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.oshier.jhu.edu
Tuesday
MORNING SESSION

International Relations
The course will concentrate on foreign policy and national security policy of the Trump administration. We will assess the performance of his national security team in its first two years of operational policy, particularly the impact of the “war cabinet” that was named in his second year. 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 problems of North Korea and Iran 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.

Mr. Goodman will not be teaching the first two class sessions, February 19th and 26th. Substitute speakers will be arranged.

*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 most 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 the author of the forthcoming *American Carnage: Trump’s Assault on America’s Democracy*.

19SMF402 International Relations
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
10 a.m.–12 noon

Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*
*Hamlet* is probably Shakespeare's most popular tragedy; it’s also his longest. We all remember the basic plot. While Hamlet was away at Wittenberg University, his uncle murdered Hamlet's father, married Hamlet's mother, and became king. Since Hamlet learned about the murder from his father’s ghost, how can he be sure? Will he take revenge for the murder? When will he get around to it? Will he ever get around to it?

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, 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 courses, ranging from Homer and Virgil to Jane Austen and Oscar Wilde. This is his 11th semester teaching Shakespeare.

19SMF210 Hamlet
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
10 a.m.–12 noon

The Qur’an and Modern Society
Consisting of 12 sessions, this introductory course provides the students with a basic cultural background of the Qur’an, its structure, foundational narratives, interpretations, and importance in shaping the world-views of Muslims.

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 writings on rock art in leading journals span a wide range of topics.

19SMF140 The Qur’an and Modern Society
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
10 a.m.–12 noon

Miracle at Philadelphia: The Creation of the United States Constitution
One of the greatest accomplishments in United States history was the creation of our constitution. The course will focus on the antecedents leading up to writing the document, and the efforts to ensure that many of the leading Americans—such as George Washington—would be present at the convention. We will then follow through the progress of writing the document, such as how to treat large and small states in their representation in Congress and how to protect the institution of slavery. We will consider how the delegates compromised to accommodate those who favored a strong democracy versus those who feared it, and what prompted them to call the chief executive a president—which was considered a weak position at the time—as opposed to governor, which was a much stronger position. Finally, we will look at the effort to ensure that the constitution would be ratified, especially the work of Hamilton and Madison writing the Federalist Papers.

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 to the social, economic, and political issues during the Civil War Era.

19SMF415 Miracle at Philadelphia: The Creation of the United States Constitution
Tuesdays, February 19–March 26, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Behind the Scenes of Olney Theatre Center
Get an inside look at Olney Theatre Center, located in arts-rich Montgomery County at the heart of Washington-Baltimore-Frederick triangle. With humble origins, Olney Theatre Center has grown into a multi-million-dollar nonprofit that produces, presents, and tours extraordinary theatre. In this course, we will examine both the administrative and artistic sides of running a theatre through conversations with artists as well as members of our leadership team, from operations to what’s on stage.

Olney Theatre Center teaching artists and leadership team members will lecture each week.
Tuesday
AFTERNOON SESSION

Hollywood on the Potomac

Hollywood has portrayed Washington, DC many ways on the screen. DC is sometimes idealized and romanticized. It is also shown as a place of deception and corruption. Often the image of Washington is a function of the administration at the time the film is made. Based on American cinema, space aliens have landed here, idealistic congress-people come here, foreign governments have tried to blow us up, ambitious reporters have sought out government scandals, lobbyists try to destroy our health, and a widowed president even found love here. We will take a look at how the American film industry presents our town, and what it says about Washington at the time the various films are made. We will be looking at film clips in historical context. A sample of the films to be covered are: *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *All the President’s Men*, *Air Force One*, *An American President*, and *Thank You for Smoking*.

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.

Donald Messersmith, PhD, was born and grew up in Toledo, Ohio. His PhD in Entomology is from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He is a retired University of Maryland Professor Emeritus where he taught courses in Entomology, Ornithology, and Environmental Education. He taught courses about birds and insects for the Audubon Naturalist Society for 53 years. He has led worldwide nature tours for more than 50 years to every continent and about 118 countries.

19SMF115 Behind the Scenes of Olney Theatre Center
Tuesdays, April 2–May 7, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

19SMF108 Hollywood on the Potomac
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
1–3 p.m.

Introduction to Bird Study
This course is designed for people who have an interest in learning more about birds than just their identification, although identification techniques are an important part of the course. No prior knowledge of birds or birding is necessary, but a desire to learn more will be helpful. Some of the topics that will be covered include an introduction to birding as a hobby, bird characteristics, evolution, feathers, special adaptations, anatomy and physiology, habitats and common birds of Mid-Atlantic states. We also study bird classification, flight, migration and orientation, song, courtship, pair formation, territoriality, nesting, raising their young, fledging, extinct and endangered birds, feeding, conservation, birds in our culture and other birding activities. A field guide book to birds will be useful. There will be no outdoor field trips, but individual birding trips are encouraged.

19SMF601 Introduction to Bird Study
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
1–3 p.m.
Introduction to World Mythology

This course is meant to expose students to a rich inter-cultural exploration of how people experience the world. Myths are not simply made-up stories. Like any artistic endeavor, they represent a common human effort to find meaning, purpose, and value in the world. Originally in oral form and later written down, myths are a people’s literary expression of their understanding of their place in the world and in the cosmic scheme of things. They express a common human desire for connection and relationship—to each other and to the cosmic, sacred, transcendent powers that make life sometimes beautiful, sometimes terrible, but always meaningful and purposeful. Students will discover a strong human connection with the creators of myth, thus enriching their personal artistic, intellectual, and spiritual lives.

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 English Country House: Before, During, and After Downton Abbey

Feed your insatiable appetite for Upstairs, Downstairs and Downton Abbey with a grand tour of English country houses from medieval times through the early 20th Century. This course will cover the architectural, political, social, and decorative art history of dozens of historic English mansions and palaces, many of them now famous as locations for the across-the-pond movies Americans so love. We will also discuss the rise of the architect from craftsman to professional, with a side visit to typically English gardens. Unlike pre-Revolutionary France, where the aristocratic establishment functioned centrally at Versailles, in England the aristocracy and landed gentry preferred to live in the country. The time, energy, and love they invested in their mansions can still be experienced in Great Britain today. Along the way we will cover aspects of the social history of the English gentry including a trip to Royal Ascot!

Laura Donnelly, MA, earned a masters from George Washington University where she concentrated in British history. She is a graduate of the Attingham Summer School for the study of the architectural and social history of the historic house in Britain. Like Anna from Downton Abbey, she lived in the servants’ quarters of both Attingham Park, now a National Trust property, and West Dean House, where Edward VII chased Daisy Warwick at house parties.

The bulk of his 30-year career was in nonprofit 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.

19SMF515 Introduction to World Mythology
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
1–3 p.m.

19SMF214 The English Country House: Before, During, and After Downton Abbey
Tuesdays, February 19–May 7
1–3 p.m.
Virus Discoveries: from Vaccination to Biotechnology

Viruses are minute forms of life which depend upon animal, plant, or microbial host cells for survival and propagation. Virus-host adaptations occurred over millions of years, and subtle variations in virus structures or growth strategies account for the great range of diseases. New virus adaptations underlie unexpected epidemics such as Ebola, Zika, or bird flu. Lectures and short videos will illustrate how cellular defense mechanisms counterbalance such virus threats. Benefits and limitations of vaccination will be emphasized, and the critical contributions of 20th century virus investigations to major biotechnical advances in molecular genetics and clinical diagnostics explained. Selected or engineered viruses now serve as unique research tools in studies of cancers, microbial infections, and agricultural or environmental problems. New developments in physics, computer modeling, and informatics promise improvement of antiviral therapies and global control of epidemics. Formal science background is not required. Concise summaries, videos, or articles will be accessible.

Phil Grimley, MD, earned his degree at Albany Medical College. He trained in clinical medicine and cancer research at Cornell, UC, and the NCI. 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.

Celebrating Collaboration in Musical Theater

When Guys and Dolls writer Frank Loesser insisted on retring some of his songs in the second act, book writer Abe Burroughs responded—perhaps only partly in jest: “If you reprise the songs, we’ll reprise the jokes!” Successful partnerships, whatever the field, fascinate because they reveal how individuals can blend their talents, egos, workstyles, temperaments, etc., to produce something fresh and special. This richly illustrated course looks at some of musical theatre’s most successful and interesting partnerships, from Rodgers and Hammerstein to Ahrens and Flaherty (Ragtime), from Kander and Ebb (Chicago) to the husband and wife team behind the songs of Frozen. Offering a glimpse into the often mysterious nature of creativity, it also looks at partnerships in other fields for clues about collaboration (Astaire and Rodgers, the Marx Brothers), partnerships that cut across different art forms (the role of great choreographers in shows like Carousel and Hamilton) and the wizardry of people like Robbins and Prince in blending the unique talents of writers, actors, set designers, and everyone else into one unique whole.

Barry Bortnick, PhD, 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 15 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.

19SMF118 Celebrating Collaboration in Musical Theater
Tuesdays, April 2–May 7, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.
The Great Age of Venetian Painting 1500–1600

Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese, Bassano: this quartet of artists carried forward the spirit of the Renaissance through the 16th century, inspiring artists for centuries to come. This class will trace the uniquely Venetian contribution to painting by looking in depth at these four artists and their contemporaries: among them Giorgione, who revolutionized painting by introducing shadowy contours and poetic ambiguity but died young in 1510; Carpaccio, the brilliant storyteller; Lotto, the quirky outlier whose works are found mostly outside Venice; Sebastiano del Piombo, who migrated to Rome to become the artistic partner of Titian’s rival, Michelangelo. Although Titian is (contemporaries said) “the Sun amidst lesser Stars” this class will also give special focus to Tintoretto, a free spirit who set out to combine “Michelangelo’s Drawing and Titian’s Color,” unifying the two rival schools of Italian art. A major exhibition at the National Gallery of Art this spring celebrates the 500th anniversary of Tintoretto’s birth in 1519.

Nora Hamerman, MA, has taught at Osher since 2011 on topics ranging from The Divine Comedy of Dante, to the History of the City of Rome, to Netherlandish paintings from Van Eyck to Rembrandt. She has an MA degree from New York University’s Institute of Fine Arts, and studied in Italy as a Fulbright Scholar and Chester Dale Fellow of the National Gallery of Art. She taught art history at the University of Virginia and Shenandoah University, and has published many newspaper articles on art exhibitions.

19SMF112 The Great Age of Venetian Painting 1500–1600
Wednesdays, February 20–May 8
10 a.m.–12 noon

Short Stories of Updike and Cheever

John Updike—major novelist, poet, essayist, and critic—was also one of the finest practitioners of the short story. John Cheever, once called “the Chekhov of the suburbs,” was one of Updike’s few equals in the short story form and also a novelist of note. Updike and Cheever were friendly rivals sharing such literary themes as marriage, adultery, sexuality, religion, and the exigences of life in suburbia. This course will analyze, discuss, and compare selected short stories of each writer, emphasizing a close reading of the texts, as well as pertinent background information garnered from the highly acclaimed recent biographies of each writer. Students are expected to read two or three short stories for each class, and participation is strongly encouraged.

William Florman, MA, JD, has taught courses in literature and writing at Boston College, Salem State University, and American University. Later, upon graduation from Georgetown Law School, he practiced labor law in Washington, DC and then engaged in various entrepreneurial ventures. He now teaches film and literature classes at the Osher campuses in Baltimore, Columbia, and Rockville. Mr. Florman is enjoying his return to teaching, his first love.

19SMF120 Short Stories of Updike and Cheever
Wednesdays, February 20–May 8
10 a.m.–12 noon
The Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s: Then and Now

The 1960s Civil Rights Movement has been hailed as one of the most socially active times. We all have memories of the movement and how and why we did or did not participate. The seminar will be in a discussion format to examine the accomplishments, failures, and open tasks that resulted from a generation that was dedicated to change. Our discussions will focus on the context of how, if in any way, the 1960s set the framework for what we see happening now in America in shaping this generation and how the messages of “equality” are being demanded. We all lived through the 1960s and are colored by our experiences, where we lived, and why certain things stand out in our memories. With the maturity we now bring to discussions, we will have opportunities to determine whether the Civil Rights Movement was a success, a failure, or if it indeed ended!

Carolyn I. Coleman, PhD, recently retired after 38.5 years in the federal government as a development and national security professional. Working in the interagency arena, she specialized in helping countries become exposed to alternative ways to develop, and enjoyed focusing on failed states.

Making the News: Then and Now

Remember when broadcast journalist Walter Cronkite was “the most trusted man in America?” Today, sizeable segments of the population do not trust journalists at all as generators of news. What has happened in the last half century? This class will analyze changes and pose challenges that confront the news media in a democratic society. It will include discussion of the philosophy and economics of traditional news delivery, culture and ethics of news-gathering, different forms of news (mainstream and alternative), diversity in news presentation in relation to gender, race, ethnic background, disabilities, and other areas, as well as the outlook for journalism in the years ahead. It will be taught through a combination of lectures, audio-visual materials, and questions presented for class reflection. Specific news events may be used as illustrations but the emphasis will be on a panoramic view of news itself.

Maurine H. Beasley, PhD, is professor emerita at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland College Park. A former staff writer for The Washington Post, she holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri Columbia, a master’s degree in journalism from Columbia University, and a PhD in American Civilization from George Washington University. She has written and/or edited eight books dealing mainly with women journalists and coverage of first ladies.

Coming to America: A History of Immigration and the United States

A nation of immigrants. This idea has been at the center of our collective memory of American history for many centuries. Still vividly present through monuments such as the Statue of Liberty or Ellis Island, this narrative is a romanticized version of our country’s story. America’s relationship with immigrants and immigration is far richer: more nuanced and more complicated. While some periods shone for their inclusive openness to newcomers—as a nation founded on the ideals of freedom and liberty that
exerted its magnetic pull—others were characterized by exclusionary policies, anti-immigrant rhetoric, detention, and deportation. Our history is then a dual one: with immigration a deeply-rooted part of our national identity but also deeply-rooted centuries-long conversations about who is allowed into the country and what it means to be an American. This class seeks to provide historical context to current debates over immigration while exploring the central questions of how we define immigrants and how this definition changes over time.

Naomi Daremblum is a political scientist whose work focuses on democracies in crisis in Europe & Latin America. She has had teaching appointments at NYU 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.

19SMF520 Coming to America: A History of Immigration and the United States
Wednesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Television and the Broadway Musical

Television was a young medium in the 1950s and there were variety shows that relied upon talent from the Broadway stage, as movie actors under contract were off-limits. The result was that TV sought out via the variety shows and “specials” the talent of Broadway to diversify their offering and bring entertainment to millions of viewers. TV brought the talent of many names into the home unlike ever before and made household names out of talent only seen rarely off the stage. We will examine how Ed Sullivan, the similar variety shows of the era, and the great TV specials brought Broadway to television.

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 by performing and 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.

19SMF152 Television and the Broadway Musical
Wednesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Wednesday AFTERNOON SESSION

They Helped Create a Nation: 1750–1790

This course will be an opportunity to delve into the society, culture, and politics that created a fledgling nation. Who were these individuals involved in forming a more perfect union? What were their motivations? How did these characters from 13 separate colonies create an environment that would grow into a new nation? Many of the personalities of the time were involved in war and peace; most are acknowledged in our history books. Yet numerous others have not received the tributes they deserved.
for their role in war and peace, risking their lives and reputations. The creating of a democratic republic was not easy, but the intrepid trailblazers of the times created a framework for a strong nation that has survived 243 years.

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 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.

19SMF216 They Helped Create a Nation: 1750–1790
Wednesdays, February 20–May 8
1–3 p.m.

Wednesday Great Books I
In the spring of 2019 we’ll continue in the anthology begun in the previous semester, namely the Dover Thrift edition of The World’s Greatest Short Stories, edited by James Daley. It contains 20 stories, including some by Hemingway, Woolf, Joyce, Kafka, Updike, and Melville. At our first class, we’ll discuss the story How Old Timofei Died with a Song, written by Ranier Maria Rilke and published in 1900. Each story’s discussion is normally led by a volunteer, following the Shared Inquiry Method promulgated by The Great Books Foundation. There is no requirement that anyone volunteer, but most of those who have done so find it rewarding. 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.

19SMF215 Wednesday Great Books I
Wednesdays, February 20–May 8
1–3 p.m.

Wednesday Great Books II
We read and discuss short stories by modern and classical writers. Our conversations are punctuated by laughter and by major and minor differences of opinion. Authors we have read include Raymond Carver, Herman Melville, Shirley Jackson, George Orwell, Amy Tan, and more. We examine the human condition—the characteristics, key events, and situations which compose the essentials of human existence—through our authors’ characters and their issues; and through the various ways in which their characters resolve conflicts. Aspects of the human condition are ineffable, subject to argument and discussion. Feelings such as loneliness or happiness, such as those experienced by the characters we read, may be universally experienced, but like the color blue, remain ineffable, lending themselves to discussion and interpretation. Discussing those aspects of our lives, through stories, helps us to better understand the human condition as it applies to each of us.

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 George Town Universities as well as at the Jung Institute in New York. He credits reading the Great Books long after college as his primary lifelong learning experience.

19SMF225 Wednesday Great Books II
Wednesdays, February 20–May 8
1–3 p.m.
Computer Topics
Trying to move forward in your digital life? This six-session course includes an assortment of computer topics that can help you upgrade your existing technology skills and learn some new ones! Topics include (1) using the online services of your local public library web site, (2) learning about the more advanced features in Chrome, the world’s number one web browser, (3) working with podcasts, and (4) managing your passwords. (You can find more detailed descriptions of these topics at https://tinyurl.com/y7oduprt.) (NOTE: This course is for advanced beginner and intermediate computer users.)

Lisa Friedman is a retired EPA lawyer who’s been teaching computer skills to older adults for over a dozen years.

19SMF139 Computer Topics
Wednesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Living the Digital Life
Our world is becoming more and more digital. For example, we no longer need to go to our library card catalog; instead, we can use Google to find the specific text we need and download it in seconds. During this six-session class we will use lectures and demonstrations to examine:
1. How the world became digital.
2. The innovators that turned the world from analog to digital.
3. Hardware you need to live the digital life and an overview of hardware choices.
4. Converting to digital: what you need to do to pass on your videos, music, and photos to the digital generation.
5. Streaming media: TV, movies, and music in the digital age.


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.

19SMF141 Living the Digital Life
Wednesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Seeing History Through Artists’ Eyes
This six-week course explores how artists interpret situations in history, myth, and scripture in which moral issues are at stake, and in so doing shape how we remember and learn from the past. Picasso’s *Guernica*, for example, gives us a fractured scene of horror, pain, and chaos during the bombing of a Basque town that is also an indelible political statement about the tragedies of war, especially on civilians. The French Revolution inspired Jacques Louis David’s sublime *Death of Marat* and Eugene Delacroix’s heroic *Liberty Leading the People*, paintings
that give two powerful statements about the ideals, the sacrifice, and the moral conflict associated with the revolution and its aftermath. We’ll look at examples of official or public art that can both inspire patriotic sentiment and, as in the recent cases of toppled Confederate statues, provoke political debate about the meaning of history in national identity.

**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 non-profit 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).**

**19SMF113 Seeing History Through Artists’ Eyes**

Wednesdays, February 20–March 27, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

**Traditional Arts and the Southwest**

The Southwest is widely recognized for its unique artforms. A convergence of cultures, the indigenous people developed traditions reflecting their beliefs centuries prior to the arrival of Spanish missionaries and settlers. Kachinas, personifications of elemental powers, come to life during celebratory dances and in the carved cottonwood figures gifted to young girls. Fetishes designed with special materials were crafted for ceremonial purposes. Best known is the wide variety of pottery, each Pueblo using local materials to create its own distinctive style. In the 16th and 17th centuries the areas that were to become Mexico and the American Southwest were part of an expanding Spanish empire. Long-established practices in Europe served as the germination for innovative forms of traditional folk expression. Though based on practices hundreds of years old, these art forms were transformed into a unique aesthetic after arriving in the Americas. Located on the periphery of a new world, trained professionals were replaced by self-taught artists. We will also explore their work: exvotos—offerings left by the faithful on pilgrimages, retablos, and bultos—devotional paintings and sculptures of patron saints, milagros—charms used for healing, as well as missions, and more. Numerous images and examples from the instructor’s personal collection will serve as the catalysts for our conversation.

**Robert Forloney, MA has worked in the museum field for more than 20 years—as a teacher for the New York City Museum**
School as well as an educator, administrator, and consultant at institutions such as the Brooklyn Museum of Art, American Museum of Natural History, and the Museum of Modern Art, among others. His focus is to make objects and images accessible to diverse audiences by facilitating conversations and using experiential learning techniques. He also strives to ensure that communities are empowered by the cultural institutions that tell their stories. Robert holds a BFA from Parsons School of Design, his teaching certification from Bank Street College of Education, and a Masters in Humanities and Social Thought from New York University. He is currently an adjunct professor in Goucher College’s Master of Arts in Cultural Sustainability as well as in museum studies programs for Johns Hopkins University and the University of Delaware.

19SMF616 Traditional Arts and the Southwest
Wednesdays, April 3–May 8, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Thursday
MORNING SESSION

Bach and Handel: The Two Titans of the Baroque

Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frideric Handel form the twin creative peaks of 18th century music, born in the same year (1685) and in the same country. They knew each others’ music, but they never met. Both were skilled and inspired far beyond their contemporaries in the arts of instrumental and vocal music, and in the craftsmanship of Baroque contrapuntal composition. Yet their music, personal qualities, and circumstances of life are so strikingly different that each man’s accomplishments stand in brilliant opposition to the other’s. In these 12 sessions, Saul Lilienstein will present them in many of their most unforgettable musical moments. It is not for us to choose between Bach and Handel, but to recognize and enjoy the treasured gifts they bestowed.

Saul Lilienstein holds BA and MS degrees in music from Queens College, NY. (He initially came to the attention of Maryland audiences as Director of The Handel Choir of Baltimore and the Harford Choral Society.) Lilienstein was for many years Artistic Director and Conductor of Maryland’s Harford Opera Theatre and then 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.

19SMF106 Bach and Handel: The Two Titans of the Baroque
Thursdays, February 21–May 9
10 a.m.–12 noon

Comparative Monotheistic Religions
Part II

While the three major monotheistic religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are all rooted in the same origin and sources, each has its own theological views, traditions, rituals, and expectations of its members. In this course, some of the important similarities and differences of these religions will be discussed. In particular, their changes and adaptations with modernity will be examined. The course will be taught by representatives and experts of each religion. The course will start with an overview of the previous course to refresh those who attended the first
course and to help new students pick up the essence of what they missed in the first course. As usual, this course is designed to teach, and not to preach.

**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.

**Imam Haytham Younis** is an American Muslim of Syrian extraction. He was affiliated with the Islamic Society of North America from 1983 to 1990 and was a member of their Speakers’ Bureau, travelling the US to give lectures on Islam. He travelled to Saudi Arabia in 1990 and remained there, in the city of Medinah, for 12 years where he studied Arabic and Islamic Law. He returned to the US in 2002 to be involved in interfaith work and prison outreach. He is dedicated to interfaith peace work and has given presentations at schools, universities, churches, and synagogues with an emphasis on mutual understanding and clarifying misconceptions about Islam.

**Fr. Jack MacFarlane, MEd**, is a retired priest, ordained in the Archdiocese of Washington in 1966. He holds masters’ degrees in Theology and Administration from Catholic University, and a master’s in Theology from St. Mary’s Seminary. In the course of his ministry he was Assistant Director of Religious Education for the Washington diocese and Director of Continuing Clergy Education. Fr. MacFarlane’s last ministry was as pastor of St. Elizabeth’s church in Rockville, MD, where he served for 25 years.

19SMF504 Comparative Monotheistic Religions Part II
Thursdays, February 21–May 9
10 a.m.–12 noon

The Realignment: Can Trump Be Restrained?

After two years of President Trump in the White House with Republicans controlling both chambers of Congress and cementing a five-seat ruling majority in the Supreme Court, Democrats counted on a blue wave to return them to power and some relevancy. 2019 kicks off a wide-open race among Democrats to challenge Trump in 2020. The president is deeply unpopular with much of the country while retaining the core base of voters who elected him. The two political parties face significant divisions within their own ranks. Democrats could easily field more than a dozen presidential candidates who range from center left to democratic socialists while the GOP seeks to define itself beyond loyalty to Trump. We will discuss the heightened political engagement sparked by this most unprecedented 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, and Founding Sisters and the 19th Amendment. She has appeared as herself in several movies, including Independence Day and Dave, and CBS–TV’s Murphy Brown.

19SMF420 The Realignment: Can Trump Be Restrained?
Thursdays, February 21–May 9
10 a.m.–12 noon
Language and Art in Legends, Mysteries, and Folklore

An example of a “spirit photograph” of the Victorian era.

Have you ever wondered about the origins of famous American myths, local legends, and modern mysteries? Or how and why people tell ghost stories that become legendary? What do art and imagery contribute to the impact of myths and legends? This course offers an introduction to folklore in the Mid-Atlantic region and explores how photography, architecture, illustrations, and sculpture add to the power of folklore. Topics include the story of the Jersey Devil, Mothman sightings, spirit photographers of the Civil War era, the Satanism scare of the 1980s, cryptozoology in the United States, and histories of haunted locations. Presented collaboratively by Dr. Sara Cole and Ann Wiker, MA, the course promises a fascinating look at both the language used in storytelling lore, and the connections between story-legends and art history.

Sara M. Cole, PhD, has taught Language, Culture, Film, Journalism, Media/Communication, and Video Game studies courses for over 10 years. Her preferred research methodology is socio-linguistic discourse analysis, which she applies to talk about new media, modern play practices, entertainment, gender, history, and politics. Dr. Cole’s publications address concepts of gender representation and connections between work and play. Her book, Identity and Play in Interactive Media: Ergodic Ontogeny is available from Routledge (2017).

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 University of Maryland and her masters is in art education from Towson University.

19SMF617 Language and Art in Legends, Mysteries, and Folklore
Thursdays, February 21–March 28, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Connections Between Fashion and Art
At the London Mayfair collection some of the hottest items to purchase were Louis Vuitton bags printed with Old Masters paintings like the Mona Lisa. The bags included artwork by Jeff Koons, Van Gogh, Rubens, and Titian. It was an obvious example of the fashion world’s fascination with fine art. This course will explore historic connections between styles in art and fashion. We’ll focus on artists who have influenced fashion design, including Andy Warhol and Bridget Riley. We’ll also take a look at fashion photography and whether it has evolved.

Ann Wiker, MA is an artist, curator, lecturer and the director of Art Exposure. See above for her full bio.

19SMF135
Connections Between Fashion and Art
Thursdays, April 4–May 9, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon
Thursday
AFTERNOON SESSION

Vagaries of Operatic Love

“The course of true love never did run smooth.” Opera composers must have taken Shakespeare’s words to heart, because the majority of operas deal with love and its vagaries. We have lovers who overcome obstacles, lovers who tragically fail, heroes torn between love and duty, proud people who reject love and then regret it. Then love itself can be a problem, leading to fickleness, adultery, jealousy, and revenge. There are opera characters who use love as a weapon, others who hide behind it as a shield, still others for whom love is a disease. Our anatomy of operatic love will include both the very young and the long-married. We shall also look at loving friendships, spiritual love, and some of the curious ways in which sexuality in opera is treated. Each class will offer a brief survey of a particular species of love, in a video cocktail of shorter and longer clips spanning four centuries of opera history.

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.

19SMF117 Vagaries of Operatic Love
Thursdays, February 21–May 9
1–3 p.m.

Current Events
During the first half of each session, we will be exploring and discussing 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, discussion to be 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, 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 Literary Society, teaching English to recently arrived immigrants. In addition, he 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.
19SMF404 Current Events
Thursdays, February 21–May 9
1–3 p.m.

The Wisdom and Folly of Ancient Greece

The ancient Greeks initiated nearly everything distinctive about Western civilization, from medicine, astronomy, and mathematics to philosophy, drama, history, and democracy. This course will focus on the changing values, virtues, and vices of the Greeks from the time of Homer to the early Christian church. We will be especially interested in the nature of the political values associated with the rise and fall of the democratic city-states—from the competitive, heroic values of the Homeric epics, to the cooperative virtues of the democratic city-state, and finally the “therapy of desire” practiced by philosophers during the Hellenistic period.

Winston Davis, PhD, received his MA in Greek Literature from Columbia University before earning a PhD in the History of Religions at the University of Chicago. Before retiring, he taught at Stanford, Southwestern, and Washington and Lee Universities as well as at Kwansei Gakuin Daigaku (in Japan) and the Free University (Berlin).

19SMF550 The Wisdom and Folly of Ancient Greece
Thursdays, February 21–May 9
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 30 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 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.

19SMF510 Traditional Criminal Law and Procedure
Thursdays, February 21–March 28, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Memoirs: Six Notable Works from Recent Years

Memoirs, as distinguished from autobiographies, focus on a particular aspect of the author’s life, often a relationship with a particular person. They are interesting from a social, psychological, or historical point of view, but also as works of literature. This course will feature six such works by contemporary writers, beginning with Richard Russo’s Elsewhere (Read this account of Russo’s relationship with his mother before coming to the first class.) and going on to such others as Jill Ker Conway’s The Road from Coorain, Hope Jahren’s Lab Girl and Joan Didion’s The Year of Magical Thinking.

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.

19SMF213 Memoirs: Six Notable Works from Recent Years
Thursdays, April 4–May 9, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Six Infectious Diseases that Changed the World

In this course we will discuss smallpox, cholera, Ebola, HIV, influenza, and plague and the impact these infectious diseases had and have on the world. The discussion will include the biology, epidemiology, treatment, and social factors that influenced the spread of these diseases and how the epidemics were contained.

Kristina Obom, PhD, is Director of the Center for Biotechnology Education and the Program Director for the Master of Science in Bioinformatics Biotechnology programs, Johns Hopkins University. She received her BA in Natural Sciences/Public Health from Johns Hopkins, her MPH in

Two nurses standing in front of Ebola case #3, who was treated, and later died of Ebola hemorrhagic fever in 1976, at Ngaliema Hospital, Kinshasa, Zaire.
Infectious Disease Epidemiology from Yale, and her PhD in Biomedical Sciences from Mt. Sinai School of Medicine/City University of New York. She was a 2006 recipient of the Martin Luther King Award for Community Service and a 2009/2010 ASM/NSF Biology Scholar.

19SMF615 Six Infectious Diseases that Changed the World
Thursdays, February 21–March 28, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

The People’s Army: How Union Citizen Soldiers Became Professionals and Saved a Nation’s Soul

Conceived and taught by a psychiatrist with a lifelong interest in the Civil War who has treated and worked with combat veterans, this course will use new methods and information to challenge conventional, often erroneous views of Union soldiers and sailors, their medical and surgical care, and the experience of battle itself. The Northern volunteer’s keen comprehension of the conflict’s political and societal underpinnings, deep-rooted desire to both serve and save the constitutional republic he revered, and clear grasp of the racial issues that needed to be resolved in the war’s wake will all be presented and discussed. These “thinking bayonets” will also tell their eternal tale of war and wounding, defeat and triumph, pride and pain, and coming home irrevocably changed by what they had undergone. Their words and new insights will foster understanding of how veterans of any era cope with physical and emotional challenges, and successfully reintegrate into civilian society via their enduring warrior identity.

Stephen A. Goldman, MD is a psychiatrist with more than 30 years’ experience in academic/clinical medicine and public health, and particular interest in the effects of war. An Adjunct Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, he is a Fellow of the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry and a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. Dr. Goldman is completing a multi-volume work about the impact of combat and military service on veterans’ lives, and the “unfinished work” that lay ahead after the Civil War ended.

19SMF545 The People’s Army: How Union Citizen Soldiers Became Professionals and Saved a Nation’s Soul
Thursdays, April 4–May 9, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Lincoln, McClellan, officers, and soldiers near Sharpsburg, Maryland, October, 1862.
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