Dedicated to lifelong learning, the Osher at JHU program was created in 1986 with a mission of enhancing the leisure time of semi-retired and retired individuals by providing stimulating learning experiences and the opportunity for new friendships.

The Osher at JHU program builds on the rich resources of an internationally renowned university to offer members an array of educational and social opportunities, including the following:

- Courses and discussion groups
- Access to the university library system
- Field trips to cultural events
- Preferred participation in university-sponsored events

Courses are offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at The Johns Hopkins Montgomery County Campus, 9601 Medical Center Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

For additional information on membership, please call the program’s administrative office at 301-294-7058.

www.osopher.jhu.edu
Tuesday
MORNING SESSIONS

International Relations

The course will concentrate on the foreign policy and the national security policy of the Trump administration. We will assess the performance of his national security team in its first year of operational policy, and examine the impact of the general officers in such key positions as National Security Adviser and Secretary of Defense. This assessment will involve discussion of hot-button issues such as the Middle East and the Persian Gulf; the civil war in Syria; the political situation in Europe; US policy toward Russia and China; and the problems of terrorism. Special attention will be given to the problem of North Korea from the standpoint of US national security strategy and decision making. Professor Goodman’s new book, *Whistleblower at the CIA: An Insider’s Account of the Politics of Intelligence*, will be the recommended text for the course, so there will be a discussion of whistleblowing and dissent. Various additional readings will be assigned from the editorial pages of the mainstream media and from foreign policy journals.

Melvin Goodman, PhD, is senior fellow at the Center for International Policy and a former professor of international security at the National War College. He has worked for the CIA, the State Department, and the Department of Defense; written numerous articles that have appeared in Harper’s, Foreign Policy, Washington Monthly, and Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists; and authored many books, including *Failure of Intelligence: The Decline and Fall of the CIA* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008) and *National Insecurity: The Cost of American Militarism* (City Lights Publishing, 2012).

18SMF402 International Relations
Tuesdays, February 20–May 8
10 a.m.–12 noon

Shakespeare’s *Antony and Cleopatra*

Shakespeare’s *Antony and Cleopatra* is a history, a love story, and a tragedy (the main characters are dead at the end). It’s the story of a middle-aged Roman general and a sexy, younger Egyptian queen. While the affair is going on, Antony is engaged in an epic struggle with Octavius for the control of the civilized world (well, only the European part). The language is Shakespearean.

An important part of this course is comparing what different directors and actors have done with the plays, as evidenced in filmed versions. We will read much of the play in class, a bit at a time; discuss the text; see clips from a few different films; and then discuss the film versions.

The class size is limited to 35 members.

James Blue, PhD, did research and published many scientific papers in the areas of physics, applied mathematics, and computer science before his retirement. At Osher, he led Great Books discussion groups for many semesters; since 2007 he has taught classic literature courses, ranging from Homer and Virgil to Jane Austen and Oscar Wilde. This will be his eighth semester teaching Shakespeare.

18SMF210 Shakespeare’s *Antony and Cleopatra*
Tuesdays, February 20–May 8
10 a.m.–12 noon
Modern Themes in Prehistoric Rock Art
This course is designed to familiarize the students with prehistoric rock art. The first two introductory sessions provide conceptual bases for understanding rock art: its origins, development, techniques, types, content, interpretation, dating, and preservation. This is followed by a survey of rock art traditions in Europe, Africa, Australia, and the New World. Interdisciplinary in its approach, the course stresses the importance of aesthetic growth and creative thinking. Whether your interest is in art, music, history, literature, philosophy, religion, or archaeology, this course will expand your intellectual horizons and engage your views on human existence.

Ahmed Achrati, PhD, is currently an adjunct faculty member in the Anthropology Department at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. He has extensive teaching experience, and his writing on rock art in leading journals spans a wide range of topics.

18SMF140 Modern Themes in Prehistoric Rock Art
Tuesdays, February 20–May 8
10 a.m.–12 noon

Myth and Reality: The American Civil West
Many of us have grown up with impressions of the West that are in some cases correct, but in most cases incorrect. Some misconceptions are obvious: not all bad guys wore black hats, and not all good guys wore white hats. Some are less so: Billy the Kid did not kill 21 men, one for each year of his life; Custer should not be revered as a hero; and the Gunfight in the OK Corral was not the largest gunfight in the West. We will deal with some of these stories. Many leaders in the 1800s believed that the West provided a “safety valve” for the poor urban dwellers in the East. They could just pack up and leave for greener pastures. That was not true, but the West did provide numerous opportunities for others to improve themselves. Some families moved several times, often with great hardship, to better their lots in life. There was a bizarre myth that rain would follow the plow; once people started farming arid areas, rain would follow. This did not happen, but American ingenuity made dry areas habitable, with windmills, barbed wire fences, seeds, farming techniques that were compatible with the soil and climate, and collective movements that provided support. The biggest myth and the cruelest reality was that nearly everywhere Americans settled, there already were indigenous people living there. The myth was that the land was there ready for the taking. The reality was that the native peoples were pushed and pushed into smaller and smaller areas.

Robert K. Sutton recently retired as the Chief Historian of the National Park Service. During his career, he was the Superintendent of Manassas National Battlefield Park and on the faculty of George Mason University and Arizona State University. He has written or edited a number of books, articles, and reviews on the Civil War Era. He led excursions into National Park Service parks and battlefields to focus more attention on the social, economic, and political issues during the Civil War Era.

18SMF415 Myth and Reality: The American Civil West
Tuesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon
US Transportation Policy: A New Direction

Transportation infrastructure is wearing out at a time when our society is rapidly changing. Federal, state, and local transportation programs are insufficiently funded. Political gridlock, growing travel demand, increasing freight shipments, environmental and energy issues, and new technology are fundamentally altering key transportation public policy principles. This is more than the traditional political calculus of who does what to whom, when, where, how, and why. Consider the transportation system impact of Uber, Amazon, Fed Ex, Southwest Airlines, Hyperloop, Tesla, GPS, autonomous (driverless) vehicles, Facebook, and Twitter. Each may well influence the need for transportation and how it is provided.

This course will explore public and private sector roles in transportation policy decision-making in the context of the primary modes (highway, auto, transit, freight and passenger rail, maritime, and aviation). What new policies and programs will emerge? Which sector will develop them? How will they be financed and implemented? Will the policy changes be incremental or transformative?

Peter Shaw, PhD, was the senior program officer for public transportation at the Transportation Research Board, National Academy of Sciences. He managed 20 technical standing committees of national and international experts, organized more than 50 major public transportation conferences, and was the editor of numerous technical peer-reviewed publications. He also served as professor/associate director, Graduate Center for Public Policy and Administration, California State University; environmental impact report program manager, Regional Transportation Plan, Southern California Association of Governments; and as assistant for research to the assistant secretary, US Department of Transportation.

18SMF604 US Transportation Policy: A New Direction
Tuesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Tuesday AFTERNOON SESSIONS

The Films of Meryl Streep

In the history of Hollywood, Meryl Streep has won more Oscar nominations (20 as of 2016) and more Golden Globe nominations (30 as of 2016) than anyone else. She has excelled in dramas like Sophie’s Choice, comedies like The Devil Wears Prada, and even musicals like Mamma Mia. Meryl (born Mary Louise Streep) was one of the Kennedy Center honorees in 2011. No one does foreign accents better and yet she can capture the essence of Middle America. She has played a head of state (Margaret Thatcher in Iron Lady), a nun (Doubt), even a wicked witch (Into the Woods). During the course of the semester, we will see clips that highlight her career and celebrate one of the greatest screen actresses ever.

Stan Levin has a degree in Film and Theatre from New York University. He also studied theater at the graduate level at the Catholic University of America. He was a documentary film maker for the US Department of Agriculture and
an award-winning writer of radio and TV commercials. He was a nationally syndicated film critic, and is a frequent lecturer on film and contemporary culture in the DC Metro area.

18SMF108 The Films of Meryl Streep
Tuesdays, February 20–May 8
1–3 p.m.

Architecture: Enlarged Sculpture
Architecture bridges the fields of art, science, and math. Creatively designed buildings are like large pieces of sculpture. This class will explore the history of architecture as an art form: prominent styles that have emerged, current trends, and the lives and works of famous architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Frank Gehry, Le Corbusier, Philip Johnson, Buckminster Fuller, and Maya Lin.

Ann Wiker, MA, is an artist, curator, lecturer and the director of Art Exposure. She has taught art studio, art history, and art appreciation courses to students of all ages through The Johns Hopkins University Osher programs in Montgomery County and in Columbia, York College, Roland Park Country School’s Kaleidoscope program, Howard Community College, Frederick County Public Schools, and Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks. Ann has been published in various local media and works as an art consultant.

18SMF135 Architecture: Enlarged Sculpture
Tuesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

The Camera in the Hands of the Artist
Pablo Picasso once said, “I have discovered photography. Now I can kill myself. I have nothing else to learn.” Yet the camera was not always seen as a tool for artists. This class explores the history of photography as fine art (in the mid-1850s), the styles of photography, and up to contemporary photography and the many ways it can be manipulated. Photographers like Edward Weston, Man Ray, Alfred Stieglitz, Dorothea Lange, and Berenice Abbott will be featured.

Ann Wiker, MA, is an artist, curator, lecturer and the director of Art Exposure. She has taught art studio, art history, and art appreciation courses to students of all ages through The Johns Hopkins University Osher programs in Montgomery County and in Columbia, York College, Roland Park Country School’s Kaleidoscope program, Howard Community College, Frederick County Public Schools, and Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks. Ann has been published in various local media and works as an art consultant.

18SMF136 The Camera in the Hands of the Artist
Tuesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.
Writing and Sharing Your Life Story
What are the stories of your family history? You can add substance to the limbs of your family tree by preserving your unique history. This course will cover the five W’s of recording your life history and then show you how to create a lasting document. You can share parts of your history in class, and you will learn ways to bond with your grandchildren and plan a family reunion. During a portion of each class, you will have the opportunity to write parts of your life story by answering questions that deal with your chronology and philosophy.

Roberta Schultz Benor has worked with ages newborn to 100 years old in her positions as parenting instructor, English teacher, and director of a senior citizen apartment building. She is the author of two books that span the generations: How to Succeed in Parenting: 120 Ways to Have a Great Family and The Keys to Senior Housing: A Guide for Two Generations.

18SMF234 Writing and Sharing Your Life Story
Tuesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

The Wizardry of Short Fiction: The Secrets of the Writer Behind the Curtain
Osher students have life stories and wonderful experiences; this class will uncover the techniques of storytelling and explore them through optional exercises. We will study the contemporary masters of short story to discover how they use components of short fiction: character and point of view, setting and the fictional world, plot structures and pacing, time in fiction with flashback and flash forward and backstory, dialogue providing the ultra-realistic talk of stories, and theme. The class will be a series of presentations on the following techniques: characterization and point of view; setting, plot, pacing, and structure; use of time including flashbacks, backstory, and flash forward; dialogue; and theme. In each class we will discuss assigned short stories that illustrate these techniques. The class will also offer optional writing exercises to practice.

Julie Wakeman-Linn, MA, has edited the Potomac Review since 2005. Her most recent publication is “A Quarter for the Taj Mahal” in Flash Fiction Magazine. Her novel, Chasing the Leopard, Finding the Lion, a finalist for Barbara Kingsolver’s Bellwether Prize, was published by Mkuki Na Nyota in 2012. Her short story collection was a finalist for the WWPH 2014 Fiction prize. Julie taught creative writing for 15 years at Montgomery College and the Writer’s Center. She has given panel presentations at the national Associated Writing Program’s conference multiple times and at The Yale Conference for Writers.

18SMF217 The Wizardry of Short Fiction: The Secrets of the Writer Behind the Curtain
Tuesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Musical Master Tunesmiths and Broadway

There are music masters who created the great moments in lyrics and melody that inspired the Great American Songbook and advanced the Broadway
Montgomery County Spring 2018

Musical. Among the best are the Gershwins, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Loesser, and Bernstein. This class will explore the men and the music, the backstories of the great American musicals such as *Porgy and Bess*, *Carousel*, and *Guys and Dolls*, plus the examination of the great lyrics and melodies these musicals inspired.

*Steven Friedman* has a background as a trained classical tenor. He has studied with leading teachers nationally and has enhanced his perception of theatre by not just performing but by looking at its roots from a historical perspective. He has performed in many venues over the years, including the Kennedy Center, and was a soloist for 35 years in local choirs. Steve has studied with teachers of national repute from those at Carnegie Mellon and Michigan State University to former divas of the Metropolitan Opera.

**18SMF152 Musical Master Tunesmiths and Broadway**  
Tuesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks  
1–3 p.m.

**Advances in Research and Treatment**  
Learn the latest in cutting-edge medicine from leading experts in their fields. Over the six-week course, health experts from Suburban Hospital, Johns Hopkins Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, and the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center will discuss different aspects of medicine including the health implications of sleep, reassessing one’s risk of a penicillin allergy, the role the immune system may have on major depressive disorder, and the implications of genetic testing.

Dr. Bashir Zikria will jump-start the series by discussing the latest in joint repair surgery due to sport-related injuries. Dr. Pavel Klein will focus on the importance of sleep as you age. Dr. Taylor Banks will provide insight into the efficacy of reexamining the penicillin allergy. Dr. Erica Richards will discuss how the immune system may factor into the diagnoses and treatment of major depression disorder. Genetic counselors Ms. Natalie Beck and Ms. Jacquelyn Britton will highlight the role that genetic testing has played in diagnosis-specific treatments along with discussion on consumer genetic testing. The sixth speaker will be announced later.

**Eleni A. Antzoulatos, MPH**, Program Supervisor of the Community Health and Wellness Center at Suburban Hospital, will coordinate the course.

**18SMF608 Advances in Research and Treatment**  
Tuesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks  
1–3 p.m.

**Wednesday MORNING SESSIONS**

**Government at the Crossroads**  
Never have we seen a president so intent on disrupting Washington and drawing attention to himself. He dominates every news cycle and discards people no longer to his liking as though they are extras on a reality show. In his second year as president, we will assess his record of legislative achievement and the quality of his leadership. The question before us is the extent to which this president’s impulsive and erratic behavior has become normalized. When do we say that Trump is just being Trump, and when should alarm bells go off in terms of how we
Will our descendants ask what we did when Trump undermined health care, blew a hole in the deficit to give a tax cut, and tried to impose a ban on Muslims entering the country? The potential is there for voters to dramatically turn against the Republican Party in November, and we will discuss the resistance along with the president. Class discussion is encouraged and all views respected.

Eleanor Clift is a politics writer at the Daily Beast, an online publication. Formerly with Newsweek, she has covered every presidential campaign since 1976. She has written or co-written five books, including Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death and Politics; Founding Sisters; and The 19th Amendment. She has appeared as herself in several movies, including Independence Day, Dave, and CBS-TV’s Murphy Brown.

18SMF420 Government at the Crossroads
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
10 a.m.–12 noon

Vermeer and the Dutch Masters
Johannes Vermeer (1632–1675) has become the most beloved painter of the Dutch Golden Age, mainly known for his paintings with one or two figures (usually women) in an interior, quietly posed in a simple act such as writing, making music, or pouring from a pitcher. Thanks to a recent major exhibit at the National Gallery of Art, we can reconsider this master as part of a network of artists who imitated and challenged each other to ever higher achievements. The class will survey the many kinds of “genre” pictures that broke down previous categories of fine art, including the fisher maids of Frans Hals, the comically disordered households of Jan Steen, the Italianate landscapes of Nicholas Berchem, and innumerable glimpses into the households of peasants and workmen by artists whose names are less well known today. Important resources for the class are the collections of Dutch art at the National Gallery (Washington) and the Walters Art Museum (Baltimore).

Nora Hamerman, MA, is an expert on art of the Renaissance and Baroque periods and has published hundreds of reviews of art exhibits in the DC area. She spent three years studying in Italy as a Fulbright scholar and Chester Dale Fellow of the National Gallery of Art. She taught art history at University of Virginia and Shenandoah University, and worked for 11 years in New York as an editor and translator from several European languages.

18SMF112 Vermeer and the Dutch Masters
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
10 a.m.–12 noon

Introduction to the Cloud
In our previous sessions in 2017 we examined the basics of Cloud Computing. During this six-session class we will use lectures and demonstrations to examine additional issues that concern those that use the Cloud:

1. How safe is Cloud Computing?
2. The most widely used applications in the Cloud.
3. Ways to save money using the Cloud.
4. Will “the Cloud” replace traditional learning institutions?
5. Is there an Alexa in your future?
6. How businesses use the Cloud.

Gaining experience navigating the Internet and using an Internet browser will increase your enjoyment of the material. Attendance at the previous Cloud class is not a requirement.

Victor Rezmovic, PhD, is a technology educator who has spent the last 30 years in academic, corporate, and governmental settings. Since taking apart his first PC in the mid-80s he has followed the technology revolution as email, the Internet, digital music, Netflix, and Amazon have become part of our everyday lives. He has held positions at the University of Illinois and the US Department of Agriculture, and currently teaches Cyber Security at Montgomery College.

18SMF141 Introduction to the Cloud
Wednesdays, February 21–March 28, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Richard Lederman, PhD, earned his PhD in Ancient Near Eastern Languages and Literature from the Annenberg Research Institute, formerly Dropsie College and now the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. The bulk of his 30-year career was in non-profit communal service. Dr. Lederman has spent the past nine years teaching in a variety of adult learning venues and as an adjunct professor at Montgomery College, Gratz College in Philadelphia, and Georgetown University.

18SMF515 Book of Judges
Wednesdays, April 4–May 9, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Parallel Narratives Never Meet: History of the Arab-Jewish Conflict
Palestinians and Israelis each have a national narrative in which the Arab-Jewish conflict plays a critical part. These narratives are the histories that are taught in the schools and reflected in the media, literature, art, and personal discourse in the two societies. The two narratives are dramatically different in content, yet each is understood to be the whole truth by most people in each society. Each session of this course will be devoted to a different historical era in the history of the conflict, from the mid-19th century until today. We will study each era as it is depicted in the Israeli and in the Palestinian narratives. Lectures will be augmented by slides and occasional video material, and followed by class discussion.

Ira Weiss, PhD, was educated in an orthodox yeshiva, MIT, City College of New York, and Syracuse University. In 2001, he helped found Projects Encounter which held summer coexistence workshops for Palestinian and Israeli teens. He serves on the board of New Story Leadership which brings Palestinian and Israeli potential leaders to Washington, DC for leadership training. Ira developed this course after several years of research into the Palestinian and Israeli narratives.

18SMF614 Parallel Narratives Never Meet: History of the Arab-Jewish Conflict
Wednesdays, February 21–March 28, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

We all know the story of Samson and Delilah. Peter, Paul, and Mary even sing about it. But do you know that Judge Jephthah offered his own daughter as a burnt offering to God? What do you know about the rape of the woman from Bethlehem and the civil war that it precipitated? How about the abduction of the women of Shiloh? There are some very odd stories that come from this biblical book that reflect a very early stage of the society of biblical Israel. Let’s unravel this unusual and seldom-consulted biblical book.

Gideon Thanks God for the Miracle of the Dew, a painting from 1550 drawn from the Book of Judges, by Maarten van Heemskerck, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Strasbourg.
2043: What May Lie Ahead
It’s been said that predicting the future is easy; the only hard thing is being right. Still, it’s fun to try. This course will take a look at some of the long-term trends and possible innovations that may reshape America over the next quarter-century: trends such as climate change and demographic shifts and innovations such as self-driving cars, ubiquitous sensors, “big data,” and the like. We’ll also discuss possible geopolitical shifts and their impact on the country by the 2040s.

Of course, we’ll mostly be wrong, but the trip should be interesting.

**Robert Miller, PhD, LL.D.**, recently retired from the National Defense University, where he was a senior professor teaching courses in information operations, global strategy, knowledge management, continuity of operations, and management. Before that, he was the Deputy Director of the US Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office (jargon name, great acronym), among a variety of government posts.

**18SMF411 2043: What May Lie Ahead**
Wednesdays, April 4–May 9, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

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**Wednesday AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

**Big Sky Fiction**
Writing about the late novelist Kent Haruf, a critic once said, “These novels, set in Holt, Colorado form one of the major achievements of contemporary American fiction, rivaling the great works of Cormac McCarthy, Richard Ford, Jane Smiley, and Annie Proulx in creating a mythical modern American landscape.” In this course we’ll read and discuss six novels that take as their setting the land of the Big Sky—that is, the Great Plains and Mountain West, a part of America where people and trees become sparse and life in the unforgiving landscape creates an unusual set of values. The books are: *My Antonia* by Willa Cather, *Our Souls at Night* by Kent Haruf, *English Creek* by Ivan Doig, *Love Medicine* by Louise Erdrich, *All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy, and *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles.

The films are: *High Noon*, *Unforgiven*, *The Last Picture Show*, *Brokeback Mountain*, *Nebraska*, and *Hell or High Water*.

We ask students to read *My Antonia* before attending the first class.

**George Clack, MA**, has an MA in English and American literature from the Claremont Graduate School in California. He taught English at the University of Rochester and at SUNY Geneseo before embarking on a career as a magazine editor with the US Information Agency and State Department. In recent years, he has taught literature, film, and social media courses for the Osher at JHU Program.

**18SMF214 Big Sky Fiction**
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
1–3 p.m.

**Who? Footnotes in American History: Colonial Period**
This course will explore some of the indigenous Americans, slaves, European explorers, and settlers frequently ignored or overlooked in the narrative of history. From 1492 to 1776 many individuals were prominent in developing and expanding the colonies that were to become the United States of America. Over the years many have been forgotten or become...
mere footnotes in our history. Take a step back in history and rummage through the accounts of colonization and learn to recognize some of these folks. The footnotes covered will include early governors, artists, poets, and others that created the foundation for the USA.

Joan Adams has worked as an educator, consultant, and community organizer. Her teaching experience ranges from middle schoolers to graduate students. For more than 25 years, she has been with the Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally (SAGE) program of Prince George’s Community College. Previously, she served as an adjunct instructor in the Education and Business departments for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Washington Adventist University.

18SMF216 Who? Footnotes in American History: Colonial Period
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
1–3 p.m.

France 1940–1945: A Social History, Part Two 1942–1943
This 12-week course of instruction continues to provide an in-depth view of the social history of France during its World War II German occupation. The major topics to be discussed include collaboration, fraternization, anti-Semitism, deportation, the Resistance, the Vichy government, and individual perseverance. These classes will follow a lecture/discussion format, with student input and questions encouraged. Instruction will be centered on the acclaimed blockbuster French dramatic series Un Village Français [A French Village], shown with English subtitles. “The series follows the lives of the villagers during the war as their lives become irrevocably changed by the German occupation and its aftermath.” To accommodate this format, classes will be two and one-half hours long, 12:30 until 3:00. A third twelve-week course with a similar format is intended to conclude this social history. It is intended that the student will complete these courses with an increased understanding of this dark period of European history, as well as with a desire to learn more about it.

Robert Clarke, MA, received his degree in European History from The Pennsylvania State University. He is a retired Montgomery County high school Advanced Placement European History teacher, a former adjunct instructor at Essex College, a former Oasis instructor, and an Osher instructor since 2002. In his spare time, he volunteers at the National Capital Trolley Museum where he operates and maintains vintage streetcars.

18SMF502 France 1940–1945: A Social History, Part Two 1942–1943
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
12:30 p.m.–3 p.m.

Wednesday Great Books I
In the spring semester, we will continue with short stories, as has been our custom for many years. We will continue reading from The Art of the Story: An International Anthology of Contemporary Short Stories, edited by Daniel Halpern and published in 2000. This collection includes 78 contributors from 35 countries, and combines what Halpern considered the best of the established masters with many fresh,
new voices of writers whose work has seldom been translated into English. None of the stories was published earlier than the mid-20th century. Each week’s discussion is led by one or two class volunteers, following the Shared Inquiry Method promulgated by The Great Books Foundation. There is no requirement that anyone volunteer to be a discussion leader, but most of those who have done so find it to be a rewarding experience. The objectives for this class are to increase not only our understanding of the stories and the authors who wrote them, but also our understanding of our own values and beliefs and those of the other members of the class.

Erik McWilliams, PhD, directed computing at Cornell University and research and development programs at the National Science Foundation before establishing his own small business in Rockville that specialized in computer simulations. He has participated in dozens of classes of this kind since joining Osher in 2002, and has led this particular class since 2008.

18SMF215 Wednesday Great Books I
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
1–3 p.m.

Wednesday Great Books II
The values of this class are based in lively discussion and friendly argument. We examine many and varied views of human nature in the short stories and novellas we read. For example, last semester we read works by George Bernard Shaw and John Keats, as well as works by several Latin American short story authors. We discuss the human condition from stories that explore life from different perspectives such as serio-comedy, spiritual and religious views, fantasy, and more.

Timothy Holland is a writer and editor, retired. He worked for over 30 years for many large and small organizations from industry to non-profit. In retirement, he continues to lead book discussions as well as to teach and mentor writers. Mr. Holland received his BA in Literature at Dartmouth College. He continued his education at Columbia and Georgetown Universities as well as at the Jung Institute in New York. He credits reading the Great Books long after college as his primary life-long learning experience.

18SMF225 Wednesday Great Books II
Wednesdays, February 21–May 9
1–3 p.m.

Designing Washington: Art of Democracy
The National Mall in Washington, DC, like the ancient Acropolis in Athens and the Imperial Forum in Rome, is an epic landscape that embodies civic, architectural, social, and political values and aspirations. What does the National Mall tell us about the United States as a people and a country? This six-week course explores its 220-year history of growth and change in architecture, monuments, museums, and public activity on the open space. We’ll look at the original visionary 1791 L’Enfant Plan inspired directly by Constitutional principles; the role of the Mall during and after the Civil War when the capital grew in importance; the new vision of America embodied in the 1902 McMillan Commission Plan; the burgeoning activities from Civil Rights to First Amendment protests; and the proliferation of memorials and ethnic-centric museums that characterize the modern Mall. Why is there such controversy over each new
Judy Scott Feldman, PhD, is an art historian with over 30 years of teaching experience on a wide range of art and architecture topics. She is founder and chair of the National Mall Coalition, a DC-based nonprofit organization that advocates comprehensive, visionary planning to support the crucial role of the Mall—our Athenian Acropolis—in American democracy in its third century. Her previous courses for Osher were “Explorations of Art History” (2012) and “Medieval Art” (2013).

18SMF113 Designing Washington: Art of Democracy
Wednesdays, February 21–March 28, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Celebrating the Mysterious Art of Collaboration in Musical Theater
Successful partnerships, whatever the field, fascinate because they reveal how individuals can blend their talents, often in the face of widely different personalities, temperaments, and work styles, to produce something fresh, wonderful, and lasting. Using musical theatre as a focus and drawing as well on other forms of expression, this richly illustrated course looks at some of the most productive and interesting partnerships in the arts and popular culture by offering a glimpse into the often mysterious nature of creativity and celebrating the miracles wrought by the likes of Gilbert and Sullivan, Rodgers and Hart, Kander and Ebb, and Leonard Bernstein and his several collaborators. It also looks at partnerships that failed (Rodgers and Sondheim), and more recent partnerships and other forms of artistic collaboration that offer clues into what makes it all work (Astaire and Rodgers, Lennon and McCartney). Discussion includes collaboration across art forms and the wizardry of such people as Jerome Robbins and Hal Prince in blending the unique talents of writers, actors, and choreographers into the making of one equally unique whole.

Barry Bortnick, PhD, is a composer/lyricist/book writer of musicals performed on both coasts and in London; former Program Director, Humanities, UCLA Extension and Founding Director of its Osher Institute. He has a PhD from Harvard University, where he did research on creativity and the development of interest in the arts. For the past fifteen years, he has taught popular courses on the American musical, as well as courses on enhancing quality in the second half of life at multiple Osher Institutes around the country.

18SMF118 Celebrating the Mysterious Art of Collaboration in Musical Theater
Wednesdays, April 4–May 9, 6 weeks 1–3 p.m.

Thursday MORNING SESSIONS

Opera: The Traditions Spanning 400 Years, Part II
Exploring the humanity, the beauty, and the continuing relevance of a theatrical experiment that has enchanted, inspired, and perplexed us for ages, Saul Lilienstein will bring it to life.
through vivid representations on film and recordings, with observations drawn from his life-long involvement as an opera conductor, producer, and commentator.

**Saul Lilienstein, MS**, was Artistic Director and Conductor of Maryland’s Harford Opera Theatre and then of Operetta Renaissance in Baltimore, conducting and producing well over fifty operas. His is a familiar voice at the Smithsonian Institution, at Johns Hopkins University, at the Goethe Institut, for symphonic concerts at the Kennedy Center, opera lectures for Washington National Opera and recently at music symposiums across the country. He has completed more than 90 highly acclaimed commentaries on CD for The Washington National Opera, analyzing the repertoire in the most extensive series of its kind in the English language. His essays on music have appeared in newspapers throughout the country, and in journals and anthologies.

18SMF106 Opera: The Traditions Spanning 400 Years, Part II
Thursdays, February 22–May 10
10 a.m.–12 noon

**Does Size Matter? The Shortest Books in the Bible**
Did you ever read the biblical book of Obadiah? Are you aware that this book has only ONE chapter? So, what made his words so profound and important to justify a book carrying his name? In class we will read the shorter books in the Bible, books of prophets that are usually unknown: Obadiah, Haggai, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, and Malachi (and, if time will allow, we will also read the “long” book of Jonah). We will study the text and explore the reasons that these prophets were honored not only to have their words included in the canon but even to have a whole “book” after their name.

**Gideon Amir, MS, MA**, worked and taught in various areas of computer science for 30 years before enrolling in a full-time graduate program in Judaic Studies at Baltimore Hebrew University. In May 2001 he earned a master’s degree and completed all PhD course work. He has taught undergraduate courses at Baltimore Hebrew University; he has also taught Bible and Jewish liturgy courses in many area synagogues and churches and in other adult education outlets. Gideon earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and master’s degree in computer science from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel.

18SMF504 Does Size Matter? The Shortest Books in the Bible
Thursdays, February 22–May 10
10 a.m.–12 noon

**Buddhism**
“The religion of the future will be a cosmic religion ... arising from the experience of all things natural and spiritual as a meaningful unity. If there is any religion that could cope with modern scientific needs, it would be Buddhism.” (Albert Einstein)

The worldwide resurgence of interest in Buddhist philosophy demonstrates that its ideals of logic, individualism, tolerance, and freedom have appeal in the 21st century. This course will focus on the life of Buddha, his teachings, and the developments of the diverse, worldwide Buddhist community. We will take a look at how the expressions of the Buddha’s teachings have evolved over the centuries and in the different countries where it is practiced.
Finally, we’ll look at some ways in which Buddhism has taken root in the US and how it is addressing some of the issues of our contemporary society.

William Aiken serves as national public affairs director for Soka Gakkai International (SGI)-USA and the director of the SGI’s Washington DC Buddhist Culture Center. Aiken has worked extensively in the area of interfaith dialogue and cooperation, serving as co-founder of the Washington DC Area Buddhist Network and Chairperson of the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington. Aiken also serves as a member of the Board of Governors of the Religion Communicators Council, and is the co-author with Clark Strand of “A Reporters Guide to Buddhism in America” as well as numerous chapters, articles, and essays on the topic of socially engaged Buddhism and the Soka Gakkai. He has lectured at more than 25 colleges and universities and is cited in numerous news outlets nationwide.

18SMF507 Buddhism
Thursdays, February 22–May 10
10 a.m.–12 noon

The Lung in Health and Disease
The lungs have two essential, interdependent functions: one of these is to exchange gases between inspired air and the bloodstream; the other relates to the body’s defenses against inhaled, harmful airborne microbes, chemicals, and particles. Injury induced by such noxious stimuli can disrupt the integrity of the normal lung structure, thereby impairing lung function and leading to the development of pulmonary disease. With this as background, a number of disease entities will be discussed including acute respiratory failure, asthma, COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, lung cancer, and malignant mesothelioma. Where applicable, the role of the immune system, genetics, and animal models of lung disease also will be considered. It is the intent of this course to provide an understanding of current and emerging concepts of the topics discussed rather than concentrating on the factual minutiae.

Elliott Kagan, MD, FRCPath, was formerly Professor of Pathology, Emerging Infectious Diseases, and Preventive Medicine & Biometrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda. He has published numerous peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on diverse lung diseases and has lectured to medical students, residents, and clinicians for almost 40 years. He also has served on NIH, NCI, and other Scientific Merit Review Committees, Institutional Review Boards, and Animal Care & Use Committees. He retired in September 2014.

18SMF616 The Lung in Health and Disease
Thursdays, February 22–March 29, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Great Moments in Physics
There have been many moments in the history of physics in which our understanding of the physical world changed dramatically because of a great insight into the nature of reality. These insights have always been grounded in observations and measurements. This class will focus on six such events that occurred prior to the beginning of the 20th century. We will explore the historical context for each event as well as the impact it had on science. If the event is an experiment, we will discuss the details and in some cases, examine the data as they were originally recorded. The focus of the class will be a conceptual understanding of these great moments in physics without relying on mathematics.

Eric Kearsley, PhD, is a retired US Navy Radiation Health Officer and a retired physics teacher for Montgomery County Public Schools. He is currently working on the history of x-ray tube technology at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. He received his PhD in Radiation Physics from the University of Wisconsin.

18SMF617 Great Moments in Physics
Thursdays, April 5–May 10, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon
Thursday
AFTERNOON SESSIONS

Current Events
Explore a variety of topics introduced by course participants. Each participant has an opportunity to share subjects of topical interest from politics, economics, health and nutrition, education, visual and performing arts, social concerns, scientific research, and other areas. By sharing various views and using the expertise of members, students learn from one another. Enrollment is limited.

Carl Hantman, MA, served as a software developer and manager, specializing in geographic information systems and automated mapping at the US Census Bureau in a career that spanned thirty years. After retiring in 2009, he volunteered for various social welfare organizations, including the Montgomery County Literary Society, teaching English to recently arrived immigrants. In addition, he also volunteered for the Jewish Social Service Agency and the Jewish Council on Aging. He and his wife Sharon joined Osher at JHU in the Fall of 2013, where he attended Current Events classes under Marshall Sneiderman. Over the years, he has participated in many political and social movements at the international, national, and state levels. He continues to have a passion for current events, including political and social movements, government, and society.

18SMF404 Current Events
Thursdays, February 22–May 10
1–3 p.m.

Opera Villains and Some Saints
Does the devil really have the best tunes? Not necessarily, but he does have the most gripping drama. Opera composers have long thrived on evil characters: Iago in Otello, Scarpia in Tosca, and Claggart in Billy Budd. Operas such as Faust and The Rake’s Progress include the Devil as a major character. And let’s not forget the women, such as the title roles in The Coronation of Poppea and Salome. Mozart based his masterpiece, Don Giovanni, around an evildoer as hero, as did Verdi in a more comic vein with Falstaff. We shall examine a different opera each week, and discuss their moral and dramatic implications. While many of these works set their villains against saintly characters, notably Desdemona, John the Baptist, and Billy Budd, the problem of building an entire opera around pure goodness is a challenge. We shall discuss how the problem was addressed by Wagner in Lohengrin and Parsifal, Poulenc in The Dialogues of the Carmelites, and Messiaen in Saint Francis of Assisi.

Roger Brunyate is Artistic Director Emeritus of the Peabody Opera Theatre, which he led from 1980 to 2012. He holds degrees in English and Fine Arts from Cambridge, but made his career in opera, working at Glyndebourne, the Edinburgh Festival, the English Opera Group, and La Scala, Milan. Coming to America in 1972, he has run programs in Florida, Cincinnati, the Curtis Institute, and Wolf Trap, besides directing here and abroad with such conductors as Mstislav Rostropovich and Yuri Temirkanov.

18SMF117 Opera Villains and Some Saints
Thursdays, February 22–May 10
1–3 p.m.

Cinema of Russia
The course will briefly explore the Cinema of Russia in a historical context. The course will be accompanied by films of different directors starting with Sergey Eisenstein and Grigori Aleksandrov and will continue with the most important Russian/Soviet film directors such as Mikhail Kalatozov, Sergey Bondarchuk, Nikita Mikhalkov, and Eldar...
Montgomery County Spring 2018

Ryazanov. We will watch and discuss films in diverse genres: serious cinema art, musical comedy, epic screen versions of Russian literature, a war movie, and a fascinating melodrama. Our goal is to discern how movies reflect a nation’s history and culture. The Soviet and Russian cinema accounts for four Oscars as the best foreign films. We will explore some of these movies in this course. The class will feature film clips, lectures, and discussions.

Elena Newland, PhD, earned her PhD in Architecture from Moscow State Academy, MARCHI, the leading Architectural School in Russia. For many years she worked in the State Museum of Russian Art-Tretyakov Gallery as a researcher and curator. She is well traveled, having studied the Architecture of Russia and other Republics of the former Soviet Union.

18SMF119 Cinema of Russia
Thursdays, February 22–March 29, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Film Masterpieces by Akira Kurosawa II
Arguably the most celebrated of all Japanese filmmakers, Akira Kurosawa had a career that spanned from World War II to the early 1990s. His Rashomon—one of the best remembered and most talked-about films in any language—was a revelation when it appeared in 1950 and did much to bring Japanese filmmaking to the world’s attention. His films, particularly those of the 1950s and 1960s, deal with serious subjects in a supremely entertaining way, and they were critical and commercial successes in both Japan and the West. Steven Spielberg: “I have learned more from him than from almost any other filmmaker on the face of the earth.” We will watch several of these films, including Rashomon and Seven Samurai, as well as interviews with participants and with Kurosawa himself. There will be plenty of time for discussion of these fascinating movies. This is a rare opportunity to see them on a big screen.

Nancy Rice, PhD, a retired molecular biologist, led a research group at the National Cancer Institute in Frederick, MD.

18SMF205 Film Masterpieces by Akira Kurosawa II
Thursdays, April 5–May 10, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.
Traditional Criminal Law and Procedure
This course will provide insight into the hot criminal topics of the day, examine the status of the newly implemented mental health court, and review a recent case study of at least one high-profile case in Montgomery County. John McCarthy, the State’s Attorney for Montgomery County, will present a series of lectures that include updates on the newest criminal laws being debated in Annapolis as well as recent Appellate decisions from Maryland’s highest court and the United States Supreme Court. Special emphasis will be given to the strategic planning currently underway to meet the challenges of a tremendous increase in the senior population in Montgomery County. The lectures will also feature periodic appearances of major players involved in Criminal Justice in Montgomery County.

John McCarthy, JD, State’s Attorney for Montgomery County, has been a practicing member of the Maryland bar for more than 39 years. He has prosecuted more than 250 major felony and high-profile cases throughout his career and is widely regarded as one of the top trial attorneys in Maryland. John is a former president of the Maryland Bar Association and the Maryland State’s Attorneys Association. He was recently inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers as the first prosecutor in the history of Maryland to be so honored. He is an associate professor at Montgomery College in the Paralegal Studies Program. John regularly hosts international groups of judges from around the world and teaches internationally on Rule of Law issues for Open World and the United States Justice Department.

English Novels of Manners
This spring’s course will focus on the British novel of manners, novels whose conflicts are created by the relationship of individual characters to the customs, conventions, beliefs, and mores of a particular social group. These often–comic works are a delight to read and are among the all-time favorites in any genre. Novels to be included in the course are Jane Austen’s Emma, Anthony Trollope’s The Warden, E. M. Forster’s A Room with a View, John Galsworthy’s The Man of Property, Evelyn Waugh’s A Handful of Dust, and Anthony Powell’s A Question of Upbringing. Students should read Emma before coming to the first class.

Robert Shoenberg, PhD, received his degree in English literature from the University of Michigan and taught at Williams College and the University of Maryland, College Park, where he served for 14 years as Dean for Undergraduate Studies. For several semesters he has taught seniors through Montgomery College’s Lifelong Learning Institute.

18SMF510 Traditional Criminal Law and Procedure
Thursdays, February 22–March 29, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

18SMF213 English Novels of Manners
Thursdays, April 5–May 10, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.
How to Register for Osher at JHU Courses

Advance registration is required. Space permitting, registrations are accepted until the start of class. However, members are encouraged to register early to ensure receiving course confirmation materials and to avoid cancellations.

The Osher office offers five easy ways to register.

ONLINE
You may register for Osher courses online at www.osher.jhu.edu with VISA, MasterCard, or Discover. JHU faculty, staff, and retirees receiving the tuition remission benefit may not use the online option. For JHU Faculty, Staff, and Retiree Registration, please call the Osher office at 301-294-7048.

BY MAIL
Mail the registration form to Osher at Johns Hopkins University, 9601 Medical Center Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 with your tuition. You may pay by VISA, MasterCard, Discover, or check (payable to JHU Osher Program). Please do not send cash.

BY TELEPHONE
You may register by telephone Monday through Friday from 12 noon to 4 p.m. with VISA, MasterCard, or Discover. When calling, please be prepared to provide the information requested on the registration form. To register, call 301-294-7047.

BY FAX
Students who pay by VISA, MasterCard, or Discover may fax their completed registration form to the Osher Program at 301-294-7103.

BY EMAIL
Students who pay by VISA, MasterCard, or Discover may email their completed registration form by typing “MCC” in the Subject Line and scanning to osher@jhu.edu.
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