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.oshер.jhu.edu
Tuesday  
MORNING SESSION  

Shakespeare’s *King Lear*  
*King Lear* is probably Shakespeare’s most moving tragedy. Lear believes that he can relinquish money and power and still be respected. He’s wrong. “How sharper than a serpent’s tooth it is to have a thankless child!” The language is magnificent, the story gripping, the suffering intense. 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 will be his 12th semester teaching Shakespeare.*

**19FMF210 Shakespeare’s *King Lear***  
Tuesdays, September 17–December 10  
**No class 11/26**  
10 a.m.–12 noon

Nathaniel Hawthorne and James Joyce  
We will be analyzing and discussing the short stories of Nathaniel Hawthorne and James Joyce.

Nathaniel Hawthorne’s short stories:  
1. “The Minister’s Black Veil”  
2. “Wakefield”  
3. “Dr. Heidegger’s Experiment”  
4. “The Birthmark”  
5. “Young Goodman Brown”  
6. “Rappaccini’s Daughter”  
7. “The Artist of the Beautiful”

James Joyce’s short stories:  
1. “The Sisters”  
2. “Araby”  
3. “The Boarding House”  
4. “A Little Cloud”  
5. “Grace”  
6. “Counterparts”  
7. “Eveline”  
8. “The Dead”

The amount of class conversation will determine how quickly or slowly we progress through the syllabus. Vintage publishers has a copy of Hawthorne’s short stories. Joyce’s short stories are collected under the title *Dubliners*. Any edition will do. Buckle your seat belts, it’s going to be a bumpy ride.

*Robert Barshay, PhD, JD,* attended Penn State University for his BS and MA in English, earned a doctorate in American Studies from the University of Maryland and a JD from the University of Baltimore. He was the Dean of Liberal Arts at Prince Georges Community College (PGCC) after serving there as a Professor of English. Before his tenure at PGCC, he decided to see what Israel was all about and spent several years teaching English at Haifa University.
19FMF217 Nathaniel Hawthorne and James Joyce
Tuesdays, September 17–December 10
No class 11/26
10 a.m.–12 noon

Oceanography

We will take a look at the ocean. We will start with the geology of the ocean basins and how they changed over time. We will examine the chemistry of the ocean waters and look at the geological and biological processes that control ocean chemistry. Then we will look at ocean circulation and waves. All this will then be tied together to explain the general distribution of ocean plants and animals, especially fisheries. We will look at some important impacts on the ocean including dead zones, overfishing, oil pollution, and effects of climate change.

Kenneth Hinga, PhD, recently retired after 10 years at USDA Foreign Agricultural Service and US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. He was a science advisor for both agencies. Prior to federal service, he was a research oceanographer and assistant dean of the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography.

19FMF619 Oceanography
Tuesdays, September 17–October 22, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

International Relations

The course will concentrate on the foreign policy and the national security policy of the Trump administration. We will assess the performance of his national security team in its first 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.

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.

19FMF402 International Relations
Tuesdays, October 29–December 10, 6 weeks
No class 11/26
10 a.m.–12 noon
The Broadway Masters and Their Work

From George Abbott to David Merrick to Hal Prince, the great Broadway producer has been the mastermind that sets the Broadway musical in motion. These money men were often the force that many feared yet respected out of need. These men brought the likes of Bob Fosse, Jerry Herman, Gower Champion, and Jerome Robbins, among others, the great recognition they sought, often with pain and fortune. We will examine the dynamic forces that created the great musical theater moments we all love and cherish from On the Town to Hello Dolly, Cabaret, and Chicago, to name a few.

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 theater.

19FMF152 The Broadway Masters and Their Work
Tuesdays, September 17–October 22, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Ordinary Lives in the American Revolution

What is happiness and how do we pursue it? In America before, during, and after the Revolution, that simple question became a national obsession. Thomas Jefferson thought that he knew and so, too, did all the other famous founding fathers, committed to the protection of private property and the restoration of traditional political liberties. But what did happiness mean to the common people? What did happiness mean to soldiers, midwives, smugglers, shopkeepers, shoemakers, and slaves—to the men and women, European, Indian, and African, on whom the success or failure of the revolutionary movement would ultimately rest? This course will challenge us to examine a familiar topic, the American Revolution, from an unfamiliar perspective and in so doing complicate our understandings of the causes, meanings and consequences of America’s founding conflict.

Richard Bell, PhD, is Associate Professor of History at the University of Maryland. He holds a BA from the University of Cambridge and a PhD from Harvard University. Dr. Bell has held two dozen research fellowships and is the recipient of 15 awards for teaching and mentoring. He serves as a Trustee of the Maryland Historical Society, as an elected member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and as a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

19FMF512 Ordinary Lives in the American Revolution
Tuesdays, October 29–December 10, 6 weeks
No class 11/26
10 a.m.–12 noon
Tuesday
AFTERNOON SESSION

Sex in the Cinema

This is actually a course in the history of film censorship as demonstrated by the movies that caused Hollywood to create The Motion Picture Production Code, and those films condemned by the League of Decency. For example, in 1936, the first year of the League of Decency, it gave a C (condemned) rating to *Ecstasy*, with Hedy Lamarr’s notorious swim. Other condemned films include *Reefer Madness*, *The Outlaw* with Jane Russell, Mel Brooks’ *The Producers*, and *The Omen*. The class will include film clips and lectures on the ever-changing mores of America, and how censorship boards had to evolve and eventually disappear. Note: there will be no pornographic film clips shown.

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 in film and contemporary culture in the DC Metro area.

19FMF108 Sex in the Cinema
Tuesdays, September 17–December 10
No class 10/1 & 11/26
1–3 p.m.

The Complete Gilgamesh

Most of us are familiar with this ancient Mesopotamian epic. Many of us may have ever read it in college. But what we read in college is really only part of the story. This so-called “standard version” derives from clay tablets discovered in the ruins of the library of the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal from the seventh century BCE. Yet the hero Gilgamesh is known as far back as the Sumerian King List from the 21st century BCE, and stories about Gilgamesh are ubiquitous throughout the geography and history of the ancient Near East. This course will explore the literary history of the Epic of Gilgamesh and place its various episodes into the context of world literature and mythology, including its connection to the Bible.

Richard Lederman, PhD, earned his PhD in Ancient Near Eastern Languages and Literature from the Annenberg Research Institute, formerly Dropsie College and now the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. The bulk of his 30-year career was in 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.

19FMF515 The Complete Gilgamesh
Tuesdays, September 17–December 10
No class 10/1 & 11/26
1–3 p.m.

Essays Discussion Group

A staple among Osher courses for over 20 years, the Essays Discussion Group brings together individuals interested in the open exchange of responses to a variety of shorter texts that seek to explain, interpret, promote, or analyze a broad range of topics, from individual experience to global issues. An objective of this face-to-face meeting is to further increase each member’s abilities as a discriminating reader. The primary reading resource will be *2018: The Best American Essays* (Hilton Als, editor). To maximize interaction, the Essays Discussion Group is limited to 18–20 members.
Jim Applebaum, MA, has been a teacher of reading and writing, a journalist, a publicist, and a consultant to government and nonprofit organizations for outreach and technology transfer communications. Emeritus faculty at Mercersburg Academy in Pennsylvania, he has authored and edited news, feature, and opinion stories with local, regional, and national implications; proposals and reports, testimony and speeches. Jim earned an MA in writing from Johns Hopkins University.

19FMF204 Essays Discussion Group
Tuesdays, September 17–December 10
No class 11/26
1–3 p.m.

Medicine: Advances in Health Research and Treatment
Learn the latest in cutting-edge medicine from leading experts in their fields. Over the six-week course, health experts from Suburban Hospital, a member of Johns Hopkins Medicine, will discuss different aspects of medicine. Topics will include: Sepsis Treatment and Outcomes and How TAVR is changing heart valve surgery.

Eleni Antzoulatos, MPH, a Program Coordinator in the Community Health and Wellness Center at Suburban Hospital, will coordinate the course.

19FMF608 Medicine: Advances in Health Research and Treatment
Tuesdays, September 17–October 22, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Your Brain and Your World
Your brain, considered to be the most complex living structure in the universe, performs the functions that make us human, controls every aspect of our body, and shapes our thoughts, hopes, dreams, and imaginations. It creates a network of connections that exceeds social networks and stores more information than a supercomputer, enabling humans to attain awe-inspiring accomplishments. With a series of distinguished speakers, this course will explore your brain and delve into the ways you and your brain interact with the world. Sessions include a primer on neuroanatomy and neurophysiology and will examine how your brain perceives and processes the world around you, focusing on topics such as emotions and the brain, cancer and the brain, religion and the brain, technology/artificial intelligence and the brain, and dance and the brain.

Andrea Baruchin, PhD, course coordinator, recently retired from a 25-year career in science policy and administration. Her last position was Senior Advisor to the President at the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH). Before joining the FNIH, Dr. Baruchin was Chief of Staff in the Office of Research at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She also served as Associate Director of the Vanderbilt Brain Institute. Prior to working at Vanderbilt, Dr. Baruchin was Chief of Science Policy at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH, and was Associate Director for Science Policy at the National Institute of Mental Health, NIH. Dr. Baruchin received her BS in biology and her MS in natural sciences from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and her PhD in molecular neurobiology from the University of Pittsburgh.

19FMF612 Your Brain and Your World
Tuesdays, October 29–December 10, 6 weeks
No class 11/26
1–3 p.m.
International Intrigues II
A recurring theme in detective fiction is the disruption and restoration of social order, illustrated by the struggle between crime and justice. Depictions of this tension are particularly interesting in international settings in cultures other than our own where ‘social order’ may have varying definitions. In this five-week course we will read and discuss novels set in markedly different societies and parts of the world, including Denmark, Botswana, Israel, Malaysia, and Italy. The reading list includes Jussi Adler-Olsen, The Scarred Woman; Alexander McCall Smith, The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency; Batya Gur, Bethlehem Road Murder; Shamini Flint, Inspector Singh Investigates: A Most Peculiar Malaysian Murder; and Donna Leon, Blood from a Stone.

Class members should read The Scarred Woman before the first class.

Melinda Kramer, PhD, holds master’s and doctorate degrees in English from Purdue University. She earned her BA at Earlham College. In addition to mystery and detective fiction, her teaching specialties include British and American drama; mythology, legend, and folklore; business communication; and rhetoric and composition. Professor of English at Prince George’s Community College, she served 12 of her 24 years on the faculty as Chair of the English Department. Before coming to Maryland she was a faculty member at Purdue’s Krannert Graduate School of Management. She is the author of several college textbooks.

19FMF235 International Intrigues II
Tuesdays, September 17–October 22, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Ancient Egyptian Mummification
Egyptian mummies have fascinated the western world for centuries, perhaps culminating in the mummy mania of the 1920s with Howard Carter’s discovery of the burial of king Tutankhamun. Although mummies are featured prominently in pop culture, the accuracy of such portrayals and assessments of mummification is often lacking. This course aims to properly situate the practice of mummification within the historical and religious contexts of the ancient Egyptians. During class, students will learn about Egyptian art, religion, and major historical events to place mummification in context. Each session will be devoted to a specific time period of Ancient Egyptian history, and mummification will be explored through a chronological lens that will showcase changes in practice and style. This course will begin with pre-Dynastic (ca. pre-3100 BCE) burial practices of natural desert desiccation, and finish with the Roman period (ca. 30 BCE–311 CE) Faiyum mummies.

Courtney Marx is a graduate student in the final stages of earning her Master’s degree in Art History from George Mason University, where she focuses on ancient Egyptian art and archeology. She is the 2019 recipient of both the Art History Graduate Student Leadership Award and the Academic Excellence in Art History Award at GMU. After graduating, Courtney hopes to continue her education by earning her PhD in Egyptology.

19FMF513 Ancient Egyptian Mummification
Tuesdays, October 29–December 10, 6 weeks
No class 11/26
1–3 p.m.
Wednesday
MORNING SESSION

The Caravaggio Revolution

Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio turned the art world upside down in 1600 when he burst on the scene in Rome with his scenes from the life of St. Matthew in San Luigi dei Francesi. His celebrity lasted only 10 years, and his career barely 15, yet he changed the face of European art. Was Caravaggio the inspiration of an entire generation of realist and tenebrist artists, or was he merely part of a larger wave that encompassed many nations and styles, including Velazquez and Rembrandt? This question will be asked, but not answered. Also: why are there no Caravaggios in Washington?

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.

19FMF112 The Caravaggio Revolution
Wednesdays, September 18–December 11

No class 10/9 & 11/26
10 a.m.–12 noon

Sacred and Secular

What spirit built Chartres Cathedral or painted the Sistine Chapel: personal belief, institutional might, or the pursuit of an artistic ideal? In short, what makes religious art religious? What room is there for secular aesthetics within a sacred tradition? What can achieve a similar transcendence in an age of disbelief or doubt? Why, in so many cases, has contemporary “religious art” just become an excuse for kitsch? We shall look at religious art from the earliest times to the present. But the course will be speculative rather than academic, asking questions as much as suggesting answers. It makes no claim to cover everything, and will often detour to follow themes that span many centuries. Though focusing primarily on the visual arts, it will also include music, architecture, and the written word. And though inevitably featuring the arts of the Christian tradition, it will also consider different faiths, such as Judaism and Islam, and even outside the Biblical world.

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.

19FMF117 Sacred and Secular
Wednesdays, September 18–December 11
No class 10/9 & 11/27
10 a.m.–12 noon

French Revolution

This course will trace the long-range causes of the French Revolution, with a special focus on the events from the Seven Years War to the outbreak of
then it will address the various phases of the French Revolution, the National Assembly, the Legislative Assembly, the National Convention, the Directory with the beginnings of Napoleonic rule to 1805. Primary documents and personalities will make up a large portion of the course.

**Robert Hines, MA**, received an MA from Johns Hopkins and has taught in Maryland Public Schools for the past 50 years. He just retired from teaching in the International Baccalaureate Program at Richard Montgomery High School for the past 31 years, with a focus on European and Russian History. Bob has also worked as an adjunct professor for The Johns Hopkins graduate School of Education. His post-graduate studies have been in the History of the Holocaust at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, and for the past 33 summers he has taught a 45-hour course in the History of Germany and the Holocaust. In his spare time he works with local volunteers at archaeology field schools.

**19FMF522 French Revolution**  
Wednesdays, September 18–December 11  
No class 10/9 & 11/27  
10 a.m.–12 noon

**Iconic Photographs: 1940–1970**  
This course will explore photography from 1940 to 1970, emphasizing the most iconic images from World War II, post-war America in the late 1940s and the 1950s, and the transformational decade of the 1960s. Emphasis will be on the interrelated cultural and political trends as expressed through the medium of photography. As in my previous classes the impact of the photographic image in the popular and artistic imagination will be given priority. The time frame provides an almost unlimited archive of iconic images.

**Rollin Fraser** is an adjunct professor of photography at Montgomery College (Rockville), and has been teaching various courses in photography for the past 15 years. He has an extensive background in traditional (film) and digital photography. He has exhibited his work in many venues, including the Washington Gallery of Photography, Metropolitan Center for The Visual Arts, Strathmore Hall Arts Center, Brookside Nature Center, Brookside Gardens Visitors Center, Glenview Mansion, and the Montpelier Arts Center. Mr. Fraser has won numerous awards for his photography.

**19FMF153 Iconic Photographs: 1940–1970**  
Wednesdays, September 18–October 23, 5 weeks  
No class 10/9  
10 a.m.–12 noon

**The Brothers Kalb**  
A review of the foreign-affairs headlines in the morning newspapers provides the backdrop of a highly personalized look at some of the most consequential, indelible stories of our time by two globetrotting journalists who were eyewitnesses: the Cuban missile crisis, with Marvin broadcasting “live” from Moscow; the opening to China, with Bernard covering the Nixon breakthrough visit to China in 1972; the war in Vietnam, the war the US lost, as
reported from Washington and Saigon; the Kissinger shuttles in the Middle East; the “man who shot the Pope,” the extraordinary tale of a Turkish killer, possibly in the Soviet employ, who shook up the Catholic Church and the communist grip over Eastern Europe; the art of spokesmanship, Bernard the spokesman; and the revolution in American journalism, from Cronkite to the Internet. The last 20 minutes of each session will be devoted to Q and A about that day’s headlines. Come and join us.

**Marvin Kalb** is senior advisor to the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, Murrow Professor Emeritus at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government and anchor of The Kalb Report, a four-times-a-year broadcast from the National Press Club about journalistic ethics and practice. Marvin was a diplomatic correspondent for CBS News and NBC News for 30 years. He hosted Meet the Press in the 1980s. In addition, he was founding Director of the Shorenstein Center on Press, Politics, and Public Policy at the Kennedy School. He has authored or co-authored 15 books, his latest two being The Year I Was Peter the Great and Enemy of the People.

**Bernard Kalb’s journalistic assignments over the decades** range from Washington to Antarctica, Moscow to Beijing, Saigon to Paris, and many capitals in between. In both print and TV journalism, he worked at The New York Times, CBS News, and NBC News. He was based as a foreign correspondent for 15 years in Southeast Asia, including a stint during the Vietnam War. Kalb switched to “the other side of the podium” as Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs and spokesman at the State Department in the mid-1980s; he suddenly resigned one and a half years later to protest a “disinformation” program. He then switched back to media as a founding moderator for CNN’s Reliable Sources. With Marvin Kalb, he co-authored the biography Kissinger and a novel on the collapse of South Vietnam, entitled The Last Ambassador.

**19FMF302 The Brothers Kalb**

Wednesdays, October 30–December 11, 6 weeks

No class 11/27

10 a.m.–12 noon

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**Wednesday**

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

**Europe 1919 to 1939: The Events Leading to World War II**

This 11-week course of instruction will provide an in-depth view of the events that led to the resumption of world war. The major topics to be discussed include the Paris peace settlements after the Great War, the impact of economic failures, the rise of totalitarian governments, resurgent nationalism, appeasement, and the failure of democracy. The classes will follow a lecture/discussion format with student input and questions encouraged. It is intended that the participant will complete this course with an increased understanding of this period of European history, as well as with a desire to learn more about it.

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

**19FMF502 Europe 1919 to 1939: The Events Leading to World War II**

Wednesdays, September 18–December 11

No class 10/9 & 11/27

1–3 p.m.

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Forging a New Nation: 1790–1820

This new nation was struggling for identity while striving to be taken seriously. The growing pains of the United States were felt in many ways. The new leaders were tackling national and international political and economic issues while wrestling with brisk internal growth. The character of this fledgling nation was changing rapidly. The men and women of the United States were grappling with new states entering the union, expansion of territory, rebellions and wars, elections, compromises, innovations, and revivals. Who were these citizens forging this new nation and how did they define what kind of nation emerged?

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.

Films of the Coen Brothers

Joel and Ethan Coen are the quintessential definition of independent filmmaking. They operate largely outside Hollywood constraints. The reputation they’ve developed over the years draws outstanding actors to participate in their films for far less than what the actors normally make, budgets and film crews are small, and production is carefully planned. Their style is easily recognizable, but apart from a few notable exceptions, their films are still considered niche, and often they do not appeal to large audiences. Explore the history of these two distinct filmmakers and engage with their triumphs and misfires.

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.

19FMF125 Films of the Coen Brothers

Wednesdays, September 18–December 11

No class 10/9 & 11/27

1–3 p.m.

Wednesday Great Books I

This semester, we’ll continue with the anthology that we began in April: *100 Years of the Best American Short Stories*, edited by Lorrie Moore. This volume contains 40 stories by a wide range of authors including Faulkner and Fitzgerald, Eudora Welty, James Baldwin, Philip Roth, and Joyce Carol Oates. Each discussion is typically led by a class volunteer using the Great Books Shared Inquiry approach of posing interpretative questions. (Volunteering is not a requirement, but most
have found it a very rewarding endeavor.) The leader’s interpretative questions may focus more broadly on facets of a story’s theme, plot, or characters or more narrowly on the significance of a single sentence. In our pursuit of a deep reading experience, we more than welcome diverse opinions; we thrive on them. The objectives for this class are to increase our understanding of the stories and their authors as well as our understanding of our own values and beliefs and those of other members of the class.

Laurie Gershman, MS, is Maryland state certified in both English and Special Education. She taught in two Montgomery County High Schools for 18 years, and had her own tutoring business working with students at all levels of high school English and on the verbal SATS. She has been a member of Wednesday Great Books I since joining Osher in 2017 and ran a Junior Great Books program in her now-grown-children’s elementary school.

**19FMF215 Wednesday Great Books I**  
Wednesdays, September 18–December 11  
No class 10/9 & 11/27  
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 Georgetown 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.

**19FMF225 Wednesday Great Books II**  
Wednesdays, September 18–December 11  
No class 10/9 & 11/27  
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, 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.

19FMF510 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Law
Wednesdays, September 18–October 23, 5 weeks
No class 10/9
1–3 p.m.

19FMF114 On AIR with Strathmore!
Strathmore President and CEO Monica Jeffries Hazangeles gathers Osher participants around the microphone for a personal chat with rising stars from Strathmore’s Artist-in-Residence program. We will interview an eclectic array of current participants and alumni from this signature Strathmore series and listen to them perform some of their favorite repertoire. Come get close to the artistry and anecdotes of these talented musicians!

Monica Jeffries Hazangeles, the President and CEO of Strathmore, ensures the overall success and sustainability of the organization’s strategy rooted in service to the community and its many stakeholders and partners. She is deeply committed to the institution’s programs, employees, and facilities, including the 1976-seat Concert Hall, the Education Center, the historic Mansion, and Strathmore’s first offsite venue, AMP at Pike & Rose, a 230-seat live music and dining space.

19FMF106 The Sounds of Old Russia, Part 1
Thursdays, September 19–December 12
No class 11/28
10 a.m.–12 noon

Thursday
MORNING SESSION

The Sounds of Old Russia, Part 1
Beginning in the 1830s, a century of unforgettable masterpieces of music was created, born out of the struggles to define a Russian identity distinct from German, French, or Italian styles. Following the lead of Mikhail Glinka, who urged Russian music away from the West, a second generation of composers (Balakirev, Borodin, Mussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov and Tchaikovsky) came to prominence. Their symphonic works and operas have been beloved ever since throughout the world. But the Russian tradition did not begin in 1830. This course will introduce early source material found in the music of the Russian Orthodox Church and in the wealth of folk music that preceded modern times. Music from those sources will be integrated into the study of the music that followed, even as the composers themselves honored those ancient traditions.

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.
Can the Democrats Pick a Winner?

A number of Democrats are angling to take on President Trump, who should be beatable. He polls well under 50 percent, and his time in office is marked by scandal and broken promises. Yet he remains surprisingly resilient with a base of support that appears unshakable. Which Democrat can go toe-to-toe with Trump and not get taken down by his mockery and name calling? How far to the progressive left can Democrats go without losing the middle of the country? Can a moderate candidate inspire voters who have lost faith in politics? The class meets as the sorting process gets underway, and we can see which candidates withstand the pressure and the scrutiny, and who falls by the wayside, perhaps before the first votes are cast. There is no more exciting time in politics. 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.

Wisdom in the Bible

Wisdom is clearly a revered attribute in the Bible. When God asks Solomon what does he ask for, all that Solomon wished for was wisdom. In this course we will study biblical and Near Eastern views and understanding of wisdom, and then will study the three biblical books that are called “wisdom literature,” the books of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, which will provide us with vastly different angles on wisdom. If time will allow we may also look at wisdom as reflected in Psalms and Song of Songs.

Gideon Amir, MS, MA, worked and taught in various areas of computer science for 30 years before enrolling in a fulltime 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.

Animals, Human Society, and Cultural Practice

This study group will examine our lives with non-human animals. We have a hundred encounters a day with animals, although likely we think about very few of them: we eat animals, we wear them, and some we invite into our homes. Our beauty, health, and home products are tested on animals. Animals perform for
us and satisfy our need for novelty. Cute animals fill our media pages. More generally, animals are removed from their natural lives, socialities, and habitats and subjected to human pleasures and “education.” Do we ever think about the ramifications of our disconnected way of thinking about animals? Are they ours to use for whatever suits our purposes? Ethically, what do we owe them? Western culture (philosophy and theology) positions animals as subservient to humans. Why does history teach us this? What happens if we begin to rethink our lives with animals? The six weeks in this study group examine, in overview fashion, what Western history teaches about the relations of human and non-human animals; subsequent weeks explore some of the primary ways animals serve us.

Rev. Edward Ingebretsen, PhD, is a Professor of English and Culture at Georgetown University. He holds graduate degrees in humanities, theology, and English, including a PhD from Duke University. His two books explore the intersection of theology and culture: Maps of Heaven, Maps of Hell: Religious Terror as Memory from the Puritans to Stephen King (1995); At Stake: Monsters and A Rhetoric of Fear in Public Culture (2001). Ingebretsen teaches Animals and Justice at Georgetown University. He is currently a District Leader for the Humane Society of the United States.

19FMF880 Animals, Human Society, and Cultural Practice
Thursdays, September 19–October 24, 6 weeks
10 a.m.–12 noon

Africa: The Sleeping Giant
Americans have been taught little about Africa. Usually what is known comes from headlines in the media about corruption, disease, hunger, and the latest coup d’état. There is a rich history of the continent going back millions of years that includes it being the birthplace of mankind. Its size is shocking, it is profuse with diversity in climate, people, and nations. Yet this continent so rich in natural resources has some of the poorest nations in the world, the highest rates of poverty and infant mortality. Why? The truth is that Africans, unlike any other people on our planet, have suffered from over 500 years of colonialism and slavery, and the most brutal genocides the world have ever seen. By 2050 it is projected that the African continent will have the largest number of people and the largest number of youth in the world. Today, Africa is at a turning point. What policies are necessary to secure a prosperous future for Africa? What role should the United States play? As someone who is involved presently in shaping these policies, I will discuss these and many more topics regarding Africa’s past, present, and future.

Lawrence Freeman has been involved in Africa for 30 years. He is a researcher, writer, and speaker on a variety of topics concerning Africa. He provides economic and 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 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.

19FMF560 Africa: The Sleeping Giant
Thursdays, October 31–December 12, 6 weeks
No class 11/28
10 a.m.–12 noon

Thursday
AFTERNOON SESSION

Osher at JHU Lecture Series
Osher at JHU is pleased to offer a roster of Distinguished Guest Lecturers who will share professional expertise, ideas, and experiences. A complete summary can be found on JH Box. An abridged version is provided below.

September 19, Mary McCord, Georgetown University Visiting Professor of Law, Senior Litigator, Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection, addressing New Approach After Charlottesville Violence Protects Public Safety While Preserving Rights.
September 26, Judith E. Heumann, Disability Rights Advocate and Advisor, Ford Foundation, addressing Current Portrayals of Disability in the Media, and How to Transform Outdated and Limited Stereotypes About People with Disabilities That Persist in the Stories We Consume Today.

October 3, Sean McFate, PhD, Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, Professor at Georgetown University and National Defense University, addressing The New Rules of War: Victory in the Age of Durable Disorder.

October 10, Alan Rosenblatt, PhD, Adjunct Professor at George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management, Johns Hopkins University, and American University, addressing How Social Media Has Changed Politics.

October 17, Gloria Jacobovitz, Technology Manager, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, addressing A Woman’s Journey Through Technology and Entrepreneurship.

October 24, Hon. John P. Flannery, II, Esq., Regular Guest Commentator on Law and Politics including the O’Reilly Factor, Hardball with Chris Matthews, and Fox News; former Federal Prosecutor Southern District of NY, addressing Inside the Belly of the Beast—When Congress Investigates Lies, Corruption, and High Crimes and Misdemeanors.

October 31, Dr. Richard Cavanagh, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Director of Special Programs, addressing Research, Standards, and Reliability in Forensic Science.

November 7, Theresa Cardinal Brown, Director of Immigration and Cross-Border Policy, Bipartisan Policy Center, addressing Immigration Reform: Why Is It So Hard?


November 21, David N. Neubauer, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Associate Director of the Johns Hopkins Sleep Disorders Center, addressing Insomnia: Symptoms, Causes, and Treatments.

December 5, Kimberly Wehle, John and Frances Angelos Law Center, University of Baltimore, addressing How to Read the Constitution and Why.

December 12, Wendy Leonard, PhD, MPH, addressing Zebrafish: Untapped Treasure Trove Potentially Leading to Curing Human Diseases.

Alan White, PhD, Guest Lecture Series coordinator, is a former college professor, college administrator, national training program director, and US Department of Defense contract training manager.

19FMF900 Osher at JHU Lecture Series
Thursdays, September 19–December 12
No class 11/28
1–2:30 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 Literacy Society, teaching English to recently arrived immigrants. In addition, he also 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.

19FMF404 Current Events
Thursdays, September 19–December 12
No class 11/28
1–3 p.m.

The Impact of the Ballets Russes:
A Legend that Keeps on Giving

In 2013, the National Gallery of Art showed an exhibition of Ballets Russes costumes which drew world-wide interest. This course will examine major works of the Diaghilev Ballets Russes repertory (1909–1929) which simultaneously shocked and reinvented the classical ballet art form. With its new choreography, modern music, exotic costumes and set designs, as well as exciting dancers, this company became a ballet legend. Subsequent companies with Ballets Russes in the title continued that legend during the first half of the 20th century. Using DVDs as well as biographies and memoirs of choreographers and dancers, the class will relive the Ballets Russes and examine its legacy. No knowledge of ballet required. Class format: Appreciation.

Iris Lipkowitz is a retired Treasury Department analyst and ballet lover whose collection of playbills and programs resides at the AU library. She studied dance for many years and has taught ballet history/appreciation courses since 2004. She holds degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of Southern California.

19FMF110 The Impact of the Ballets Russes:
A Legend that Keeps on Giving
Thursdays, September 19–December 12
No class 11/28
1–3 p.m.

Monstrosity and Metamorphosis:
Imagining Animals in Early Art and Literature

Two dancers of the Ballets Russes in costumes by Coco Chanel, from 1928. Credit Sasha/V&A Images

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19FMF110 The Impact of the Ballets Russes:
A Legend that Keeps on Giving
Thursdays, September 19–December 12
No class 11/28
1–3 p.m.

Monstrosity and Metamorphosis:
Imagining Animals in Early Art and Literature

An animal scene from Homer’s Odyssey: after the men drank Circe’s potion, they morphed into pigs.

From the time of mankind’s earliest artistic expressions on the walls of caves, animals have figured centrally in the human imagination. One can argue, in fact, that much of early art and literature does not differentiate fully between the human and the animal,
that human self-awareness evolved, in part, through interactions with animals, and through the imaginative fusion of human and animal forms. We will begin our study of these animal/human connections with the most ancient displays of human art: cave painting. The artistry of prehistoric man is remarkable: sketched skillfully on walls and ceilings in the deep recesses of caves, animal forms gave powerful, moving expression to the emotional life of our remotest ancestors. Many millennia later, in India, one of the earliest and most influential human civilizations, animals and animal/human hybrids figure again in Hindu art and literature as cogent symbols of human identity. Similarly, the great founding Western civilization of Greece is steeped in animal mythologies, as amply demonstrated in Homer’s *Odyssey*. Fittingly, the literature we will be studying (Indian myths, the *Odyssey*) depict larger-than-life heroic figures who nonetheless represent all of us in their desire to test the limits of being human.

Susan Zimmerman, PhD, is Professor of English Emerita at Queens College, CUNY, and the former editor of the annual journal Shakespeare Studies (2004–2012). She is author of The Early Modern Corpse and Shakespeare’s Theatre as well as numerous articles and reviews, and editor of several collections of essays on early modern culture. She has taught in the MLA program at JHU since 1994, concentrating on poetry and the visual arts, Shakespeare and the film, and animals in early art and literature.

19FMF535 Monstrosity and Metamorphosis: Imagining Animals in Early Art and Literature
Thursdays, September 19–December 12
No class 11/28
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 http://tinyurl.com/y497d2nn.) You’ll be sent a syllabus before the course starts, so you can plan to come to whichever sessions interest you. (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.

19FMF139 Computer Topics
Thursdays, September 19–October 24, 6 weeks
1–3 p.m.

Thursday Great Books
The late 18th and 19th centuries were times of revolution, both social and literary, in the Western world. Using the *Norton Anthology of World Literature* as a guide, we will read and discuss selections pertaining to each of these topics. Readings range through slave narratives, romanticism, and realism. Works will include selections from the life of Frederick Douglas, from the romantic poets, a short story by Flaubert, and a play by Chekhov, among others. This is a discussion class, not a lecture class. Each week we will read one or several pieces, which may be selections from longer works, and the class will discuss them in response to questions posed by the instructor. Diverse opinions are almost sure to surface and are welcomed. As in all Great Books classes, it is hoped that this shared inquiry will enhance understanding of the works by all participants. The text will be the *Norton Anthology of World Literature, Volume E, 3rd edition* (ISBN 978-0-393-91333-0). There are many inexpensive used copies available through Amazon. Class size limited to 25.

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

19FMF203 Thursday Great Books
Thursdays, October 31–December 12, 6 weeks
No class 11/28
1–3 p.m.
How to Register for Osher at JHU Courses

Advance registration is required. Space permitting, registrations are accepted until the start of class. However, members are encouraged to register early.

The Osher office offers five easy ways to register.

ONLINE
You may register for Osher courses online at www.oshers.jhu.edu and pay by credit card. JHU faculty, staff, and retirees receiving the tuition remission benefit may not use the online option. Please call the Osher office at 301-294-7047.

BY MAIL
Mail the registration form to Osher at Johns Hopkins University, 9601 Medical Center Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 with your tuition. Pay by VISA, Mastercard, Discover, American Express, or check.

BY TELEPHONE
You may register by telephone Monday through Friday and pay by credit card. Please be prepared to provide the information requested on the registration form and call the registration office at 301-294-7047.

BY FAX
Members who pay by credit card may fax their completed registration form to the Osher Program at 301-294-7010.

BY EMAIL
Members who pay by credit card may email their completed registration form by scanning and emailing it to osher@jhu.edu. Type “MCC” in the subject line.

VOLUNTEER
Volunteers are vital to our success and opportunities abound. Osher at JHU’s Advisory Board consists of standing committees (Curriculum, Fundraising, Hospitality, Journal, Membership, Teaching Assistants, and Travel) who help find and evaluate instructors, plan social activities, orient and assist new members, and support faculty in the classroom. Volunteers help create exciting and educational travel opportunities, and a semi-annual literary publication tailored to the membership. Volunteering enriches the Osher experience as you:
- Meet new people
- Share your skills, expertise, and life experience
- Provide input into curriculum and programming
- Contribute to social and travel opportunities

To learn more, send an email to osher@jhu.edu and/or check your committees of interest on your registration form.

DONATE
Endowment income from the Osher Foundation and annual membership fees cover most—but not all—program costs for Osher at JHU. Income from legacy gifts and member donations close the gap between program income and costs.

Your gift supports:
- Increased programming
- Faculty retention and recruitment
- Technology Improvements
- Scholarships
- Operating expenses not covered by membership fees

To donate, look for the “Give to the Friends of Osher” section on your registration form, or visit www.oshers.jhu.edu, and click Make a Donation.
# Osher at JHU

## Montgomery County Campus

### Fall 2019

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