COURSE SCHEDULE
Montgomery County Campus
Spring 2021

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 (suspended due to Covid-19)
• Preferred participation in university-sponsored events

Spring 2021 courses are all offered online via Zoom. When it is safe, courses will resume in person. Courses are offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at The Johns Hopkins Montgomery County Campus, 9601 Medical Center Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

www.osher.jhu.edu
Tuesday

MORNING SESSION

International Relations
With the 2020 election, a Joe Biden presidency means a comprehensive discussion of the changes and reforms that must be made to US foreign policy and national security policy as well as the process for developing foreign policy and national security policy. We will focus on the Sino-America relationship—our most important bilateral relationship—as well as the Russian-American relationship. We will also assess the impact of the climate crisis and the pandemic on American national security. Once again, we will try to make the case for reforming America’s bloated defense budget and the huge US military footprint around the world. Professor Goodman’s latest book, Containing the National Security State, will be the text for the course, and it will be a requirement for the course. Additional readings will be assigned from the editorial pages of The New York Times and The Washington Post, as well as Goodman’s op-eds from Counterpunch, where he is the national security columnist.

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 The Decline and Fall of the CIA (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008). His recent books, National Insecurity: The Cost of American Militarism and Whistleblower at the CIA, were published by City Lights Publishing in 2012 and 2016, respectively. He is also the author of American Carnage: The Wars of Donald Trump. Goodman’s latest book, Containing the National Security State, was published in January 2021. Goodman is the national security columnist of Counterpunch, an online publication.

21SMF402 International Relations

Tuesdays, February 23–May 11

10 a.m.–12 noon

Shakespeare’s The Comedy of Errors and Titus Andronicus
These two plays are among Shakespeare’s earliest plays. The Comedy of Errors is a delightful farce, based on a play by the Roman playwright Plautus (c. 254–184 BCE), but adds a second set of identical twins to add to the confusion. Titus Andronicus is a revenge tragedy, a form popular at the time, and is Shakespeare’s bloodiest play, with dismemberment, miscegenation, rape, and cannibalism.
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 plays 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, as this is a discussion class, not a lecture class.

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 discussion courses, ranging from Homer and Virgil to Jane Austen and Oscar Wilde. Since 2014 it’s been all Shakespeare.

21SMF210 Shakespeare’s Comedy of Errors and Titus Andronicus
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
10 a.m.–12 noon

Love You Madly: The Life and Music of Duke Ellington
This course examines the music of Duke Ellington, spanning six decades, beginning with his Cotton Club period in the late 1920s. Special emphasis will be on his suites and his sacred concerts. Topics will include his relationship with lifelong collaborator Billy Strayhorn and the contributions of the celebrated musicians of his orchestra. Each class meeting will consist of guided listening of music examples, discussions of suggested listening and reading, and live demonstrations of musical techniques specific to Ellington.

Matt Belzer performs regularly on woodwinds in the orchestra pits of the Kennedy Center, the Hippodrome, and numerous venues. He is creatively active as a member of the Anansi Trio, which recently released their second album, Calling. His compositions are published on Advance Music and UNC Jazz Press. He is the Director of Jazz Studies at University of Maryland Baltimore County and a faculty member in the Master of Liberal Arts Program at Johns Hopkins University.

21SMF162 Love You Madly: The Life and Music of Duke Ellington
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
10 a.m.–12 noon

Plato’s Tragedy and Comedy: Phaedo and Symposium

Plato's dialogues stand near the headwaters of Western philosophy. Scholars typically divide the works into three periods, with the dialogues of the middle period being the most famous, as they combine sophisticated philosophical reasoning with brilliant literary style. Two core dialogues of this group are the Phaedo and the Symposium. They represent, respectively, Plato's tragedy and comedy. Studying these works will give the reader an excellent introduction to what is meant by the word “Platonism.”
Donald Ross, PhD, holds degrees BA, MA, and PhD in philosophy. His PhD dissertation, under the supervision of A. W. H. Adkins at the University of Chicago, was on Plato's Symposium and Phaedo. He has published articles on ancient philosophy in general and on Plato in particular. He has taught ancient philosophy at George Mason University, the University of Maryland, and Marymount University. He also taught a two-semester Plato course at OLLI at American University.

21SMF551 Plato’s Tragedy and Comedy: Phaedo and Symposium
Tuesdays, February 23–March 30, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Geniuses of the Theater Part II
This course will continue to explore the history of musical theater by presenting the lives and works of some of America’s greatest theater composers and lyricists. Individual class sessions will be devoted to Jerome Kern, Leonard Bernstein, Harold Arlen, Alan Jay Lerner, and Sheldon Harnick (lyricist of Fiddler on the Roof). The multimedia course will include several film and audio clips of great performances, along with insights into contributions of individuals to American theatre.

Dan Sherman, PhD, earned his degree in Economics at Cornell University. His interests include opera and American musical theater. Since 2010 he has taught over 25 courses to Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes and other groups on classical composers and great musical theater composers and lyricists. He has also spoken to Wagner Societies in the United States and London, as well as to social and university groups in the Washington, DC area.

21SMF154 Geniuses of the Theater Part II
Tuesdays, April 6–May 11, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Tuesday
AFTERNOON SESSION

And the Oscar Didn’t Go to: 21st Century Edition
There have been some truly landmark and incredible films in the 21st century that merited recognition by the Academy of Arts and Sciences as the Best Picture of the Year—and didn’t get it. Some were even nominated for best film or even best animated film, but another film won the Oscar. The non-winners that we will explore are films with artistic merit, social significance, and/or technical break-throughs that entertained audiences and became landmarks in their own right. These include Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, The Social Network, Up, Goodnight and Good Luck, The Life of Pi, Lion, and six more. Through lecture and film clips, we hope to gain an appreciation of the films that may have lost the Oscar, but have influenced filmmakers and audiences.
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.

21SMF108 And the Oscar Didn’t Go to: 21st Century Edition
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
1–3 p.m.

Connections Between Art and Music
“You took your life, as lovers often do, but I could’ve told you Vincent, this world was never meant for one as beautiful as you.”

These lyrics are from a song by the American songwriter and performer, Don McLean, who is paying tribute to Vincent van Gogh. The very same year that this song was written, David Bowie wrote and sang a song about Andy Warhol. Are there other famous artists or famous paintings that have inspired composers? Which famous artists have been inspired by music? Piet Mondrian entitled one of his most famous paintings, Broadway Boogie Woogie. Wassily Kandinsky tried to paint what color sounded like. Have there been collaborations between visual artists and musicians? Philip Glass composed a “musical portrait” of the artist Chuck Close. In this series, we’ll explore the often harmonious relationship between music and art.

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 JHU and Towson Osher, 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. Her BA is in art history from the University of Maryland and her master’s is in art education from Towson University. She is also the Administrative Supervisor of the Osher Lifelong Learning Program at JHU.

21SMF136 Connections Between Art and Music
Tuesdays, February 23–May 11
1–3 p.m.

Biological Art and Design
Artists and designers have always taken inspiration from nature, but new technologies are allowing biology and art to talk to each other in innovative ways. How are modern artists taking inspiration from the natural world? How do new technologies enable artists to change and manipulate nature to create sophisticated artworks? And how are artists thinking about the biological world as a collaborator in the process of creation? We’ll explore the fields of bio-
design, bio-art, and synthetic biology and discuss how these fields challenge us to reconsider our relationship to the natural world.

Lisa Scheifele, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Biology at Loyola University Maryland and Executive Director of Baltimore Underground Science Space (BUGSS), a community lab in Baltimore City. She has been an active researcher in the field of synthetic biology for 13 years, working in collaboration with designers and artists. As a leader in synthetic biology education, she has introduced high school students, undergraduates, and adults to this field that takes inspiration from the natural world to design and build new biological systems and bio-art projects.

21SMF624 Biological Art and Design
Tuesdays, February 23–March 30, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

The Air, Earth, and Water Around Us
During the 2020 global pandemic, many people have found solace in nature. People are taking more hikes and walks and enjoying the outdoors. This series will explore what's happening in the air, beneath the earth, and in the water around us. Six experts in their fields will present on the consequences of global warming on plants and insects, shifting baselines in the Chesapeake Bay, Cartography, and Geographic Information Systems, as well as ecology and marine life in the Chesapeake Bay.

Speakers will include professors from University of Montana, University of Maryland, a marine photographer, and a river keeper, among others.

21SMF625 The Air, Earth, and Water Around Us
Tuesdays, April 6–May 11, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Adam's Tongue: How Human Language Evolved
Language underlies everything we humans do that other species cannot: talking, reading, and writing, but also following road signs, shopping, playing games, engaging in science, religion, sports, politics, and even war. All of these things are made possible by language. As we shall see in this course, human language is radically different from communication systems that served other species (including bees, dolphins, and apes) for at least half a billion years; and no other species managed to acquire human language, even with dedicated human help. How, in the words of Derek Bickerton, did “the mills of biological evolution manage to grind out such a unique product?” Did language evolve slowly and gradually, or was it a “magic moment”, an evolutionary switch that turned on language in our species? Was it our highly developed brain that gave us language, or was it the other way around: our language ability gave us a highly developed brain?
Asya Pereltsvaig, PhD, received her degree in Linguistics from McGill University and has taught at Yale and Stanford, as well as in several other universities. Her expertise is in language and history, and the relationship between them. Her most recent book, Languages of the World: An Introduction, 3rd edition (2020), was published by Cambridge University Press.

21SMF532 Adam's Tongue: How Human Language Evolved
Tuesdays, February 23–March 30, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

The World Is a Stage
The musical often sets its tone and story line based upon the city or place it is set in. From Thailand to the Big Apple, many musicals use the world as their backdrop to tell great stories and convey mood, atmosphere, and attitude. No one is travelling now, but let the musical take you on a worldwide tour without your packing a bag. Explore why these settings provide the backdrop needed to tell their unique and fascinating stories and how the music sets the tone for the creative time and place.

Steven Friedman, a native of Washington, DC, has a background as a trained classical tenor. He has studied with leading teachers nationally and has enhanced his perception of theatre not just by performing but also 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. He is an adjunct faculty member at two local colleges, teaching a variety of classes in Broadway musical theatre.

21SMF152 The World Is a Stage
Tuesdays, April 6–May 11, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Wednesday
MORNING SESSION

Spanish Painting From Greco to Goya
The golden age of Spanish painting starts with the arrival of a famous exile from Greece, Doménikos Theotokópoulos, in Spain in 1577, where he becomes known as El Greco. It ends with the death of another famous exile, Francisco de Goya, who left Spain and died in France in 1828. During those two and a half centuries Spain produced some of the most electrifying art the world has ever seen, including the painter many consider the greatest master of his craft, Diego Velazquez (1599–1660). We will look in depth at these artists as well as other celebrated masters, Alonso Cano, Murillo, and Zurbaran, among others. There will be a glance back at the roots of Spanish art as a mixture of the Moorish heritage on the peninsula, Flemish painting, and the Italian Renaissance. And a glance forward to the profound impact that the Spanish “old
masters” had when modern artists from all over Europe flocked to Madrid to learn from them. Much like the Spanish language, Spanish art is all the more dazzling because it is a melting pot of diverse cultural roots.

_Nora Hamerman, MA_, holds her MA degree from the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University. She has taught art history at the University of Virginia and Shenandoah University, and has published articles in scholarly journals as well as hundreds of reviews of art exhibitions as a freelance writer. She studied in Italy for three years as a Fulbright scholar and Chester Dale Fellow of the National Gallery of Art, and is an experienced translator from German, Italian, and Spanish.

**21SMF112 Spanish Painting From Greco to Goya**

Wednesdays, February 24–May 12

10 a.m.–12 noon

**Revolutions That Changed the World**

From the dramatically vivid paintings of the 1789 French Revolution by Jacques-Louis David to the breathtaking scenes on our televisions aired live from Tahrir Square in Cairo in 2011, revolutions have not only captured our imagination but have also altered the fate of the world. In their pursuit of liberty, equality, and justice, revolutionaries have taken on the assembled might of monarchies, empires, and dictatorships. They have often, though not always, sparked cataclysmic violence, and have at times won miraculous victories, though at other times suffered devastating defeat.

This course explores the fundamental questions about the causes and nature of revolutions that changed the world—the French Revolution of 1879, the Revolutions of 1917 (Mexico and Russia), the Cuban Revolution of 1959, and the Sandinista Revolution of 1979. We will consider a set of major political transformations to understand the meaning of revolutions and evaluate their impact. We will examine the causes of revolutionary waves, the role of revolutionary leaders, the strategies and process of revolutionary change, as well as the intersection between revolutions and global power. We will explore whether radical upheavals require bloodshed, violence, or even terror, and seek to explain why some revolutions succeed and others fail; why some lead to democracy while others end in civil war or renewed authoritarian rule. Materials include the writings of revolutionaries themselves, revolutionary histories, declarations and constitutions, music, films, art, novels, memoirs, and newspapers.

_Naomi Daremblum_ is a political scientist whose work focuses on democracies in crisis in Europe and Latin America. She has had teaching appointments at New York University and The New School. She has taught and written on a wide range of subjects, from the rise of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela to the literature of Isabel Allende. Her pieces have been published in magazines such as The New Republic and Letras Libres, the premier literary journal for Latin America, founded by Octavio Paz.

**21SMF520 Revolutions That Changed the World**
Wednesdays, February 24–May 12
10 a.m.–12 noon

Digging the Bible: Unearthing Biblical Society Through Archeology
For more than 150 years, archeologists have been able to shed light on the history, religion, and culture of the Bible. But the Bible as a written work was composed and transmitted, for the most part, by the intelligentsia—those who could write. What archeology does beyond elucidating these writings is unearthing the material, religious, and cultural lives of ordinary people. The course will cover archeology pertaining to both the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and the New Testament.

Richard Lederman, PhD, earned his degree 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 10 years teaching in a variety of adult learning venues and as an adjunct professor at Montgomery College, Gratz College in Philadelphia, and Georgetown University.

21SMF515 Digging the Bible: Unearthing Biblical Society Through Archeology
Wednesdays, February 24–May 12
10 a.m.–12 noon

How We Came to Be: From the Big Bang to the Age of Man
This class will examine the cosmic events and transformative processes that have shaped mankind’s world. We will discuss The Big Bang; the expansion of the universe; the formation of stars and galaxies; the birth of the solar system; and the early evolution of Earth as a home for living things. We will briefly discuss evolution and the appearance of man on the planet. We will discuss the development of human societies and institutions, especially in the few thousand years since the end of the last ice age. This class will present technical information, but it is not meant to be a technical class. The goal will be to gain a perspective on how the universe went from a formless conglomeration of mass and energy to the home of conscious beings. The class will provide ample opportunity for student participation, including questions, comments and group discussion.

Richard Barrett, PhD, is a physicist who has served on the staffs of the Case Western Reserve University, The Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Department of Energy, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Since retiring from federal service in 2007, he has developed and delivered training courses on nuclear reactor safety for technical organizations in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and the United States. He recently developed a training course on global warming for teenagers.

21SMF622 How We Came to Be: From the Big Bang to the Age of Man
Wednesdays, February 24–March 31, 6 weeks
American Social and Political Movements of the 1960s

This class will present for discussion several social and political movements originating and/or crystallizing in the US during the 1960s. We will cover the following: African American Civil Rights Movement, Women's Movement, Gay Rights Movement, Latino Rights Movement, Native Americans Movement, and the anti-Vietnam War Movement. For each, we will discuss the origins, tactics (lawsuits, strikes, demonstrations, boycotts, etc.), leaders, organizations, coverage by and use of the news media, backlash and resistance, internal conflicts, goals achieved including legislation, and any outstanding issues today. Different speakers, with special knowledge and/or experience in these movements, will provide the presentations and lead the discussions.

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 30 years. After retiring in 2009, he volunteered for various social welfare organizations, including the Montgomery County Literacy Society, teaching English to recently arrived immigrants. In addition, he volunteered for the Jewish Social Service Agency and the Jewish Council on Aging. 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.

21SMF405 American Social and Political Movements of the 1960s
Wednesdays, April 7–May 12, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Wednesday
AFTERNOON SESSION

The Awful Reality, a Nation at War: 1860–1870
This course will offer an exploration of the causes, course, and consequences of a nation at war with itself. The people were divided, conflicted, and confused. Many issues confronting the country then still haunt the United States today. Consideration of the people, some forgotten to many, will be revisited. Their influence transformed the political, social, and cultural landscape of America. The causes and conduct of the people during this time have baffled generations of historians. This course will try to unpack some of the central issues of the time and examine the decisions and actions that led up to the conflict, the war, and the immediate aftermath. Many of the events and accomplishments of this era continue to impact our society and culture. Numerous questions remain concerning balance of power between state and national governments, boundaries of citizenship, and the meanings of freedom and equality. Assessing this time through
the politics of history—how historical interpretations reinforce or challenge the society and culture of today—will be the major focus.

**Joan Adams** has worked as an educator, consultant, and community organizer. Her experience in the classroom ranges from middle school to graduate school. Since 1988 she has served as an adjunct instructor with Prince George’s Community College for the Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally (SAGE) program, facilitating classes in current issues and literature. Recently she retired from Washington Adventist University as an adjunct instructor for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies.

21SMF216 The Awful Reality, a Nation at War: 1860–1870
Wednesdays, February 24–May 12
1–3 p.m.

**Wednesday Great Books**
In the Spring of 2021, we will continue using the anthology titled *100 Great Short Stories* (Dover Thrift Editions), edited by James Daley. It contains stories over many centuries by authors such as Edgar Allan Poe, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Guy de Maupassant, Charles Dickens, Anton Chekhov, Mark Twain, Saki, Luigi Pirandello, Kate Chopin, and Ring Lardner, plus many others. At our first class, we'll discuss the story *Bill Nations* by Bill Arp, followed by *A Jersey Centenarian* by Bret Harte. Both of these stories were published in the early 1870s.

Each story's discussion is normally led by a volunteer member of the class, following the Shared Inquiry Method promulgated by The Great Books Foundation. There is no requirement that anyone volunteer, and it does take some work to lead discussions. But most of those who have done so find it rewarding. (Under the Shared Inquiry Method, the leader poses interpretive questions which class members then answer based on evidence that they find in the text.) 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. In addition to being interesting, this increases the sense of community, which many of us value.

**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 first served as the instructor for this particular class in 2007.

21SMF215 Wednesday Great Books
Wednesdays, February 24–May 12
1–3 p.m.

**Thought-Provoking Ideas in Art History**
In classical antiquity, artists admired the nude human body as an ideal form; not so for artists during the Middle Ages and the Protestant Reformation. Hindu temples and Catholic cathedrals embody in their form, function, and decoration profound but very different ideas about the human condition, God, and the purpose and meaning of life. For Irish monks and Muslim artists, geometric ornament was an intermediary between the temporal and the ineffable. In this course, we’ll focus on six universal themes in art history, and explore the ways in which artists, across centuries and cultures, have given artistic expression to ideas—ideas that offer food for thought in our own lives.

**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. She has taught a variety of art history courses for Osher at JHU since 2013, and hosted a lecture about and trip to the National Mall.

**21SMF113 Thought-Provoking Ideas in Art History**

Wednesdays, February 24–March 31, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

**Is China the New Imperialist Colonizer of Africa?**

The media has been filled with articles attacking China. Many include allegations that China is the new Imperialist Colonizer of Africa. Even further, that China is deliberately enticing African nations into its debt so as to steal their resources. It is quite possible that many of you adhere to this belief. Could this be propaganda? China's history with Africa is completely different from its relationship with the West. In this course we will define imperialism and colonialism and their history in Africa. Then we will examine China-Africa relations to determine if they are harmful or beneficial. Many Americans and Africans unfortunately simply repeat what is in the news, rumors, and innuendos without examining the truth. This course will explore how allies can assist African nations in their development.

**Lawrence Freeman** has been involved in Africa for 30 years as a researcher, writer, and speaker on a variety of topics concerning Africa. He provides economic-political analysis to African governments. He has written hundreds of articles and reports on Africa and has traveled to the continent 25 times. He is an adjunct instructor who has taught several courses on African history. He is also Vice Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Lake Chad Basin Commission. He has given lectures and spoken at conferences in Africa, Europe, and the United States, and to various audiences in the US.

**21SMF560 Is China the New Imperialist Colonizer of Africa?**

Wednesdays, April 7–May 12, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.
Alfred Hitchcock Adaptations: Literature to Film
This course will focus on Alfred Hitchcock and his approach to adapting minor works of contemporary literature into successful films. Hitchcock's style of adaptation is a unique approach to film adaptation, often mixing true crimes with pulp fiction. The course will look at the materials Hitchcock used to create such works as Rear Window (1954), Rope (1948) and others.

Mary Dutterer, MA, is Associate Professor of English at Prince George's Community College and Master Adjunct Instructor at Howard Community College, where she teaches composition, literature, and film classes. She has a BA in English Literature (minor in Film Studies) from The Ohio State University and an MA in English Literature (concentration in Film Studies) from Illinois State University. Her work in Film Studies focuses on literature adaptations and propaganda films of WWII.

21SMF125 Alfred Hitchcock’s Adaptations
Wednesdays, February 24–March 31, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Classic American Short Story Writers
Each week we will discuss four or five short stories by each of six American writers noted for their short stories: Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Katherine Anne Porter, and Eudora Welty. By reading several stories from each author, we will be able to get a sense of the range of their subject matters, themes, and styles, as well as considering where they fit into their times and ours. Class members should read the Edgar Allan Poe stories listed on the course syllabus 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.

21SMF213 Classic American Short Story Writers
Wednesdays, April 7–May 12, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Thursday
MORNING SESSION

Mozart and Beethoven, Part II
For many of us, Beethoven is the greatest of all composers. Overcoming deafness, Beethoven “took fate by the throat” and became the most powerful and inspiring individual who ever wrote music. We will hear the essential symphonies, chamber music, concertos, and vocal music,
addition to the masterworks that have been the heart of the concert repertoire for almost 200 years.

Saul Lilienstein, MS, was for many years Artistic Director and Conductor of Maryland’s Harford Opera Theatre and then of Operetta Renaissance in Baltimore, conducting and producing well over 50 operas. His is a familiar voice at the Smithsonian Institution, here at Johns Hopkins University in Rockville, at the Goethe Institut for symphonic concerts at the Kennedy Center, opera lectures for Washington National Opera, and recently at music symposiums in New York, California, Ohio, and Florida. He has now completed over 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, in journals, and in anthologies.

21SMF106 Mozart and Beethoven, Part II
Thursdays, February 25–May 13
10 a.m.–12 noon

Fresh Start: The 2021 Reboot

Changing presidents is not a silver bullet to return to normal. The challenges are enormous from public health to mass unemployment and glaring social justice inequities. Political division will still be with us, and there is the potential for civil unrest. Uniting the country may not be possible, and there could be a major political realignment. The next president, working with a new senate, will test whether our government truly is of, for, and by the people.

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, and Founding Sisters and the Nineteenth Amendment. She has appeared as herself in several movies, including Independence Day and Dave, and CBS-TV’s Murphy Brown.

21SMF420 Fresh Start: The 2021 Reboot
Thursdays, February 25–May 13
10 a.m.–12 noon

Biblical Civil Laws and Their Relevance for Our Times

In this course we will review many of the civil laws, those that govern how people relate to other people and how a society should engage as a community with one another. We will also investigate whether these laws are still applicable for our modern world and, where they are not, what kind of modifications are required to make them valid. Please be sure to have a full Bible available for reference.
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 PhD course work. He taught undergraduate courses at Baltimore Hebrew University; he 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.

21SMF504 Biblical Civil Laws and Their Relevance for Our Times
Thursdays, February 25–May 13
10 a.m.–12 noon

Understanding Cancer: a Century of Progress
Current understandings of cancer origins and development reflect more than a century of convergent progress in the biologic and physical sciences. This class will explain how gradual advancements in microbiology, immunology, genetics, and radiology spawned more accurate concepts of cancer causation and progression. Examples of some common cancers will illustrate how the intersections of genomics and biotechnology are leading towards earlier cancer detection and individually targeted treatments or preventions. Lecture outlines and brief informative notes or illustrations will be provided in PDF format. No textbook is required.

Phil Grimley, MD, earned his degree at Albany Medical College. He trained in clinical medicine and cancer research at Cornell, the University of California, and the National Cancer Institute. In 1982, he joined the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda where he continued research on cancer and viruses, and served as a director for medical education. He has lectured on virology or related subjects at schools in Europe, India, and Asia. He retired in 2015 as Emeritus Professor.

21SMF613 Understanding Cancer: a Century of Progress
Thursdays, February 25–April 1, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Surviving the Digital Life: 2021
Our world is becoming more and more digital and online. Many of our everyday activities now involve accessing the Internet to stream movies and music, access our financial information, and communicate with family members. During this six-session class we will use lectures and demonstrations to examine:

- Surviving during physical and social isolation. How to use technology to cope with our current crisis. Life with Zoom.
• Hardware you need to live the digital life. An overview of hardware choices. My PC is old, what should I buy? My son says I should switch to a Mac. Is he right? My grandchildren are using computers in school called Chromebooks, what is that all about?
• Converting to Digital. What you need to do to pass on your videos, music and photos to the digital generation? Converting landline to VOIP (voice over internet protocol).
• Streaming Media, TV, Movies, and Music in the digital age. Too many choices.
• Learning in the Digital Cloud. With in-person learning centers closed the Internet has become our new learning education system. An overview of our choices.
• Security of the online experience. The 10 commandments for staying safe online.

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 in the Information Technology Institute at Montgomery College.

21SMF141 Surviving the Digital Life: 2021
Thursdays, April 8–May 13, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Thursday
AFTERNOON SESSION

Ringing the Changes: Opera Since 1900
Puccini continued composing operas into the 1920s; Richard Strauss ended his opera career in 1942. There have been many opera composers, especially in America, who have continued their romantic legacy. But there have been numerous others overlapping with them—from Janacek though Britten to John Adams—who have forged new ways of creating drama through music, without losing their grip on the opera-going public.

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.

21SMF117 Ringing the Changes: Opera Since 1900
Thursdays, February 25–May 13
1–3 p.m.

Current Events
During the first half of each session we will explore and discuss national issues of interest in the United States. Optional relevant readings will be suggested one week before each session. Class members are invited to suggest additional topics, with discussion led by that member or by the instructor. Issues may change due to events or class suggestions. Discussion of the significant events affecting the United States during the past week will follow at each session. National issues and current events, domestic and foreign, may fall within politics, government, law, education, science and technology, business, health and medicine, foreign relations, and other areas, depending on class interest and recent events. Class size is limited.

*Carl Hantman, MA, see bio on page x.*

**21SMF404 Current Events**  
Thursdays, February 25–May 13  
1–3 p.m.

**The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway**  
While in an earlier course we looked at Hemingway’s novel *The Sun Also Rises*, this course will concentrate exclusively on Hemingway’s short stories that are his primary legacy and a major contribution to American literature. We will be conducting close readings of a string of his most critically acclaimed short stories and will investigate the way in which Hemingway revolutionized the modern short story. According to Ernest Hemingway, “All you need to do is write one true sentence. Write the truest sentence that you know.” No one is more responsible for the development of the modern short story than Ernest Hemingway. Hemingway’s fresh and innovative style revolutionized literature. His stripped-down, deceptively simple prose, combined with his Iceberg Theory of writing, created a strikingly new approach to literature. This course will follow the evolutionary arc of Hemingway’s career. The course will start with stories such as “Indian Camp” and “Big Two-Hearted River” from his debut collection, *In Our Time*, continuing with a variety of stories such as “Hills Like White Elephants” and “The Killers,” then concluding with posthumously published stories. We will also examine early Modernist influences that contributed to Hemingway’s style, as well as his friendships with luminaries such as Gertrude Stein, James Joyce, Sherwood Anderson, and Ezra Pound. All stories covered will be found in *The Complete Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway: The Finca Vigia Edition*.

*Robert Jacobs, MA, received a BA in English from Towson University, then travelled to the United Kingdom where he attained an MA in Comparative Literature from the School of Oriental and African Studies/University of London. He spent several years in London working as a freelance writer and has contributed to a variety of publications such as Time Out/London, The Baltimore Sun’s Metromix, and The Examiner. In addition to teaching for Osher at JHU, he is currently an adjunct instructor at the Community College of Baltimore County.*

**21SMF206 The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway**  
Thursdays, February 25–April 1, 6 weeks  
1–3 p.m.
**Sociology of the Family**

Family is one of the most important social institutions, intersecting with education, economics, government, and religion to shape the roles and statuses we experience. This course examines patterns and trends in family structures and family dynamics. We will discuss topics such as partner selection, partner and parental roles, multigenerational family relationships, and parenting patterns, while also considering the social, cultural, and global variables that diversify families. In doing so, we aim to clarify our understanding of how the definitions of family shape human behavior.

*M. Bess Vincent, PhD*, serves as the Assistant Dean for Strategic Initiatives in Johns Hopkins University’s Krieger School of Arts and Sciences. In this capacity Dr. Vincent led the Johns Hopkins University’s Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commemoration Committee, commemorating the passage of the 19th Amendment. Prior to joining JHU, Dr. Vincent held positions as Assistant Administrative Dean and Associate Professor of Sociology at Montgomery College. She cultivated learning opportunities outside of the classroom as the curator for the Frank Islam Athenaeum Symposia Speaker Series, which encouraged meaningful conversation, critical thinking, and intercultural understanding about humanities and social sciences topics. Dr. Vincent earned a Bachelor’s degree in Liberal Arts, with a concentration in Humanities and Social Thought, from the Louisiana Scholars’ College. She holds a PhD in Sociology from Tulane University.

**21SMF501 Sociology of the Family**

Thursdays, April 8–May 13, 6 weeks

1–3 p.m.

**Contemporary Issues in Criminal Law**

This course will provide insight into contemporary topics in criminal law. John McCarthy, the State’s Attorney for Montgomery County, will present a series of lectures that will include updates on handgun legislation, the opiate crisis, new strategies for protecting the senior community, and hot topics of common interest that evolve during the course of the next several months. He will also feature periodic appearances of major figures involved in the development of criminal justice policies in Montgomery County.

*John McCarthy, JD*, has been State’s Attorney for Montgomery County for 16 years, and a practicing member of the Maryland bar for 40 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. Mr. McCarthy is a former president of the Maryland Bar Association and the Maryland State’s Attorneys Association. He was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers in 2007 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.
21SMF510 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Law
Thursdays, February 25–April 1, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

The US Supreme Court in Contemporary Society

Alexander Hamilton wrote that the courts in the United States would be “the least dangerous branch” because they lacked power. But for the past century the Supreme Court has played an increasingly central role in American life: recognizing new rights, resolving many of the most volatile issues facing the nation, overseeing the functioning of our democracy, and defining societal values. This course will examine the critical role the Supreme Court plays in our system of government, focusing on everything from privacy to policing, from democracy to diversity, from government regulation to religious freedom. Lectures and discussion will explain major Supreme Court decisions and break down legal doctrines to make them accessible to those who are not lawyers and to underscore the importance of the high court's role.

Stephen Wermiel, JD, is a Professor of Practice in Constitutional Law and part of the Program on Law and Government at American University Washington College of Law. He is currently a Member of the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association (ABA) and also sits in the ABA House of Delegates. He is Past Chair of the ABA Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice (CRSJ) (formerly Individual Rights and Responsibilities) and authors a monthly column on SCOTUSblog aimed at explaining the Supreme Court to law students. He is co-author of Justice Brennan: Liberal Champion (the definitive biography of the late Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr.), published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in hardcover 2010 and by University Press of Kansas in paperback in 2013. He is also co-author of The Progeny: Justice William J. Brennan’s Fight To Preserve The Legacy of New York Times v. Sullivan, published by ABA Publishing in 2014.

21SMF431 The US Supreme Court in Contemporary Society
Thursdays, April 8–May 13, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.