members for their service and continuing commitment to OLLI-UO.

Mark your calendars now for **Friday, September 27!** The Council is planning an all-member gathering to celebrate the beginning of the new academic year. Join us at noon for a buffet lunch, good company, fall program previews, member recognition, and the election of our 2013-2015 council members.

The light lunch buffet will be provided at a cost of \$6.00 per person. Be sure to sign up at the OLLI-UO office, 541-346-0697, by Monday, September 16.

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Understanding the Middle East: Syria, Egypt, and Political Islam

Wednesday, September 11, 10:00 a.m.–noon and 1:30–3:30 p.m. **Dr. Peter Bechtold**, chairman emeritus, Near East North Africa Area Studies, Foreign Service Institute, and recent director of the Middle East Studies Center of Portland State University, will return to OLLI to deliver a two-lecture series on the Middle East. Dr. Bechtold, who has done “field research in twenty-five Mid East countries, from Egypt to Israel to Iraq to Kazakhstan to the Gulf” will provide additional insights into the Middle East.

His morning session will focus on the ongoing crisis in Syria, which Bechtold describes as “becoming ever more complicated with the involvement of external actors.” In his

estimation, Western nations seem to deliberately distort the narrative about Syria to arrive at a predetermined outcome, i.e. regime change. Bechtold will ask, who are the multiple actors in this four-tiered crisis? What are the basic issues in Syria, and what are the likely consequences?

In the afternoon session, Bechtold will detail recent developments in the Middle East, and discuss Political Islam, often described as “Islamism,” the various movements that have arisen across the Muslim world in just one generation.

As usual, we will schedule an informal brown bag lunch and discussion with Dr. Bechtold between the morning and afternoon sessions. Don't miss this one-day intensive.

Before Rap: DJs, MCs, and the Pre-1979 Hip-Hop Performances

Wednesday, September 18, 1:30 p.m. Assistant Professor **Loren Kajikawa** teaches in the School of Music and Dance at the UO. He was the recipient of an Oregon Humanities grant last academic year to support his research of hip-hop and rap music. This fall he will present his research at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio, as part of a new lecture series designed to bring musicological work of the top scholars in the field to a broader audience. He explores the shift in form that accompanied hip-hop's translation from live performance to recorded rap. Come learn about one more aspect of the evolution of music.

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Eugene/Springfield

2 Monday

OLLI UO Closed for Labor Day Holiday

3 Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Membership, Promotions and Awards Committee Meeting Chair: Betty Hosokawa, 541-683-1907 (CN)

10:30 a.m. Understanding Science [DVD study group] Mysteries of Modern Physics—Time: Time Reversal in Particle Physics; Time in Quantum Mechanics. Facilitator: John O'Brien (AK)

1:30 p.m. Art History [DVD study group] Hidden Lives of Masterpieces, Session Four of Five. Facilitator: Ray Staton (AK)

3:00 p.m. Interpretive Play Reading [study group] Facilitator: Esther Erford (CN)

4 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. International Relations [discussion group] Topic TBA. Facilitator: John Attig (CN)

5 Thursday

10:00 a.m. Thinking Allowed [discussion group] How Can We Have a Fairer Society? Facilitator: Chuck Adams (CN)

3:15 p.m. Spanish Conversation [study group] Facilitators: Nancy Richey and Stan Cook (CN)

6 Friday

9:30 a.m. Curriculum Committee Meeting Co-Chairs: Wende Hitchcock, 541-953-4173 and Bill Davis. (AK)

11:00 a.m. Intermediate Spanish [study group] Facilitator: Bonnie Fromhold (BZ)

Noon—October Newsletter Submission Deadline

9 Monday

10:00 a.m. Philosophy Salon [study group] Lectures on Existentialism by Robert Solomon: What is Existentialism?; Albert Camus—*The Stranger*, Part I. Name Facilitators: Byron Chell, Lorraine Ironplow, and Dennis Lawrence (CN)

12:15 p.m. Beginning Spanish [study group] Contact: Sara Michener (BZ)

1:30 p.m. From Page to Moving Pictures [film series] *Rebecca*. Introduced by Jack Powell (AK/MX)

3:45 p.m. French Language [study group] Facilitator: Elaine deMartin Webster (BZ)

10 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Historical Novels [book group] Title TBA. Facilitators: Corinne Hunt (CN)

11 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Understanding the Middle East: Syria [lecture] Presenter: Dr. Peter Bechtold (AK/MX)

Noon—Brown Bag Lunch Discussion with Dr. Bechtold (CN)

1:30 p.m. Understanding the Middle East: Political Islam [lecture] Presenter: Dr. Peter Bechtold (AK/MX)

3:30 p.m. Alternatives [discussion group] The National Debt. Facilitator: Jerry Brule (CN)

12 Thursday

10:00 a.m. News and Views [discussion group] Facilitator: Jack Meacham (CN)

1:30 p.m. Music Appreciation [DVD study group] Beethoven's Life and Music, Part Five. Facilitator: Dennis Lawrence (CN)

3:15 p.m. Spanish Conversation [study group] Facilitators: Nancy Richey and Stan Cook (CN)

13 Friday

9:30 a.m. Council Meeting President: Susan Rutherford, 541-343-4620 (AK)

11:00 a.m. Intermediate Spanish [study group] Facilitator: Bonnie Fromhold (BZ)

16 Monday

10:00 a.m. Creative Writing [study group] Facilitator: Livvie Taylor-Young (CN)

12:15 p.m. Beginning Spanish [study group] Contact: Sara Michener (BZ)

3:45 p.m. French Language [study group] Facilitator: Elaine deMartin Webster (BZ)

17 Tuesday

10:30 a.m. Understanding Science [DVD study group] Mysteries of Modern Physics: Time: Entropy and Counting; Playing with Entropy. Facilitator: John O'Brien (AK)

1:30 p.m. Art History [DVD study group] Hidden Lives of Masterpieces, Session Five of Five. Facilitator: Ray Staton (AK)

3:00 p.m. Interpretive Play Reading [study group] Facilitator: Esther Erford (CN)

18 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. International Relations [discussion group] Topic TBA. Facilitator: John Attig (CN)

1:30 p.m. Before Rap: DJs, MCs, and Pre-1979 Hip-Hop Performance [lecture] Presenter: Loren Kajikawa (AK/MX)

Eugene/Springfield

19 Thursday

10:00 a.m. Thinking Allowed [discussion group] Can We Minimize Corporate Influence in Government?
Facilitator: Chuck Adams (CN)

Noon—Poetry Writing [study group]
Facilitator: Gloria Wells (CN)

3:15 p.m. Spanish Conversation [study group] Facilitators: Nancy Richey and Stan Cook (CN)

20 Friday

11:00 a.m. Intermediate Spanish [study group] Facilitator: Bonnie Fromhold (BZ)

1:30 p.m. Mungo Park: Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa [lecture] Presenter: Liz Bohls (AK/MX)

23 Monday

10:00 a.m. Activities and Travel Committee Chair: Meribeth Olsen, 541-342-5190 (CN)

10:00 a.m. Philosophy Salon [study group] Lectures on Existentialism by Robert Solomon: Albert Camus—*The Stranger, Part II; The Myth of Sisyphus*. Facilitators: Byron Chell, Lorraine Ironplow and Dennis Lawrence (CN)

12:15 p.m. Beginning Spanish [study group] Contact: Sara Michener (BZ)

1:30 p.m. From Page to Moving Pictures [film series] *3:10 to Yuma*. Introduced by Martha Sargent (AK/MX)

3:45 p.m. French Language [study group] Facilitator: Elaine deMartin Webster (BZ)

24 Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Historical Novels [book group] Title TBA. Facilitator: Corinne Hunt (CN)

1:30 p.m. Classics/Philosophy [book group] Title TBA. Facilitator: Paul Holbo (CN)

25 Wednesday

1:30 p.m. Murder and its Means [lecture] Presenter: Jack Marietta (AK/MX)

3:30 p.m. Alternatives [discussion group] Information inequality, Internet—selecting “facts.” Facilitator: Jerry Brule (CN)

26 Thursday

10:00 a.m. News and Views [discussion group] Facilitator: Jack Meacham (CN)

1:30 p.m. Music Appreciation [DVD study group] Beethoven's Life and Music, Part Six. Facilitator: Dennis Lawrence (CN)

3:15 p.m. Spanish Conversation [study group] Facilitators: Nancy Richey and Stan Cook (CN)

27 Friday

Noon—Membership Meeting Lunch Buffet [social/meeting] President: Susan Rutherford (AK/MX/CN)

30 Monday

12:15 p.m. Beginning Spanish [study group] Contact: Sara Michener (BZ)

1:30 p.m. From Page to Moving Pictures [film] *Jane Eyre*. Introduced by Martha Sargent (AK/MX)

3:45 p.m. French Language [study group] Facilitator: Elaine deMartin Webster (BZ)

Locations

All meetings held at Baker Downtown Center, 975 High Street, unless otherwise stated.

Key

AK = Alaska Room
MX = Mexico Room
CN = Canada Room
BZ = Belize Room
TBA = To Be Announced

Renewals

Mail renewals and membership applications to:

OLLI-UO Eugene Springfield
1277 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1277

Or drop them off at the office:
975 High Street, Eugene

Questions?

Call 541-346-0697

Grid calendars available in the office or online at <http://osher.uoregon.edu>

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Mungo Park: Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa

Friday, September 20, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
UO English Department Associate Professor **Liz Bohls** specializes in eighteenth and nineteenth century British Literature. Last spring, an Humanities Center Fellowship allowed her to work on a project on the Scottish explorer Mungo Park and his 1799 *Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa*. Bohls writes, “My focus is on Parks’ contact with the British and African slave trades and his representation of slavery in the book.” In this presentation, she will introduce OLLI members to Park and his amazing journey and put him in the context of the travel and exploration of his day.

Murder and Its Means: the Role of Firearms in the History of Homicide in the United States

Wednesday, September 25,
1:30–3:30 p.m.

The rate of homicide in the United States has varied erratically in the past and varied from one locality or region to another. Of the various alleged causes of the different homicide rates—poverty, immigration, the justice system, urbanization and others—firearms recently have captured the attention of the American public. An examination of the historical record helps to evaluate the claims that firearms promote or prevent homicides, or hardly affect it either way. This lecture will examine past eras and episodes of homicide to illuminate the role of firearms as a cause.

Before moving to Eugene and joining OLLI-UO, **Jack D. Marietta** was an associate professor of history at the

University of Arizona. He is the author of *The Reformation of American Quakerism, 1748-1783*, and coauthor, with G. S. Rowe, of *Troubled Experiment: Crime and Justice in Pennsylvania, 1682-1800*, both books are published by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

Philosophy Salon Announces Fall Topic: Lectures on Existentialism

This month the Philosophy Salon begins a new DVD lecture series, “No Excuses: Existentialism and the Meaning of Life” with twenty-four short lectures by Robert Solomon, each followed by group discussion. Everyone is welcome. It is fine to come to some sessions and not others if you wish. Meetings are the second and fourth Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

The message of existentialism, unlike that of many more obscure and academic philosophical movements, is about as simple as can be. It is that every one of us, as an individual, is responsible—responsible for what we do, responsible for who we are, responsible for the way we face and deal with the world, responsible, ultimately, for the way the world is. More than a half-century after it burst upon the intellectual scene, existentialism has continued to exert a profound attraction for individuals driven to re-examine life’s most fundamental questions of individual responsibility, morality, and personal freedom. These lectures examine the writings of Camus, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Sartre, and others.

Imagine Russia with the Short Story Discussion Group

In October, the Short Story

Discussion Group will reconvene with a series on Russian, Soviet, and post-Soviet history and culture. The stories will illustrate various aspects and periods of Russian life from different points of view. We will begin with two stories by a master of nineteenth-century Russian literature, Nikolai Gogol: “The Nose” and “Diary of a Madman.” These famous stories continue to amuse and intrigue audiences, including the YouTube generation, so plan to come by at 10:00 a.m. on October 9 for some Russian history and contemporary visual interpretations of Gogol’s tales.

In our second session, we will move ahead in time to look at post-Soviet Russia from the viewpoint of Oregon fiction writer Gina Oschner. With the support of a Guggenheim grant, Oschner traveled to Russia to research her novel, *The Russian Dreambook of Colour and Flight*. She has also learned a lot from Oregon immigrant communities. On Wednesday, October 23, we will discuss a couple of her stories set in post-soviet Russia (TBA), and she will lecture and lead discussion in person on Friday, October 25. Oschner is a highly-regarded writer, with two Oregon Book Awards, a Flannery O’Connor Short Story Award, and published stories in *The New Yorker* and *The Best American Non-Required Reading*. Even if you can’t find time to sample her stories, don’t pass up the chance to listen to a first-hand account of post-Soviet and Soviet immigrant life from one of Oregon’s brightest literary stars.

In November and December we will read stories that illustrate other Russian periods and viewpoints, including Russian women writers and

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dissident writers of the former Soviet Union. Newcomers are always welcome to join us on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

OLLI Short Course: Feminist Writers of Science Fiction

A three-session short course this fall will pair interested OLLI members with students from Professor Carol A. Stabile's Honors College course on "Feminist Science Fiction: Text. Archive. Author." for discussions of selected science fiction authors such as Ursula Le Guin and Vonda McIntyre. This short course is being planned for dates and time to be chosen in October, November, and December.

One premise for Professor Stabile's class is that science fiction has provided a space for feminist authors to explore human relationships with science, technology, and identity, without having to be tied down to conventions used in other types of fiction. Her students will do research on twelve science fiction writers in the archives of the Knight Library.

For the OLLI short course, Professor Stabile will choose three students who will each come to the Baker Center to give a talk on one of the writers. OLLI members will read selected stories by the writer before each of the three sessions, so that the discussions with the student speakers should be in depth, lively and interesting. A group of no more than twenty would be best for these discussions, but no one will be turned away.

Anyone who is interested in participating in this three-part course can contact the course manager, Dina Wills, at 541-687-4784 or dw03@lehigh.edu.

A Fun Committee—Join Up!

The Monday Movie Planning Committee would like to have one or two volunteers join the group and help select themes and films for the coming year. Members attend three or four meetings per year and offer to introduce films approximately once every other month. This is a low-key enjoyable position. Come make sure the films you love are shared with other OLLI members. Please contact Howard Schuman, howardmarvyschuman@gmail.com if interested.



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

ACADEMIC EXTENSION

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
1277 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1277

Learning Circle

Monthly Schedule

Monday

10:00 a.m. Creative Writing Critique:
first and third weeks

Philosophy Salon: second and
fourth weeks.

12:15 p.m. Beginning Spanish, weekly

3:45 p.m. French Language, weekly

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Historical Novels and
Nonfiction: second and fourth
weeks

10:30 a.m. Understanding Science:
first, third and fifth weeks

1:30 p.m. Art History: first and third
weeks

Classics/Philosophy: fourth week

3:00 p.m. Interpretive Play Reading:
first and third weeks

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. International Relations:
first and third weeks

Short Story Discussions: second
and fourth weeks, on hiatus in
September

3:30 p.m. Alternatives: second and
fourth weeks

Thursday

10:00 a.m. Thinking Allowed: first
and third weeks

News and Views: second and
fourth weeks

Fifth Thursday Discussions: fifth week

Noon Poetry Writing: third week

1:30 p.m. Music Appreciation:
second and fourth weeks

3:15 p.m. Spanish Conversation:
weekly

Friday

11:00 a.m. Intermediate Spanish:
weekly

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Oregon

Active Minds for Active Lives

<http://osher.uoregon.edu>

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finger? Or how that rock on your fin-
ger became a symbol of everlasting
love?

Save the afternoon of October 3
to hear noted jewelry artist Melissa
Steward present a fascinating talk
on the evolution of rocks and miner-
als from earthly particles to heavenly
delights.

Stay tuned for more details in the
October newsletter.

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