Summer 2024
at Carnegie Mellon University | cmu.edu/osopher
CONSIDER A GIFT TO OSHER
To make a contribution to the Osher Annual Fund, call the office at 412-268-7489, visit your Osher Augustsoft account with a credit card, or mail a check to the office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sophomore Faces
In the basement of the University Center is a series of self-portraits. For many years sophomore students in Ron Bennett’s Introduction to Foundry class would mold their own faces through a process using wax, plaster and finally aluminum to learn the technical aspects of casting. As a result, more sculptures were added annually until Bennett retired.

Cover photo: Carnegie Mellon University
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Look for the 42 NEW! courses being offered this term!
Courses being held at Wilkins Community Center are now listed in the CMU Campus section of the catalog.

Some art, cooking, language, and destination courses are featured in the Community Site portion of the catalog.

Check them out too!
### Zoom Courses: pgs. 34 - 50

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTS &amp; HUMANITIES</th>
<th>LEARN BY DOING</th>
<th>SCIENCE</th>
<th>SOCIAL SCIENCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Self Improvement</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Contemporary Topics / Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinema/Film</td>
<td>Wellness</td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS &amp; COMMERCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Community Site Courses: pgs. 52 - 57

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTS &amp; HUMANITIES</th>
<th>LEARN BY DOING</th>
<th>SOCIAL SCIENCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dance / Exercise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Music &amp; Drama</td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The course descriptions and biographies have been edited with an eye to preserving the voice and spirit of our study leaders.

For information about the NRC Osher Online courses, please see our website cmu.edu/osher and click on the “NRC’s Osher Online” tab across the top.
CMU CAMPUS
5000 FORBES AVE., PITTSBURGH, PA 15213

Classes in this section will be held on the Carnegie Mellon University campus or Wilkins Community Center.
ART

Human History Through Fiber

*Study Leader: Howard Seltman, Kathy McIntyre-Seltman*

- 5 Classes: May 7 – Jun. 11*
- Tuesday, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

*Note: Class will not meet on Jun. 4*

The history of textiles is really the history of human civilization; however, unlike stone or metals, fiber is poorly preserved in the archeologic record. In this class, we will explore the prehistory and history of fiber arts, looking at the cultural and economic roles of textiles throughout the world. We will visit the history and technology of flax, cotton, silk and wool agriculture, and the use of dyes. We will see how threads and fabrics are produced by braiding, spinning, knitting, and weaving. While most fiber production is industrialized, we will also look at the preservation of hand crafted yarns and textiles today.

Howard Seltman is a retired pathologist and statistician who has been weaving for 5 years.

Kathy McIntyre-Seltman is a retired gynecologic surgeon who has worked with macrame, needlepoint, spinning, and crochet for 60 years.

CINEMA/FILM

Golden Age Of Hollywood History

*Study Leader: Melanie Novak*

- 6 Classes: Jul. 3 – Aug. 7
- Wednesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

From 1930-1950, Hollywood produced a slew of groundbreaking and foundational films. This survey course will explore twenty years of early Hollywood history and the impact technology, culture, and war had on films. We'll start with the earliest talking films and discuss how censorship and the production code governed what could be shown on screen. We'll discuss the impact of the Great Depression and World War II on filmmaking, and the changing attitudes of audiences throughout these events. Students will view the films on their own prior to class, then discuss the film in class. Study Leader will apprise students of streaming apps for each film prior to the first class.

Melanie Novak is a self-taught film historian who has been watching classic films her entire life. In 2020, she began a blog on classic films. Her posts are part film review, part stories of the lives of those on and off camera who made the films that dominate America's cannon. Since 2022, she's given over a dozen lectures at local Carnegie Library branches covering topics such as "Classic Hollywood's Greatest Rivals", "The Life and Films of James Stewart", and "Bogart and Bacall: Hollywood's Greatest Romance".
LITERATURE

Mary & Percy Shelley: Romantic Rebels

*Study Leader:* Jon Klancher

- 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6
- Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Class ID: 5100

This course explores the tumultuous marriage and literary partnership of two incredibly influential Romantic authors, Mary and Percy Bysshe Shelley. These writers pioneered several genres – Gothic horror and science fiction in Mary’s *Frankenstein* (1818), and political poems and visionary lyrics in Percy’s *Ozymandias*, *Ode to the West Wind*, *Prometheus Unbound* and *The Mask of Anarchy*. (1816-1820). We will ask why *Frankenstein* has become a feminist classic, and how the novel opened up the darker side of the Shelley’s marriage. We will also consider a fascinating modern update of Mary’s masterpiece, *Poor Things* (2023), with Emma Stone as a heroine based on Shelley’s Creature. This wildly imaginative film is based on both Mary’s astonishingly original first novel and Percy’s revolutionary ideas and poems.

*Jon Klancher* (PhD, UCLA 1980) is retired after teaching 42 years at Carnegie Mellon, Boston University, and other schools. He has held a Guggenheim and other fellowships, published three books, and authored many essays. He has also taught in a range of adult schools beyond regular university courses in Los Angeles and Boston. His long-time special interest is how literary writers use the novel and poetic genres to challenge dominant ideas and genres in both their time and ours.

American Nature

*Study Leader:* Joan Cucinotta

- 5 Classes: Jul. 3 – Jul. 31
- Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Class ID: 5089

You might think that when Americans think of Nature we think of purple mountain majesties and fruited plains (“America the Beautiful”), but that has not always been the case. The Puritans, for example, were quite wary, believing that Nature was easily a threat and needed constant control. At the other end of the spectrum are contemporary concerns about climate change that predict human suffering resulting from human interference in Nature’s balancing forces. In this course we will follow the shifting American vision of nature from the Puritans through the Romantics and Realists and into the contemporary visions in climate fiction. Some of the authors we will read are Nathaniel Hawthorne, Washington Irving, Edgar Allen Poe, Stephen Crane, Jack London, Mark Twain, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Annie Dillard.

*Joan Cucinotta* earned a Ph.D. in English from Duquesne University and taught at Sewickley Academy for almost forty years. As the chair of the English department there, she developed coursework related to required courses in American Literature. She also ran the Chinese exchange there and taught English at a high school in Wuhan, China. Since she retired, she has been writing book reviews for the League of Women Voters’ Book Club in addition to volunteering at EngIn, a nonprofit that pairs Ukrainians with English speakers for online language instruction.
Ekphrastic Poetry II

Study Leader: Rebecca Carpenter, Nancy Quick Langer

• 5 Classes: May 7 – Jun. 4
• Tuesday, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
• Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Ekphrastic Poetry II is a new installment of the previous Ekphrastic Poetry class. You need not have taken the first class to take this next version. Ekphrastic poetry is written about a real or imagined work of art. It can be a poem revealing the thoughts of Frida Kahlo’s self-portrait or the power in the scraps of a Joseph Cornell collage or the hidden motives of the painter of Henry VIII. In this course, we will look at the artist and the art that inspired a poet, or, in one case, the poem that inspired a famous painting. Included will be works by Tennyson, Holbein, Hopper, Kahlo, Waterhouse, and Cornell. But the real fun will be on the last day of class when those who wish to can share their own ekphrastic poem about a work of art they select early in the course. And the Study Leaders will, too!

Rebecca Carpenter has been an educator for almost 40 years. She taught English literature and writing in both public and private high schools, college, and graduate school. In addition, she taught English in Duquesne University’s School of Leadership and Professional Advancement’s Saturday program for 25 years. After 19 years, she recently retired from Literacy Pittsburgh where she taught adult literacy classes, trained volunteers, and developed and managed special projects, including Health Literacy.

Nancy Quick Langer is a writer, a teacher, an avid gardener, and an embroidery artist. She has taught English literature and writing for over 25 years at Boston College, Carlow University, CCAC, and Duquesne University’s School of Leadership and Professional Advancement. Her creative nonfiction has appeared in Watershed Review, Santa Ana River Review, and most recently, Meditating on What Matters. In addition to writing essays, Nancy records the progress of her botanically inspired hand embroidery projects on her Instagram (@nancy ql). Her embroidery pieces have been part of several local juried art exhibitions, including the Three Rivers Arts Festival.

"Such Friends": The Literary 1920s

Study Leader: Kathleen Dixon Donnelly

• 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25
• Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
• Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

The 1920s were a swinging era, with exciting developments happening in the arts, particularly literature. Paris and New York City were both centers of creative activity, with groups of American writers socializing together. We will focus on the relationships among the American ex-patriates in Paris, who visited Gertrude Stein’s salon and Sylvia Beach’s bookstore, as well as New York’s Algonquin Round Table who started The New Yorker magazine and lunched regularly at the Algonquin Hotel. Nearby, Scribner’s editor Maxwell Perkins was guiding the budding careers of novelists such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway. A suggested reading list will be provided, but no reading or textbooks are required.

Kathleen Dixon Donnelly, Ph.D., recently retired as Senior Lecturer at Birmingham [UK] City University to relocate to her hometown of Pittsburgh. The topic of her research for her degree from Dublin City University was early 20th century writers’ salons in Dublin, London, Paris and New York City. She has given presentations about the writers in lifelong learning programs in both the UK and the US. Kathleen regularly posts a blog, “Such Friends”: 100 Years Ago at suchfriends.wordpress.com, which has been collected into the series, Such Friends: The Literary 1920s. Volumes I through IV covering 1920 through 1923 are available on Amazon in both print and e-book versions. She lives in Highland Park with her husband, Tony Dixon, and their two cats, Gertrude Stein and Robert Benchley.
**ECONOMICS**

**Introduction To Political Economy**

*Study Leader: Ken Borghese*

- 6 Classes: Jul. – Aug. 6  
- Class ID: 5104  
- Tuesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Introduction to Political Economy (IPE) / from the Left, Center, and Right. Centered on the Sunday *NY-Times Opinion & Business* sections, BBC.com/news, and especially from project-syndicate.org, this course complements the highly successful *New Yorker* discussion classes currently underway at Osher, and uses the same format—a 90-minute class with 2-3 short articles for discussion. Additional articles from the Sunday *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, or *New Yorker* magazine are also possible. The non-required reading list for this course is - from the Left (James Morris, *Thoughts of a Reformed Computer Scientist*, 2021); from the Center (Dani Rodrik, *Straight Talk on Trade*, 2018); and from the Right, (Deirdre McCloskey, *Bourgeois Equality*, 2016, Vol. 3).

Ken Borghese is a retired Senior Economist from the Federal Government in Washington DC. He has a B.A. (with Honors) in Economics from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in Economics from George Washington University, (which he completed, year-round-at-night, while working full-time at the International Monetary Fund, Federal Reserve System, and US Department of Commerce, respectively). On balance, he has 30+ years' experience working within six blocks of the White House, (during which he has authored numerous policy papers for USG Agency Principals), including a “short stint” at the US Executive Director’s Office at the World Bank (IBRD). During 2016 and 2017, he was as a member of USG delegation to G20 Development Working Group (DWG) meetings in Xiamen China, and Hamburg Germany, respectively. During June 2009 - he was a member of USG delegation to U.N. Conference (New York City) on the Impact of the 2008 Financial Crisis on Development. A Pittsburgh “expat,” he grew up a couple miles from Oliver High School (on the north side), and he vividly remembers watching Roberto Clemente's amazing baseball skills at Forbes Field.

**LAW**

**Criminal Justice Reform In Allegheny County**

*Study Leader: Frederick Thieman*

- 1 Class: Jun. 26  
- Class ID: 5084  
- Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

In the 1960s, the American criminal justice system, albeit nestled within a society still struggling for equality, was widely seen as a model for the rest of the world. Within decades, its incarceration rates would increase sevenfold, its cost would balloon to $80 billion annually, and it would be condemned as unjust and unfair. How did this happen and why has the war on crime failed so completely? As important, a new report recently released by the University of Pittsburgh’s Institute of Politics identifies a range of racial disparities embedded within the system. This course will explore the failures of the criminal justice system, reasons behind the disparities, and how it might be reformed.

Frederick W. Thieman most recently served as the Henry Buhl, Jr. Chair for Civic Leadership. Prior to that, he served for nearly a decade (2007-2016) as President of the Buhl Foundation, Pittsburgh's oldest multi-purpose foundation. As President of Buhl, Mr. Thieman was recognized for his leadership on important community initiatives in education, youth development, and human services, while also guiding the Foundation to a place-based focus on the Northside of Pittsburgh. Over the course of a 30-year legal career, Mr. Thieman practiced as a trial attorney with a specialty in white-collar crime and complex business-related litigation. While practicing law, Mr. Thieman was recognized in professional journals as one of the leading attorneys in Pennsylvania. He also served as the Presidentially appointed United States Attorney from 1993 to 1997 where he received national attention for his youth crime prevention work. Mr. Thieman graduated magna cum laude from Pitt Law School in 1977, served as a law clerk for the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and is the recipient of numerous civic leadership awards from organizations such as the University of Pittsburgh, Urban League, Community College of Allegheny County, League of Women Voters, the Mentoring Partnership and the Academy of Trial Lawyers.
Nature Journaling

Study Leader: Betsy Bangley

- 4 Classes: May 9 – May 30
- Thursday, 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

Discover the joy of connecting with nature. Nature journaling allows you to slow down, practice mindfulness, and make discoveries about the place where you live, while building your observational drawing skills. We will begin each session indoors with practice activities and inspiration, before going outdoors to make observations & drawings on the CMU campus. This class involves walking & sitting outdoors. Please dress for the weather and bring a sketchbook and favorite drawing materials (pencil, eraser, sharpener, colored pencils). Ideal for beginners and those who want to enrich their lives with a mindful practice of nature observation.

Please note: sketch books, pencil, and color pencils are required for this course

Betsy Bangley has had a lifelong love of drawing. She has kept a nature journal of sketches and observations for over 20 years, and currently teaches drawing, watercolor painting, art journaling, and other courses in the arts and humanities at the Community College of Beaver County through the Continuing Education and Workforce Development Department.

The Modern Art Of Flower Arranging: Sogetsu Ikebana

Study Leader: Brittany Reilly

Materials Fee: $45*

- 1 Class: Jul. 3
- Wednesday, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

Ikebana - the Japanese art of “bringing life to flowers” - is a fascinating practice dating back to the sixth century. Throughout the decades, many styles and schools of ikebana developed, ranging from harmonious and traditional, to innovative and avant-garde. This one-day course will begin with a slide lecture on the history of ikebana with a focus on the Sogetsu school of ikebana, a modern approach founded in 1927, which remains immensely popular and widely practiced today. Key concepts and styles will be highlighted to express the various forms of Sogetsu and settings it can be presented in. Following the talk, a demonstration will illustrate how to create a Sogetsu Ikebana arrangement. Students will then create their own ikebana arrangement from start to finish with the guidance of the instructor. A materials fee will cover fresh flower material for each student and supplies.

Brittany Reilly has been an active member of Ikebana International Pittsburgh Chapter since 2018, and has practiced the Sogetsu curriculum for six years with the Sogetsu Pittsburgh Study Group, founded in 1990 by Reiko Nakajima. In addition to monthly workshops and private study sessions, the group introduces the art form to the public and community through collaborations with various organizations, venues and artists. They have participated in special projects including an exclusive installation of ikebana presented throughout historic Fallingwater (September 2023) and a multidisciplinary exhibition in collaboration with Contemporary Craft (September 2024). Past Sogetsu Ikebana exhibitions have included projects at the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Andy Warhol Museum, Phipps Conservatory, the Cleveland Botanic Garden and many more. Brittany has worked extensively with contemporary artists and modern art collections throughout her career in the visual arts. She is the Executive Director of the Irving and Aaronel deRoy Gruber Foundation, and serves on the Board of Directors of Preservation Pittsburgh.

*Materials fee information located on page 71.
CRAFTS/HOBBIES

Researching Your Family History

*Study Leader: Mark Banister*

- 4 Classes: May 7 – May 28  
- Tuesday, 2:15 PM - 3:45 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

This course is designed for both those just starting to investigate their family history research, as well as for more experienced people who may have hit a snag and are looking for a hint or a reason to re-start. We will talk about on-line resources as well as church, library, and governmental records. Also, DNA testing help. Many of us run into conflicting information, and we will consider how to view that data. Please bring any questions you have from your own research to the class.

*Mark Banister* has been researching his family history for nearly 50 years and has a wide range of experiences and resources to bring to this course. His family tree software has over 7500 names! Prior to his retirement in 2017, he was in the Environmental Safety and Health office of Carnegie Mellon.

Photography:
One’s Own Assignment

*Study Leader: Charlee Brodsky*

- 5 Classes: May 7 – Jun. 4  
- Tuesday, 12:15 PM - 2:15 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Hawkins Conference Room

This is not a photo course for beginners. It is for photographers who are comfortable with photo technique who want to pursue their own on-going project; for those who want to explore their personal vision; or for others who want to challenge themselves with subjects or techniques that expose them to new ways of seeing and creating. Participants will produce a portfolio of work that probes one’s own assignment and delves deeply into an area of personal interest. The small class size will allow for in-depth critique by class participants and the instructor.

*Charlee Brodsky*, a fine art/documentary photographer and emeritus professor of photography at Carnegie Mellon University, describes her work as dealing with social issues and beauty. A selection of her awards includes the Tillie Olsen Award with Jim Daniels for their book, *Street*; an Emmy with the film team that created the documentary, *Stephanie*, which is based on her friend’s life with breast cancer; two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts fellowships; an Honored Educator award given by the Society for Photographic Education, Mid-Atlantic Region. Among the books she’s authored are *Knowing Stephanie* and *I Thought I Could Fly*. Ms. Brodsky’s new work, *The Audacity of the Mundane*, a series of still lifes, was recently exhibited at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden. The BE Gallery in Lawrenceville handles her work.
**CULINARY**

**Exploring Italy Through Wine**

*Study Leader:* Barb Pezze

- **4 Classes:** May 9 – May 30  
- **Class ID:** 5073
- **Thursday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**
- **Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room**

Do you love Italy? Do you love wine? During this class we will explore Italy through its wine. Grape vines have been cultivated in Italy for over 3,000 years and a lot has happened during that time! Today, Italy leads the world in wine production and is a leader in imports into the U.S. Learn about what makes Italy unique in the world of wine and dive into the varieties of its major regions to see how history, geography, climate, culture, and producers influence wine. The class will be broken into four parts: an overview of Italian wine, Northern Italy, Central Italy, and Southern Italy. During each class you will taste representative wines of that region and discuss their characteristics. The class will be augmented with lots of photos that will make you feel like you are visiting in person (without the hassle of travel!)

Barb Pezze retired from Alcoa after 31 years in IT, Consulting and Ethics and Compliance. During her career she was fortunate to travel around the globe where she discovered her love of wine—Italian wine in particular! Since retiring, Barb obtained WSET I and II certifications and achieved highest honors as an Italian Wine Scholar (which she says was more difficult than any IT class she ever took!). Barb and her husband, Gary (a retired Metallurgical engineer), have since started VinoNomad, a wine education business. Today they hold wine classes for small groups in the home or at events.

**DANCE/EXERCISE**

**Brain Health & Better Balance Through Dalcroze**

*Study Leader:* Leslie Upchurch

- **3 Classes:** Jul. 10 – Jul. 24  
- **Class ID:** 5091
- **Wednesday, 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM**
- **College of Fine Arts, Alumni Concert Hall**

Brain Health And Better Balance Through Dalcroze Eurhythmics is a class for active seniors and other adults interested in improving their mental clarity and balance. Swiss musician, composer, conductor, and pedagogue Émile Jaques-Dalcroze devised the process of Eurhythmics in the early 20th century. Eurhythmics means good rhythm. The discipline teaches movement in time to music from Mozart minuets to jazz improvisations. Participants walk and turn around, stay in step with changing tempos, learn to shift weight and balance, handle objects while walking, and make elegant gestures. For seniors, Dalcroze Eurhythmics can improve balance and reduce the risk of falling. In a study, senior citizens cut their risk of falling by 50% after taking classes for six months.

Leslie Purcell Upchurch, daughter of the late CMU alum and Pittsburgh band leader Jack Purcell, is the instructor. She also teaches the class in New York City at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan. She is on the faculty of the Marta Sanchez Dalcroze Training Program at Carnegie Mellon and is excited to be able to share her Dalcroze NYC initiative with seniors in the Pittsburgh area. She has a BFA in piano from CMU, an MM in music from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a license in Dalcroze Eurhythmics from CMU.
**FINANCE/INSURANCE**

**Saving Taxes In Retirement**

*Study Leader: Bud Kahn*

- 5 Classes: May 15 – Jun. 12  
  Class ID: 5003  
- Wednesday, 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Diligent savers enter the second half of retirement with little insight into the complex tax and distribution planning dangers that can wipe away the sacrifice made during their working years. This course is designed to educate participants about how to keep more of their retirement savings by effective use of planning opportunities available under current tax laws. This course is updated annually to reflect new legislative developments and tax planning opportunities.

*Bud Kahn*, a Pittsburgh-based wealth manager, is the founder and Managing Principal of WMS Wealth Planners, with offices in Aspinwall and Greensburg. Bud is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, with a bachelor’s degree in economics and an MBA in accounting and finance. He also earned a master’s degree in taxation at Robert Morris College and has completed executive education programs at Carnegie Mellon University, the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Booth School of Business at the University of Chicago. Bud is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Financial Planner, Certified Investment Management Analyst, Certified Private Wealth Advisor, and Accredited Estate Planner. Bud is also a member of Ed Slott’s Elite Advisor Study Group, in which he studies the complexities of IRAs to help his clients with the tax and distribution planning strategies necessary to achieve financial security.

**GAMES**

**Four Hands**

*Study Leader: Jack Patzer*

- 5 Classes: Jul. 10 – Aug. 7  
  Class ID: 5038  
- Wednesday, 2:45 PM - 4:45 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

Enhance your bridge skills: play a potpourri of four hands of bridge drawn from bridge columns and expert writings in Zoom breakout rooms each meeting. Each hand is followed by a general Zoom discussion of how the “experts” bid and played the hand. Discussion topics will generally include the bidding, choice of opening lead, defender strategies, and declarer strategies. Because participants will be randomly paired with other players, all are expected to be conversant with, and employ, basic SAYC (Standard American Yellow Card) bidding and Jacobi 2NT, Unusual 2NT, transfers, Stayman, Michaels, Gerber, and Blackwood conventions.

*Jack Patzer* has been playing bridge for more than 50 years. He is an experienced beginning bridge guide (Bridge Basics 1, 2, 3, 4) who enjoys introducing “newbies” to the game. Although he and his favorite partner have played duplicate on and off over many years (even once winning a sanctioned tournament on a cruise ship), Jack prefers the relaxed social atmosphere of a friendly “party” bridge game. Also, he thought that Four Hands might be a fun way to spend a long winter evening!
Let’s Play Some Bridge

Study Leader: Sherri Davis

- 6 Classes: May 8 – Jun. 12  Class ID: 5074
- Tuesday, 2:15 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

- 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6  Class ID: 5075
- Tuesday, 12:45 PM - 2:45 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

The most effective way to improve your bridge game is by playing. This course is a “learn by doing” experience in which participants will play and then discuss 4-5 deals every week. The deals will be set up in advance by the Study Leader, and each deal will be designed to demonstrate one or more finer points of the game. Participants will be encouraged to submit challenging deals that they would like the class to play and discuss.

Sherri L. Davis was a consultant at a wealth-management firm and an attorney in both New York and Pittsburgh. Upon retirement, she discovered the challenges of the game of Bridge. As a result, she is the happiest retired person on the planet. She is delighted to share her knowledge and enthusiasm with other Osher members who love playing bridge.

Trivia Jeopardy! Style

Study Leader: Howard Seltman

- 2 Classes: Jun. 20 and Jun. 27  Class ID: 5061
- Thursday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

This class will be in the form of the popular trivia game show Jeopardy! Students will be randomly offered the chance to be one of the three participants for each of six games over two weeks. Guessing the answers and cheering on your friends is also fun if you are not chosen. There will be real buzzers and the format will closely follow the TV show. Winning brings bragging rights, but no cash. Categories will range widely with some emphasis on the 1950s to 1970s and avoiding current popular culture.

Howard Seltman, MD, PhD worked as a clinical pathologist and then as a statistics professor. He retired as Director of the Masters in Statistical Practice program in the CMU Department of Statistics and Data Science in 2019.

Native Plant Gardening

Study Leader: Sarah Flanders

- 4 Classes: May 8 – May 29  Class ID: 5019
- Wednesday, 3:15 PM - 4:45 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

- 4 Classes: Jul. 3 – Jul. 24  Class ID: 5020
- Wednesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Do you want to garden with native plants, but don’t know how to work with plants which have not been bred for large blooms and compact growth habits? Wondering where to find native plants when your local garden shop only sells the same old petunias and impatiens? Well, don’t give up, because the birds need you! In this presentation, I will show why you are directly supporting endangered species when you garden with natives. Their semi-wild style is modern, fresh, and in keeping with a worldwide movement to better appreciate our natural world. Native plantings benefit from informed design, including proper plant choices, structural hardscaping and the judicious addition of non-native plants chosen for color, shape and wildlife benefit. I will provide information on local sourcing of native plants, as well as important tips on how to grow them from seed.

Sarah Flanders has been gardening with native plants for several years, transitioning her traditional Squirrel Hill garden to a primarily native landscape. She is a founding member of the Western Pennsylvania chapter of Wild Ones. Wild Ones promotes environmentally friendly, sound landscaping to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities. She is certified as a native plant identifier and seed collector by Project Wingspan, a multi-year Landscape Enhancement program for Imperiled Pollinators of the Midwest and Great Lakes Region, part of the non-profit Pollinator Partnership.
SELF IMPROVEMENT

What’s Next???

Study Leader: Chrys Gabrich, Dorothy Gracey

- 2 Classes: Jun. 20 and Jun. 27
- Class ID: 5072
- Thursday, 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

This will be a course on volunteer opportunities in our area. Students will be encouraged to think of ways they can utilize their prior skills, knowledge, and wisdom to put their talents to good use. This course will explore volunteerism by focusing on its benefits and drawbacks, analyzing the social and economic needs of the Pittsburgh region, and discovering a wide range of opportunities to support not-for-profit organizations in our area. Guest speakers from several organizations will be invited to our class, and students will be given an opportunity to share their experiences. Now is the time to think about giving back to our community and supporting others in need. It will ask the students in the class to discover “what’s next for you personally?”

Chrys Gabrich's personal and professional life have both focused on lifelong learning and education. She earned a Ph.D. in Communication and Rhetoric from the University of Pittsburgh where she also taught as an adjunct faculty member. After leaving Pitt, Chrys spent 35 years at Carlow University where she was awarded Professor Emerita in Communication. In addition to teaching, she held numerous administrative positions including Chair of the Communication Department, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Interim Director of the Social Justice Institute. While at Carlow, Chrys initiated Mercy Service Day where first year students participate in a day of volunteer service at local community non-profits. This event started in 2005 and continues to this day. Chrys also has been engaged in a variety of volunteer experiences and currently serves on the Osher Curriculum Committee.

Dorothy “Dot” Gracey began her career as an accountant and small business owner. She returned to school as a lifelong learner for her masters and doctoral degrees later in life. She earned a D.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) and taught as a full-time adjunct faculty member in IUP’s Eberly College of Business and Information Technology for several years before being named Assistant Dean for Student and Alumni Services and subsequently the Associate Dean in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She recently retired and works as a volunteer for several organizations, including Osher.

AARP Smart Driver
8-Hour Initial Course

Study Leader: David Zimmer

- 4 Classes: May 21 – Jun. 11
- Class ID: 5078
- Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

The updated AARP Smart Driver Course features the most informative and relevant content from previous course editions—updated to reflect current state regulations and the latest driver safety and transportation innovations. Thanks to recommendations from external researchers and experienced volunteers, some exciting new content is featured in the course, such as mental focus, roundabouts, alternative intersections, sharing the road, future actions worksheet, finding travel options, and expanded information on automobile technology. Attendance at all eight hours of this course is required for receiving the Completion Certificate to provide to your insurance company. More than just saving money, the course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road.

Please note: More than just saving money, the course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road. Cost: AARP Member $20, Non AARP Member $25. Payable by check to AARP (instructor will collect payment).

David Zimmer has been an Osher Study Leader for AARP Smart Driver since 2016. He is on the AARP Working Group creating the Smart Diver Virtual Course and taught the first Virtual AARP Smart Driver course in the country here at Osher at CMU. David is a retired nurse specializing in Intensive Care, Trauma and Pre-hospital care.

*Materials fee information located on page 71.
AARP Smart Driver Refresher Course

Study Leader: David Zimmer

Materials Fee: $25*

• 2 Classes: May 7 and May 14       Class ID: 5079
• Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
• Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

This course is intended for those who have taken an AARP Smart Driver Course within the past three years. The updated AARP Smart Driver Course features the most informative and relevant content from previous course editions—updated to reflect current state regulations and the latest driver safety and transportation innovations. Thanks to recommendations from external researchers and experienced volunteers, some exciting new content is featured in the course, such as mental focus, roundabouts, alternative intersections, sharing the road, future actions worksheet, finding travel options, and expanded information on automobile technology. Attendance at all four hours of this course is required for receiving the Completion Certificate to provide to your insurance company.

Please note: More than just saving money, the course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road. Cost: AARP Member $20, Non AARP Member $25. Payable by check to AARP (instructor will collect payment).

David Zimmer has been an Osher Study Leader for AARP Smart Driver since 2016. He is on the AARP Working Group creating the Smart Driver Virtual Course and taught the first Virtual AARP Smart Driver course in the country here at Osher at CMU. David is a retired nurse specializing in Intensive Care, Trauma and Pre-hospital care.

*Materials fee information located on page 71.

Massage For Health And Happiness

Study Leader: Mary Duquin

• 5 Classes: Jul. 10 – Aug. 7        Class ID: 5037
• Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
• Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

This massage workshop is designed for people who would like to learn more about the physical and psychological benefits of therapeutic massage. The instructor will guide students in hands-on skill development in a variety of massage techniques that alleviate pain and tension in head, neck, shoulders, back, hips, hands, arms, legs, and feet. Techniques intended for self-care will be taught, in addition to massage skills that will benefit family members of all ages. The course will also include the history and scientific basis of massage as a therapeutic tool; massage for special populations; the stresses of aging; and the relationship of massage to joint mobilization, exercise, and relaxation. This is a beginner’s class – no prior experience in massage is necessary.

Mary Duquin received her PhD at Stanford University in Education and taught at the University of Pittsburgh from 1974 to 2013 in the Department of Health and Physical Activity where she taught the psychology, sociology and philosophy of sport, health and physical activity. She became a Massage Therapist in 1991 and taught massage therapy as a graduate course at the University of Pittsburgh from 1991 to 2008. She has taught massage therapy to various age groups including grandparents raising grandchildren. Mary Duquin was a Licensed Massage Therapist and maintained a massage practice from 1991 to 2020.
Verbal Self Defense For Women

Study Leader: Jackie Umans

- 1 Class: Jun. 18
- Tuesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

Your voice is your first line of defense against being mugged. Muggers will often “interview” their victims beforehand by saying or doing something intimidating. Knowing what to say is not as important as knowing how to say it. If you are soft spoken and polite, the mugger is more likely to believe that you would make an easy target. We all have within us an inner fierceness that can knock a mugger off his stride. The purpose of this course is to provide a safe place for practicing how to say “No!” in a way that maximizes our chances for driving away the mugger.

Jackie Umans has an MBA and a Ph.D from the University of Pittsburgh and has completed multiple self-defense classes from the internationally renowned Model Mugging School of Self-Defense. Over the past 28 years Jackie has repelled potential muggers on two separate occasions solely by using verbal techniques.

WRITING

Poetry 101: Rhyme, Rhythm, Structure

Study Leader: Laura McGinnis

- 5 Classes: May 8 – Jun. 5
- Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

This class will look at basic elements and forms of traditional poetry. While contemporary poetry is generally written in blank or free verse, there is value in knowing the basic components of structured poetry. The theme of this class, then, is “Learn the rules like a pro so you can break them like an artist” (Pablo Picasso). The class will provide opportunities for participants to write and share their poems as we work through the fundamental components of formal poetry. Writing will be expected, but, of course, sharing will always be optional and confidential (within the class).

Laura McGinnis, after a forty-year career in technology, is enjoying her retirement and has found a new love in writing. Her poems have been included in collections published by Clarendon House, Poetry Quarterly, Indie Blu(e), and Sweetycat Press, and Madwomen in the Attic. She is a member of the Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning at the University of Pittsburgh, where she has served as an instructor in poetry, and at Carnegie Mellon University. She is also a participant of Madwomen in the Attic at Carlow University. Her chapbook, How to Grieve, a cancer journal, is in print with Bottleneck Press. She lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Planning your trip to campus?

Detailed parking & transportation information can be found on pages 32-33 of this catalog or on our website, cmu.edu/usher/about/parking.html.
Writers’ Workshop

Study Leader: Thalia Snyder

- 6 Classes: May 8 – June. 12  
- Class ID: 5063
- Wednesday, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Hawkins Conference Room

Would you like to connect to fellow classmates through your writing? This workshop will get your creative juices flowing. We will begin each session with an in-class writing exercise. In addition, you will be asked to submit a writing assignment in the form of essay, poetry, memoir, fiction, or creative nonfiction each week, which will be discussed the following week. You will discover what your classmates appreciated about your piece, what they didn’t understand, and how you might improve your writing. We support and encourage each other in the process of putting words on paper.

Please note: This course requires that a piece of writing, limited to 1200 words, be submitted to the study leader each week. Please register only if you can attend 5 of the 6 sessions and can limit your weekly writing submission to 1200 words.

Thalia Snyder is a writer, actor, retired dentist and language enthusiast. She studied theater at Northwestern University where she graduated with a B.A. in Russian language and literature. From the University of Pittsburgh, she earned an MA in Slavic Languages and literature as well as a DMD and MS in prosthodontics. She taught at the University of Texas School of Dentistry in Houston and worked in private practice. She narrates books as a voiceover artist at Library of Accessible Media for Pennsylvanians (LAMP). She writes poetry and memoir. Her work was published in Signatures (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Carnegie Mellon University, 2016). Thalia has been a joyful member of Writers’ Workshop for many years.

Writing For Self Discovery

Study Leader: Bruce Goldstein

- 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6  
- Class ID: 5066
- Tuesday, 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM
- Cyert Hall, Hawkins Conference Room

What do you know about your life? One way to find out is to write short essays on things such as (1) an event from your childhood, (2) a dramatic life-event (3) something you are dealing with now or have dealt with recently, (4) an important decision that changed your life. The class will consist of some discussion and writing exercises but most of the time will be devoted to providing feedback to each person about how their essay is written. Most people who take this class gain insights into their own lives and a deep appreciation for the other people in the class. Register only if you are committed to attending every session of the class, writing weekly essays, and are open to receiving constructive feedback about your writing. You will also need to be able to email your essays to the other students in the class.

Please note: To take this course, you must (1) commit to attending at least 5 of the 6 sessions, and (2) be able to create your essays as a Word document or pdf file and attach your essay to an email which you will send to each person in the class. Please register only if you can meet both of these requirements.

Bruce Goldstein has taught OLLI courses Your Amazing Mind, Cognition and Aging, The Social and Emotional Mind, The Mystery and Science of Shadows, The Art of Shadows and Writing for Self-Discovery. While teaching in the psychology department at the University of Pittsburgh he received the Chancellor’s Undergraduate Teaching Award for his teaching and textbook writing. He is the author of two college textbooks: Sensation and Perception and Cognitive Psychology and two books for general readers, The Mind: Consciousness, Prediction and the Brain (MIT Press) and Shadows: Culture, Science, and Art (Univ of Cambridge Press).
ASTRONOMY

Book Of Genesis Versus Evolution Of The Universe

Study Leader: Leonard Kisslinger

• 1 Class: Jun. 26  
• Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
• Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Before I start the course, I will hand each student the notes: The Book of Genesis Versus the Evolution of the Universe. I will project each page so the students can more easily follow the lecture. Also, since some pages contain equations the students can use these notes after the Course is finished to help them understand some details which they might find confusing during the 1 1/2 hour Course.

Leonard Kisslinger joined the faculty of Carnegie Mellon’s Department of Physics in 1969, coming from Case Western Reserve University, where he attained the rank of full professor. The program of research in Dr. Kisslinger’s laboratory was the study of the quark/gluon structure of hadrons and nuclei, but now is mainly engaged in particle astrophysics. Since 2000, he has directed the Carnegie Mellon/Colfax/Helen Faison Physics Concepts Program, which pairs undergraduates with inner-city middle school students to learn science by hands-on experience. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society and served as associate editor of Committees of the Space Radiation Effects Laboratory and the Los Alamos Meson Physics Facility. He was also a member of the Executive Committee, Division of Nuclear Physics, of the American Physical Society. He received his Ph.D. degree from Indiana University.

LIFE SCIENCE

Food Curiosities Explained

Study Leader: Gloria Silva

• 4 Classes: May 14 – Jun. 4  
• Tuesday, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM  
• Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

This course will answer some questions you probably never thought of asking, such as: Why does freshly squeezed orange juice taste different from the 100% not from concentrate Tropicana? Why some foods last longer than others? Through the lens of chemistry and physics we will answer these and many other questions; in the process I will teach you very basic science concepts that will help you understand the “why” of facts that relate to food. Curiosity drove me to Science; I was very curious about the color of flowers; now my curiosity turned to food. Understanding food through Science is fascinating and I hope to reveal some food secrets for you.

Please note: This course is not about cooking, nutrition, or health in relation to food. No advice will be offered in this regard.

Gloria Silva is an associate teaching professor in the Chemistry Department of CMU. She graduated with a double major as B.S. in chemistry and as a pharmacist from the National University of Cordoba (UNC), Argentina. She got her Ph.D. in Chemistry at the same university and did postdoctoral studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her main focus was the study of bioactive natural products from plants. She was a tenured assistant professor at UNC and a researcher for the Argentinean Research Council. Gloria and her family immigrated to the U.S. in 2002, and she has been a faculty at CMU since. She performed research aimed at developing light-up fluorescence probes used to answer biological questions, and since 2007 she has taught graduate and undergraduate courses related to organic chemistry, synthesis, bioactive natural products, and food science. She is a judge for several science competitions at the local and international levels, and participates in the Gelfand Outreach program. Her hobbies are gardening and genealogy research on her family ancestry.
**ARCHITECTURE**

**Soviet Architecture: Stylish To Ugly**

*Study Leader: Bill Greenspan*

- 4 Classes: Jul. 31 – Aug. 21
- Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

This course will traverse the development of the Soviet Union architecture from the October Revolution of 1917 to the collapse of the USSR in 1999. We will start with Russian Constructivism, Art in the service of the Revolution, movement, with Tatlin's Tower, or the project for the Monument to the Third International as its best example and will discover other constructivist projects by well-known architects like Konstantin Melnikov, Alexander Rodchenko, Vladimir Shukhov and others. As part of the constructivist architecture narrative, we will discuss similarities and influences it had on Bauhaus movement. The next stop will be an expose of the Stalinist architecture and its famous “Seven Sisters” project. A look at the Modern Russian architecture will be our next stop with brutalist and cosmic communist constructions scattered throughout entire country. In between, we will look at public housing projects, ubiquitous bus stops, and at selected memorial monuments.

Bill Greenspan migrated to the USA in 1979 from the former USSR. With an electrical engineering degree from Kiev Polytechnic Institute, he spent over 30 years working in the nuclear industry, the first 25 years at the Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant in Arizona and the following eight years building nuclear power plants in China. He has taught several courses for the Osher Institute including “Jewish Communities Far Away and Close to Home,” “100 years of Jewish Life in Shanghai,” “Antarctica: the Last Frontier,” “Russian Avant-Garde Art of The 20th Century.”

**CONTEMPORARY TOPICS/SOCIOLOGY**

**Workshop In Ethical Decision Making**

*Study Leader: Jack Patzer*

- 5 Classes: Jul. 10 – Aug. 7
- Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

We are often faced with making an ethical decision... but, how often do we actually employ an ethical decision making process in arriving at our decision? The workshop will explore the conceptual tools and frameworks that participants can use to identify, articulate, and resolve ethical dilemmas that confront them. Case histories will be used to illustrate various approaches which have been used (utilitarian, rights, fairness or justice, common good, virtue, caring). Small discussion/breakout groups will be used to promote individual understanding of the approaches. Participants will be asked to explore the ethical implications of a topic or case of particular interest and share their exploration with their fellow explorers.

Jack Patzer has been offering instruction playing the odds in bridge to Osher members for a number of years. While at Pitt, he taught a course on bioengineering ethics for a number of years. Depending upon whom he is talking with, he is a retired bioengineer, chemical engineer, mathematician, physicist, education specialist, world traveler, outdoor enthusiast, and currently, mental health innovator.
Investigating Deaths In Custody

Study Leader: Jay Aronson

- 1 Class: May 8
- Class ID: 5096
- Wednesday, 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

Deaths resulting from interactions with the US criminal legal system are a public health emergency, but the scope of this issue is intentionally ignored by the systems that are supposed to be tracking these fatalities. We don't know how many people die in custody each year, whether in an encounter with police on the street, during transport, or while in jails, prisons, or detention centers. In order to make a real difference and address this human rights problem, researchers and policy makers need reliable data. In this course, I will share the stories of individuals who died in custody and chronicle the efforts of activists and journalists to uncover the true scope of deaths in custody. Integral to this story is the work of Ida B. Wells, who investigated lynchings in the US South. I will conclude by outlining a practical, achievable system for accurately recording and investigating custodial deaths.

Jay D. Aronson is the founder and director of the Center for Human Rights Science at Carnegie Mellon University, where he is also Professor of Science, Technology, and Society in the History Department. Prof. Aronson’s research and teaching examine the interactions of science, technology, law, media, and human rights in a variety of contexts. For the past several years, he has been focusing on deaths in law enforcement custody in the United States. His recent book Death in Custody: How America Ignores the Truth and What We Can Do about It (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2023), co-authored with Dr. Roger A. Mitchell, examines the history of efforts to counteract official government ignorance on this issue and proposes a variety of practical solutions to the lack of data about how many people die in custody each year. In addition, Prof. Aronson maintains an active interest in the use of digital evidence (especially video) in human rights investigations. Aronson received his Ph.D. in the History of Science and Technology from the University of Minnesota and was both a pre- and post-doctoral fellow at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Norman Rockwell’s The Three Umpires

Study Leader: Ron Backer

- 1 Class: Jun. 26
- Class ID: 5059
- Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

The Three Umpires depicts a moment in a game between the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Brooklyn Dodgers in which the umpires are looking at the sky, trying to make the tough decision of whether or not to call the game because of rain. The class will go into detail about the creation of the work (including Norman Rockwell’s taking of reference photos at Ebbets Field), anomalies, controversies, and interesting facts about the painting (such as why only three umpires are depicted, the models for the three Pirates players shown in the painting, and why the Dodgers manager is smiling and the Pirates manager is frowning even though the Pirates will automatically win if the game is called because of rain). An overview of Rockwell’s other baseball paintings will also be provided. Note: this is not a class about art history or style. It is Norman Rockwell from a baseball perspective.

Ron Backer, an attorney in Pittsburgh for over 45 years, has written five books on film, his most recent being Baseball Goes to the Movies, published in 2017. Mr. Backer has contributed articles about baseball and the movies to publications of SABR (the Society for American Baseball Research). He has previously taught courses for Osher at CMU about the great movie comedians and sports, baseball movies, and Perry Mason.
What Happened To The News?

*Study Leader: Sharon Walsh*

- 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25
- Tuesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

In the last 15 years, daily news has changed dramatically. Hundreds of local and regional newspapers have died or been seriously diminished; cable news has had major changes in leadership and purpose; and social media has become the news of choice for many. Some mourn the loss of the newspaper they can hold in their hands and read with a cup of coffee, but that model is going the way of the dodo. We will talk about how and why this happened, looking at both local and national news outlets, and what will replace our traditional news sources and how will these changes affect our understanding of our community, the nation, and the world?

Sharon Walsh is a career journalist, having been both an editor and a reporter at a number of news organizations. She spent the bulk of her career at the *Washington Post* and has also worked at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, among others. She came to Pittsburgh in 2011 to launch PublicSource.org, a nonprofit local news initiative. She has a Master’s Degree in Journalism from the University of Kansas, and has had residencies at the University of Wisconsin and Duke University. She had a year-long fellowship at the University of Michigan's Wallace Fellowship Program. She is currently retired.

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Senior Citizens And Identity Theft

*Study Leader: Felimelia Abenes-Douglass*

- 2 Classes: May 9 and May 16
- Class ID: 5102
- Thursday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

The course is about acquiring knowledge on a relevant topic besieging the elderly population - identity theft. The course will include theoretical definitions, discussions on the examples, and how to determine the operations of scammers and culprits and their modus operandi in victimizing senior citizens. It will also include other suggested resources like glossary terms, videos, movies, etc.

Felimelia (Femmee) G. Abenes Douglass’ educational background - with undergraduate degrees, in both business administration (accounting) and law. Completed her Master’s Degree in Distance Education at the University of the Philippines (12.2023). Her work experience for the past 40 years was in various fields of accounting/finance, corporate/tax laws, both in the Philippines (PH) and USA. She taught college students in the PH, various subjects in History/Constitutional Law, Tax Law, and Accounting/Business Finance, Economics. Significant work was with San Miguel Corporation (SMC) finance section of the Ilocos Beer region, SMC being PH’s largest and most diversified multinational conglomerate. Relevant work in the US includes being a duly accredited tax professional with the IRS, as a senior tax analyst with HR Block-Pittsburgh area, and as a branch Office Manager (Squirrel Office). She is married to David Standish Douglass of Pittsburgh, PA, a retired IT professional. They have 2 children, Lisz (nurse) and Chief Justice (CJ), an IT professional just like his Dad. She and Dave have retired in Baguio City, Philippines, and often visit their children here in the USA.
Purposeful Retirement/Intentional Design

Study Leader: Joan Anson

- 3 Classes: Jul. 2 – Jul. 16
- Tuesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Hawkins Conference Room

This course is intended for both pre-retirees and those already retired. The study leader will review the changing definition of retirement and how Baby Boomers are transforming retirement. The non-financial factors to consider when planning a successful retirement will be introduced and be the basis for discussion. This course will aid retirees in using a strategic approach to anticipate and plan for changes related to identity, time management, socialization and purpose during their post-career years. These factors, in addition to work-re-orientation and work replacement, will be the focus of discussion with the goal of refreshing one’s perspective on what retirement can mean for each individual student. Ideally, students will emerge with specific action steps to assist in developing their own personal roadmap to a satisfying retirement. Class time may also be dedicated to the unique position of those without the support of a partner or adult children (Solo Agers).

Joan Anson, MS Ed, PC, is a certified professional coach assisting millennials with career management issues and baby boomers seeking a purposeful retirement. Her extensive career in higher education administration included serving in an advisory capacity as staff to executive directors, deans and presidents at two health related education associations. Her positions included leadership roles in enrollment management, student affairs and career promotion. Later, she served as a director of admissions at the University of Baltimore and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Joan completed programs in management leadership from both the Johns Hopkins Leadership Institute and the National Association of Colleges and Employers. When she returned to the University of Pittsburgh in 2007, Joan became the founding director of career services for Pitt Public Health. After her retirement from the University of Pittsburgh, Joan happily commenced her “third act” to include serving as a coach for individuals contemplating “next steps” in their personal or professional lives.

The Story Of Steel

Study Leader: Sankar Seetharama

- 1 Class: May 8
- Wednesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

Steel has been the most important materials in terms of economic impact on society in the 20th century. Pittsburgh has played a vital role in steelmaking. This course will explore the origins & development of the iron & steel industry, steelmaking techniques & methods through the ages, types of steel and their uses and environmental issues. We will discuss the industry’s growth and decline in Pittsburgh and the current and future global outlook for steel.

Sankar Seetharama, a Pittsburgher since 1977, was born in India and has spent over forty years in the environmental control systems and services industry. During his career he has worked in senior management roles in a variety of marketing, business development, contract negotiation, international business, product development and project management functions. Mr. Seetharama earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering from Banaras Hindu University, India and MBA majoring in Marketing from the University of Pittsburgh. Enjoying retirement since 2018, he stays active as a volunteer & Board member at Osher at Carnegie Mellon University and Friends of the Library, Upper St. Clair. He also enjoys traveling, hiking, photography, cooking and model railroading.
India: An Enigma - Understanding The Rich And Diverse Culture

Study Leader: Ravi Koka

- 3 Classes: Jul. 3 – Jul. 17  
- Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

India is an ancient land with a diverse and rich civilization. Understanding India requires a study of history, conquests and colonization, freedom movement, diversity, and economic complexity. Indian civilization has survived in spite of major disruptions during Muslim invasions and British occupation. India is often viewed as an over-populated, chaotic region inhabited by many races, religions, and cultures with a history of disunity, internal warfare, and continuous invasion by external forces. The nation is made up of many races: Aryans, Dravidians, Huns, Mongols, and Turks; many ethnic groups: Punjabis, Tamils, Marathas, Bengalis, Andhras; and many religious groups: Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, and Buddhists. Indian mythology, like the Ramayana and Mahabharata, and Indian philosophy set the tone of people’s outlook and are the common thread that holds them together. Freedom, democracy, and innovation define the Indian spirit, and we see the nation making progress in spite of its major problems and economic poverty.

Ravi Koka is an entrepreneur and builds enterprise software products. He is currently the CEO of Stocksnips Inc focused on emerging cloud, mobile and machine learning technologies. Prior to this, he was a Partner at Polaris Financial Technology Limited, a leading provider of enterprise software for the banking and insurance industry. He founded SEEC Inc. in 1988 and successfully completed SEEC’s IPO on Nasdaq in 1997. He started his career with System Development Corporation (originally a division of RAND). Though his training and background is in computer science, he has been interested in social sciences, particularly Indian history. His study of Indian history ranges from 3000 BC through the 20th Century. He has collected books and material over the years on the subject from renowned historians, and has had dialogue with Professors of Indian history and economics in India over the years. He moved to the United States in 1988, and has an appreciation of American History and culture. He is able to draw parallels between the two civilizations that happen to be the largest multi-racial democracies in the world.

The Arsenal Of Democracy

Study Leader: Peter Oleinick

- 3 Classes: May 7 – May 21  
- Tuesday, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

The forgotten heroes of WWII are the American businessmen, engineers, and workers both male and female who built the arsenal of democracy that armed the Allies with the planes, trucks, ships, guns, and ammunition to defeat the Axis. In the years immediately before the start of WWII, America was an isolationist country, with a GDP that dropped 10% while unemployment hit 20%. This class is going to explore how America climbed out of the Great Depression to build the most awesome military machine in history and become the world’s first superpower.

Peter Oleinick earned a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering from CMU in 1978. He spent the next 13 years in Silicon Valley working for high-tech companies like HP and several high-tech startup companies. Peter moved back to Pittsburgh in 1991 to work at Transarc, a startup formed by a number of CMU computer scientists. After a 40-year career at various high-tech companies, Peter retired in 2017. Peter now volunteers his time at a number of non-profits: The Pittsburgh Zoo, the Hebrew Free Loan Association, the Moonshot Museum, and the MS Society.
The Williamstown Boys In The Civil War

Study Leader: Carleton Young

- 1 Class: Jun. 18
- Tuesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

After his parents had passed away, Carleton Young was clearing out their house in Pittsburgh and was surprised to find an enormous collection of letters written by two brothers who were soldiers in the Civil War. He then spent more than a decade visiting battlefields, researching, and walking in the steps of the two soldiers. In this class he will tell the story of two brothers from Vermont who witnessed and made history by fighting in many of the most famous battles of the Civil War. They then preserved that history through their surprisingly detailed and insightful letters. The Western Pennsylvania History Journal, published by the Heinz History Center, said that “More than merely satisfying an interest in the war, the story demonstrates our surprising connections to each other both past and present.”

Carleton Young has undergraduate degrees in economics from Westminster College and in English from Point Park University, an MA in history from Ohio University, and his PhD in the history of education from the University of Pittsburgh. For 37 years he taught AP American history at Thomas Jefferson High School. He has also taught classes as an adjunct professor at the Community College of Allegheny County, the University of Pittsburgh, and Eastern Gateway Community College. His book about finding the letters, Voices From the Attic: The Williamstown Boys in the Civil War, received many favorable reviews and as a result, he has been invited to share his story with more than 250 different organizations around the country.

Discovering A Family History

Study Leader: Carleton Young

- 1 Class: Jun. 26
- Wednesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

After completing a career of teaching American history classes, Carleton Young began extensive research of his own family history. Through that process, he was surprised to discover that he was related to many of the famous people in American history that he had been teaching about in his own history classes for so many years. There were family connections to Teddy Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, Ulysses S. Grant, Paul Revere, a Pilgrim on the Mayflower, and many other famous Americans. He also found that along with the famous and heroic, there were family connections to a few infamous rogues, murderers, and notorious criminals as well. The class will present those findings and perhaps create an interest in looking more into your own family history.

Carleton Young has undergraduate degrees in economics from Westminster College and in English from Point Park University, an MA in history from Ohio University, and his PhD in the history of education from the University of Pittsburgh. For 37 years he taught AP American history at Thomas Jefferson High School. He has also taught classes as an adjunct professor at the Community College of Allegheny County, the University of Pittsburgh, and Eastern Gateway Community College. His book about finding the letters, Voices From the Attic: The Williamstown Boys in the Civil War, received many favorable reviews and as a result, he has been invited to share his story with more than 250 different organizations around the country.
The Doomsday Machine

Study Leader: Randy Weinberg

• 3 Classes: May 8 – May 22
• Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
• Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

Today, almost 80 years since the first use of nuclear weapons, there is enough nuclear fire power to destroy life on this planet as we know it - many times over. In this course, we look at key moments in the evolution of nuclear weapons and the underlying (in)sanity of their use. Examples of near catastrophes will be used to highlight technologies, strategies, and ongoing risks (human and technical) of accidental or unintentional use of these ultimate systems of mass destruction. The fuse is short. Can we really continue to live with the Doomsday Machine indefinitely?

Randy Weinberg is a retired professor of Information Systems at Carnegie Mellon University. He has been a regular study leader for Osher at CMU with courses spanning technology, history, geography and politics. He is currently a member of the Osher board of directors as well as the Study Leader Support Group. He is originally from Minnesota and completed his undergraduate and graduate studies in Mathematics and Operations Research at the University of Minnesota.

The Westinghouse Legacy

Study Leader: David Bear

• 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25
• Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
• Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

Although arguably the most impactful person to ever call Pittsburgh home, inventor and industrialist George Westinghouse (1842 - 1914) is much less appreciated than other figures of his day. Granted 361 patents in his lifetime, the innovative ideas that flowed from Westinghouse’s mind revolutionized rail travel everywhere, pioneered the use of natural gas as a fuel source, and perfected AC electricity and institutionalized it around the world. Of the 60 businesses he personally founded, half a dozen still remain, three as Fortune 500 corporations. Unlike others of his time, Westinghouse was also a progressive employer, humane, humble, and deeply committed to making the world a better place. So revered was he by his employees that a decade after he died, 50,000 of them chipped in to create a memorial in his honor. This two-session course will cover Westinghouse’s past and The Westinghouse Legacy.

David Bear has spent his professional career as a writer. As the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette travel editor for a decade, he was also the creative force behind The Traveler’s Journal (travelersjournal.com), the series of “audio postcards” heard daily on public radio stations across the country. He also produced and hosted other public radio series, including “A Century of Heroes” for the Carnegie Hero Fund, and “Dinosaurs and More” for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. During a fellowship at CMU’s Studio for Creative Inquiry, Bear conceptualized and organized the High Point Pittsburgh Investigation. His eclectic resume also includes stints as a travel agent, tour guide, sales executive for a European travel company, and a researcher for the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau.
Perle Mesta: The Hostess With The Mostest

Study Leader: Robert Bukk

• 2 Classes: Jun. 12 and Jun. 26*  
• Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
• Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

*Note: Class will not meet on Jun. 19

Someone once quipped that Perle Mesta was born with the complete silver service in her mouth, not just the spoon! Students will learn the history of her rise from humble beginnings in Sturgis, Michigan, and her marriage to Pittsburgh industrialist George Mesta that led her to be known in Washington D.C. and around the world as THE “Hostess with the Mostest” for her lavish parties. She was appointed Ambassador to Luxembozrg by Harry Truman. Students will learn of the smash Broadway play that was turned into a movie that she claimed was not about her and how she was interred in a Pittsburgh Cemetery despite her disdain for The Steel City! Our two class sessions will consist of a lecture about Perle Mesta’s life followed by a viewing of Irving Berlin’s Call Me Madam which is based on Ms. Mesta’s time as Ambassador to Luxembourg.

Robert Bukk is a freelance writer and raconteur. He is an amateur WWII Historian and former Southwest Pennsylvania WWII Memorial Fund Executive Director. Bob also serves as a judge for the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair and the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair. He holds an associate degree in journalism from the Community College of Allegheny County – South Campus and a Batchelor’s Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh. Bob resides in Squirrel Hill with his wife, Jane, and their English Cocker Spaniel, Spanky.

GDR Intellectuals In Unified Germany

Study Leader: Dan Bednarz

• 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6  
• Tuesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
• Cyert Hall, Olmsted Activity Room

This class offers lectures and discussion of my book, East German Intellectuals and the Unification of Germany: An Ethnographic View (Palgrave MacMillan, 2017). In 1990, socialist East Germany was wholly incorporated into capitalist West Germany. A large majority of the East Germany cultural and knowledge production classes lost their careers as scientists, university professors, media reporters, and writers and playwrights. The central questions of my research revolved around cultural identity; specifically, how did East German intellectuals explain the failure of their socialist nation? What options for themselves did they see in the unified Germany? Did they think socialism had failed? What did they think of capitalism? The research was conducted 1990-92 and again in 2014, when one third of the original interviewees were re-interviewed and asked how they viewed themselves, their identity as Germans, capitalism and socialism 30 years after unification.

Dan Bednarz holds a BA and Masters in Sociology (Central Michigan University) and a PhD in Policy Analysis (Pitt). He also did graduate studies in sociology at Vanderbilt University. He has taught Business classes at Slippery Rock University and Pitt’s Graduate School of Business. He taught sociology classes at Stonehill College and Bristol (MA) Community College. He also taught English as a second language in Berlin, Germany. He has published two books, the first, Research in Teams: A Guide to Policy Analysis, (Prentice-Hall, 1991, with Donna J. Wood). His second book is East German Intellectuals and the Unification of Germany: An Ethnographic View (Palgrave MacMillan, 2017.) His most widely quoted refereed journal article is “Quality and Quantity in Evaluation Research: A Divergent View,” (Evaluation and Program Planning, Vol 8. #4, 1985).
100 Years Of Jewish Life In Shanghai

Study Leader: Bill Greenspan

- 4 Classes: Jul. 30 – Aug. 20  
- Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

This course will cover the history of Jewish Life in Shanghai and its three distinctive immigration groups: Sephardic Jews from Iraq and Ashkenazi Jews from Eastern Europe and Austria-Germany. An emphasis will be placed on the fate of Jews escaping from Nazi Germany and Austria. Short vignettes on the lives of Victor Sassoon, Silas Hardoon, and others will be provided as well.

Bill Greenspan migrated to the USA in 1979 from the former USSR. With an electrical engineering degree from Kiev Polytechnic Institute, he spent over 30 years working in the nuclear industry, the first 25 years at the Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant in Arizona and the following eight years building nuclear power plants in China. He has taught several courses for the Osher Institute including “Jewish Communities Far Away and Close to Home,” “100 years of Jewish Life in Shanghai,” “Antarctica: the Last Frontier,” “Russian Avant-Garde Art of The 20th Century.”

The American Civil War

Study Leader: David Albert

- 6 Classes: Jul. 10 – Aug. 14  
- Wednesday, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

This course looks at the U.S. Civil War from all aspects, including the causes, politics, economics, social changes, the outcomes and significance of the main battles, the personalities of the participants, and the death of Abraham Lincoln less than a week after the war ended. The course educates the members on this significant event in our history through lectures, slides, and discussion.

David Albert is a retired Air Force officer who has been a student of the Civil War for 50 years. He’s visited all the major battlefields and many of the smaller ones. He co-taught the Civil War elective at the US Air Force’s Air Command and Staff College and was a Civil War docent for 12 years at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. He’s taught Civil War courses for the old Elderhostel Program and currently teaches Civil War courses for the OLLI programs at both Pitt and CMU as well as the Lifetime Learning program at LaRoche. He’s also given talks on the Civil War to various organizations in the Pittsburgh area.

Pittsburgh Architecture And Landscape

Study Leader: Robert Jucha

- 5 Classes: May 8 – Jun. 5  
- Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

The study of architecture is more enriching when we focus our attention on the context of buildings to other buildings and to the landscape rather than just studying single structures. The study of places, from their evolution to their present form is the subject of the course. The class looks at five specific kinds of places in Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania. The places include, public squares, a major downtown street, courthouses and residential patterns observed in the city.

Robert Jucha has been a docent with the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation for a dozen years and has led and created numerous virtual and live walking tours throughout Pittsburgh. He has a Ph.D. in American Studies from George Washington University.
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

The United States Constitution

Study Leader: Gary Harris

- 6 Classes: May 8 – Jun. 12
- Wednesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Right of Privacy? Freedom of Speech! Equal protection of the laws. This course examines the purpose and effect of the Constitution. We will examine the powers of the federal government as well as the limits on those powers. Particular emphasis will be placed on exploration of the individual rights enumerated in the Constitution, including freedom of speech, of religion, to bear arms, and to due process, their breadth and limitations. The structure of this course will be discussion rather than lecture, remembering that understanding, not argument, is the goal.

Gary K. Harris practiced for more than 35 years as an appellate and trial attorney with an emphasis on complex business-related matters. Mr. Harris received his J.D. from Columbia University and his M.B.A. from Cornell University. He served as a law clerk for Justice (then Judge) Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Mr. Harris has been an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law School.

PSYCHOLOGY

CMU Early Career Research: Public Policy

Study Leader: Howard Seltman

- 1 Class: May 21
- Tuesday, 2:15 PM - 3:45 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

You come to CMU every week, but do you know what else is going on around campus? The approximately 1200 Ph.D. students at CMU are bright, hardworking, and innovative. In this class two current Public Policy doctoral students from the Heinz college will present their research. Following each student’s presentation, there will be time for questions and discussion.

Howard Seltman, MD, PhD worked as a clinical pathologist and then as a statistics professor. He retired as Director of the Masters in Statistical Practice program in the CMU Department of Statistics and Data Science in 2019.
Better Living Using CBT Principles And Skills

*Study Leader:* Michael Spiegler

- 5 Classes: Jul. 2 – Jul. 30
- Tuesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room A

Life is not a straight, obstacle-free road. We all have personal issues that we’d like to change including negative emotions such as stress, anxiety/fear, worrying, intrusive thoughts, and depressed moods, as well as problems dealing with health-issues, interpersonal relations, and troublesome personal habits. The hallmark of cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) is that it teaches people skills that they can implement on their own to deal with such issues. In this course, you will learn CBT skills to help you address current and future challenges. The course is not group therapy, and you will not need to disclose anything personal. Classes will be interactive, involving engaged/active learning through demonstrations and exercises, discussions, illustrative case studies, Q&A, and suggested activities to practice outside of class. And, because the instructor believes that spontaneous humor enhances learning, you will enjoy the class as well as benefit from it.

Michael Spiegler is Professor Emeritus of Clinical Psychology at Providence College and has also taught at Vanderbilt University and the University of Texas at Austin. Michael recently moved to Pittsburgh, and after taking CMU-OSHER courses, he was inspired to teach a course that could meaningfully impact people’s well-being. Early in his career, he became discouraged with the lengthy process of traditional psychotherapies and clients’ becoming dependent on their therapists. He was introduced to the emerging field of cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) that helped clients in a relatively short time, promoted their self-efficacy, and taught them concrete skills that empowered their dealing with personal problems on their own. Over the past 50 years, besides treating a wide array of clients, Michael has been a CBT scholar and researcher. Among his many contributions are developing a widely used CBT outpatient treatment for chronic psychiatric disorders, spearheading modeling therapy to treat fears, and writing six editions of the preeminent CBT textbook that has been translated into Korean and Mandarin. Michael has a passion for teaching, and his classes are known for being student-centered, inspiring, and entertaining.

Your Amazing Mind

*Study Leader:* Bruce Goldstein

- 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6
- Tuesday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Cyert Hall, Osher Room B

This course describes the amazing feats achieved by the mind by asking questions such as: What does it mean to say the mind is conscious? How is consciousness created by the brain? What is happening in the unconscious mind? Can you know what someone else is experiencing or thinking? What happens when you don’t pay attention? How does memory work? Why do you sometimes fail to remember or remember inaccurately? Why is sleep important for good memory? How is the mind involved in relating to others? In being a friend? How has artificial intelligence created robots who can interact socially with humans? How can good mental functioning be maintained as a person ages? In dealing with these questions and more our goal is to relate scientific findings to everyday experience. This class is based on previous versions of Your Amazing Mind, updated with new research and ideas.

Bruce Goldstein has taught OLLI courses Your Amazing Mind, Cognition and Aging, The Social and Emotional Mind, The Mystery and Science of Shadows, The Art of Shadows and Writing for Self-Discovery. While teaching in the psychology department at the University of Pittsburgh he received the Chancellor’s Undergraduate Teaching Award for his teaching and textbook writing. He is the author of two college textbooks: Sensation and Perception and Cognitive Psychology and two books for general readers, The Mind: Consciousness, Prediction and the Brain (MIT Press) and Shadows: Culture, Science, and Art (Univ of Cambridge Press).
VISITOR PARKING GARAGES & LOTS

Up-to-date parking rates and garage hours can be found on the CMU Transportation Website here: cmu.edu/environment/transportation/

East Campus Garage: 5040 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.
*The CMU East Campus Garage is usually not a good option. It fills up early, and it may close on days when the University hosts special events. It is also closed to “Non-leaseholders” until 9AM. The garage is no longer free after 5pm and weekends.*

CIC Garage: 594-598 Boundary St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.
*At the entrance, take the ramp to the left.*

Gates Garage: 409 S. Neville St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.
*Continue right on access road past the CIC Garage.*

Dithridge Street Garage: 252 S Dithridge St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

Morewood Lot: 1048 Morewood Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.
*Is free on after 5PM and on weekends.*

CMU SHUTTLE SERVICE

Your Osher membership card entitles you to ride the CMU shuttles. HOWEVER, they are pegged to the CMU class schedule, not ours. And, their frequency is less than the city busses. Routes and schedules can be found here: https://andysbuses.com/routes.

DROP OFF AREA

A drop off location is available on Forbes Ave. in front of Cyert Hall. From there, the building is accessible by stairs or ramp. You will enter on Floor A. To get to the Osher Cyert Learning Center, take the stairs or elevator down one floor to Floor B.
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

If you are 65 or older, you can use all Pittsburgh Regional Transit busses and the “T” at no cost. A transit card is required to do so. It can be obtained from the Transit Authority, downtown, or from any state representative’s and offices. Click here to find your local representative under the “Senior Citizen” tab.

Park in the CMU area and take a bus to campus. HOWEVER, parking on streets close to CMU, and in some neighborhoods, is posted as “ Permit Parking Only”. Be sure to check the signs.

Adequate parking options are available a bit further from CMU. From there, several bus routes serve the campus, stopping either at Morewood and Forbes, across from Cyert Hall, or Morewood and Fifth Avenue, a short walk to Cyert Hall.

BEWARE: Most residential streets in Pittsburgh have weekly street cleaning from early Spring to late Fall. Signs are posted on every street, but may be hard to find. Be sure that you locate those signs to be certain you are not parking where street cleaning will occur that day. Fines are steep!!!!

Several bus routes serve the campus:

From Point Breeze/Shadyside
Route #71B runs along Fifth Avenue from Penn Avenue to Morewood. 1 block walk to Osher on Morewood.

From Highland Park/Shadyside
Route #71D runs along Highland Avenue to Fifth Avenue to Morewood. 1 block walk to Osher

From Squirrel Hill
Routes # 61A, B, C, D run along Forbes Avenue to Morewood, across from Osher.

From Point Breeze/Squirrel Hill
Route #67 runs along Dallas to Wilkens to Beeler to Forbes to Morewood.
Route #69 runs along Reynolds to Dallas to Wilkins to Beeler to Forbes to Morewood.

From the North Hills
Consider taking a bus downtown, then any #61 bus to Cyert Hall. The 01 Ross Flyer, the 012 McKnight Flyer, and the 05 Thompson Run Flyer run during AM (inbound) + PM (outbound) rush hours, and make fewer stops.

From the South Hills
Those who live within a reasonable distance from a “T” stop should consider taking it downtown, and taking one of any #61 buses to Cyert hall. Route 28X – Airport Flyer - stops in Robinson Town Center, Carnegie, and Crafton.
Classes in this section will be held online via Zoom. 

Zoom access codes will be sent in the 7-day course reminder email.
Fact Or Fiction In Contemporary Art

Study Leader: Vicky A. Clark

• 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25
• Tuesday, 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

As usual, art is ahead of its time, exploring the thorny issue of fact vs fiction. Contemporary artists expose the manipulation behind fake news while questioning the nature of truth. They explore how we can tell the difference between what is fact and what is fiction, or whether there is really such a clear-cut distinction. We'll look at photography and video art; fairy tales, comics, and narratives; exaggerations and secret messages.

Vicky A. Clark is a curator of contemporary art who, after organizing more than 50 exhibitions, is still amazed at the creativity and ingenuity of artists. She shares her passion through articles in Pittsburgh Quarterly and other publications and in lectures and courses, hoping to instill a curiosity and inquisitiveness that allows for new ways of looking and thinking.

A Night At The Movies: From Novels

Study Leader: Stanley Winikoff, Jeffrey Swoger

• 6 Classes: May 7 – Jun. 11
• Tuesday, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

For decades, films have repeatedly used novels as the starting point for their scripts. Some follow the novel closely, while others deviate far from the text. This course will explore six films inspired by novels that were considered controversial at the time they were published. Most, but not all, deal with sexual themes of one kind or another. Students will view the film on their own prior to class, and should be prepared to contribute to the discussion in class.

Stanley Winikoff is a retired trial lawyer who chairs the Osher Curriculum Committee and teaches courses on movies. Jeffrey Swoger has taught a wide range of arts and humanities courses in music, architecture, film, and design.
A Night At The Movies: Comedies

Study Leader: Stanley Winikoff, Jeffrey Swoger

• 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6  
  Class ID: 5049
• Tuesday, 3:15 PM - 4:45 PM  
  Online Course, Zoom

One of the most popular genres of films has been sophisticated comedies. Sadly, that genre has become somewhat passe these days, replaced by bawdy comedies aimed at teenagers. This course will revisit six classic sophisticated comedies from the 1940s forward, starring some of the greats of the silver screen under the direction of great Hollywood filmmakers. Students will view the films on their own prior to class and be prepared to discuss in class.

Stanley Winikoff is a retired trial lawyer who chairs the Osher Curriculum Committee and teaches courses on movies. Jeffrey Swoger has taught a wide range of arts and humanities courses in music, architecture, film, and design.

Film Noir 3: The Neo-Noir Years

Study Leader: Lloyd Stires

• 6 Classes: Jul. 2 – Aug. 6  
  Class ID: 5090
• Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
  Online Course, Zoom

Film noir (French for “dark film”) refers to approximately 300 black-and-white mystery and crime melodramas popular in the US in the 1940s and 1950s. Described as “one of the more complex and intelligent Hollywood styles,” it features hard-boiled detectives, femmes fatales, and flawed anti-heroes whose lives are jeopardized by bad choices. Films noir produced after 1960 are called neo-noir. They retain the typical narrative structures of films noir, but they are shot in color and their sexuality, violence, and language are less dampened by self-censorship.

In this course, students will be expected to watch, in advance, six classics of the neo-noir revival of the 1970s through the 1990s. The study leader will provide background information about the films and lead a discussion of the major themes of each movie and their relationship to the historical period of its release. No prior course work or knowledge of film noir is assumed.

Please note: These six films were rated R due to rude language, violence, and/or sexual scenes.

Lloyd Stires (Ph.D., Duke University) is a retired professor of psychology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he taught social psychology, environmental psychology and mass media and behavior. His published research includes studies of the effects of pretrial publicity, as well as pornography and media violence.
LITERATURE

Edgar Allan Poe
And The Dupin Mysteries

Study Leader: Chanel Williams

• 6 Classes: Jul. 8 – Aug. 12
• Monday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

Before there was ever a Miss Marple, a Hercule Poirot, or a Sherlock Holmes, there was Edgar Allan Poe’s Monsieur C. Auguste Dupin! If you love detective fiction, you will love this literary community. Readers will gain a new perspective as we explore all of the layers of mystery, suspense, and the evolution of the popular genre with the three mystery stories: The Murders in the Rue Morgue, The Mystery of Marie Roget, and The Purloined Letter.

Chanel Williams is an American educator and scholar of 15 years. She has taught both at secondary and post-secondary levels. Chanel has instructed courses such as Critical Reading, General Ethics, Psychology, and American History. She is an avid lover of classical literature.

William Shakespeare’s Hamlet

Study Leader: William Guy

• 6 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 17*
• Monday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

*Note: Class will not meet on May 27

In Shakespeare’s most famous play, Ophelia calls Hamlet “the glass of fashion and the mould of form,” and so he has been at least since the Romantic era, the model of a poetical soul in search of meaning, a “modern” man assailed by and confronting the cosmos. And yet one great scholar, expounding Hamlet from the medieval standpoint that probably was still normative in Elizabethan times, has said “Our ‘hero’ is not a very attractive character at the outset, and there is no reason to think that Shakespeare wished to make him so.” Where between two such widely disparate interpretations—if anywhere—can the “real” Hamlet be said to lie? This course will attempt to answer such a question through a close reading of key passages. Shakespeare’s language, his incomparable poetry will also be a constant focus.

William Guy is a poet, novelist and writer of travel books. His published works include The Lyndoniad, a long poem; Gravity’s Revolt, a novel; and a translation of The Iliad. He has a Ph.D. in English Renaissance literature from Princeton University. His particular area of expertise is Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century poetry and drama.

Your input is welcomed and valued.

Your input is welcomed and valued. Osher at CMU depends on member assistance and involvement. Your suggestions for instructors, courses, events, and lectures are necessary to help us serve your interests. Please use the suggestion box in the quick link section of our website, cmu.edu/osher.

To get involved with Osher at CMU, please check the opportunities listed on the “Volunteer” page of our website, cmu.edu/osher.
Great And Notable Novels
Read And Revisited

Study Leader: Mary Schinhofen, Ken Joseph, Helen-Faye Rosenblum, Gloriana St. Clair

• 6 Classes: May 16 – Jul. 25  Class ID: 5002
• Thursday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

With an emphasis upon earlier works and canonical selections, the Great Novels study group will read and discuss significant novels of the 18th, 19th, 20th, and occasionally the 21st centuries. From the vantage point of age and experience, what insights can we share now that were not available during a previous reading? This course provides opportunities to read novels that we may have "saved for later" or ones that we never knew existed. Class members are encouraged to lead a book discussion session. The class meets on alternate weeks.

Please note: Course dates: 5/16, 5/30, 6/13, 6/27, 7/11, & 7/25

Mary Schinhofen earned a B.A. degree in literature and philosophy and went on to raise a family and teach English literature at the University School in Shadyside. She has since retired in order to devote more time to reading, writing, and watercolor painting. An Osher member, she is deeply and passionately committed to the continuing education of everyone, especially those who have purportedly reached the age of wisdom. Teaching this class fulfills a lifelong dream of hers.

Ken Joseph is a graduate of St. John's College (Annapolis) and the Duquesne University School of Law. He spent most of his working life as an attorney and has always enjoyed reading and discussing good literature.

Helen-Faye Rosenblum, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Chatham College, also received undergraduate and graduate education at Barnard College and the University of Pittsburgh. She is the author of two novels published by Putnam with further work in progress. Her first novel, Minerva's Turn, won the Ohioana State Library Award for fiction. She has reviewed books and the arts for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Pittsburgh Press and numerous smaller publications and radio stations. She has taught and lectured in many venues, from universities and public schools to the US Correctional System in Ohio. She is a past president of A.L.L. (Osher at CMU).

Gloriana St. Clair served as the Dean of University Libraries at Carnegie Mellon University from 1998 to 2014. She also served as the University liaison with Academy for Lifelong Learning and subsequently Osher Lifelong Learning at Carnegie Mellon University. She holds a B.A. and Ph.D. in literature from the University of Oklahoma; a master's degree in library science from the University of California, Berkeley; and an M.B.A. from the University of Texas.

Short Stories: Small Wonders

Study Leader: Helen-Faye Rosenblum

• 5 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 10*  Class ID: 5046
• Monday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
• Online Course, Zoom
*Note: Class will not meet on May 27

• 5 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 10*  Class ID: 5047
• Monday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM
• Online Course, Zoom
*Note: Class will not meet on May 27

Practitioners and students of the art and craft of short fiction often ask themselves (and each other) where stories begin and end. How do we draw the line between truth and fact, fiction and memoir, fantasy and memory? In this course, participants will use a variety of contemporary short stories to address the questions. The answers may be elusive, but the quest will be gripping. We will use fresh stories every term, so that the course description is the same, but the content is always fresh.

Helen-Faye Rosenblum, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Chatham College, also received undergraduate and graduate education at Barnard College and the University of Pittsburgh. She is the author of two novels published by Putnam with further work in progress. Her first novel, Minerva's Turn, won the Ohioana State Library Award for fiction. She has reviewed books and the arts for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Pittsburgh Press and numerous smaller publications and radio stations. She has taught and lectured in many venues, from universities and public schools to the US Correctional System in Ohio. She is a past president of A.L.L. (Osher at CMU).
A Five-Course Meal Of Opera

Study Leader: Pittsburgh Opera *

• 5 Classes: May 15 – Jun. 12  
• Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
• Online Course, Zoom  

However fascinating their music, opera composers need to eat like everybody else. Some of the most famous opera creators are gourmets, while others are clearly not foodies. Rossini was famously known for his love of food, the more decadent the better. But little is known about Mozart’s eating habits, other than his favorite meal of liver dumplings with sauerkraut. Which opera composers mention food in their operas? How important was food to Puccini during his student days and later when he was wealthy? How could you plan an elegant dinner party based on a specific opera, such as Carmen, with music paired with each course? Discover facts about opera composers’ personal lives and tastes while listening to some of their greatest operatic creations. This course will include a delicious collection of recipes inspired by opera composers, from appetizers to desserts, while enjoying music that tastes “good to the ear”.

Marilyn Michalka Egan, Ph.D., Pittsburgh Opera Director of Education, enjoys opening new doors to opera for students of all ages. She will be joined by staff members and opera artists who will share their specific areas of expertise about opera.
**ECONOMICS**

**Bidenomics: Industrial Policy 2.0**

*Study Leader: Stephen Blank*

- 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25  
  *Class ID: 5040*
- Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
  *Online Course, Zoom*

President Biden’s policies may change how Washington relates to our economy. “Industrial policy” is much bruited about, pro and con, and following this debate over the years will be key element in the course. In the 1970s, after decades of a “managed” economy, government’s role in the economy was transformed, and policy stressed minimal government involvement, open markets and competition. Have we come to another profound transition? Will we look back on Biden’s administration as recreating a more aggressive government role in building a 21st century economy? Our objective is to deepen our understanding of where we have come from and why we now speak of “Bidenomics.” We will explore the factors which support this policy transition and those which inhibit it.

**Stephen Blank**’s career has spanned academic, business and not-for-profit communities. He has published widely on multinational corporations and host countries and on how companies assess political risk. The firm he co-founded consulted for American and European companies on international business issues, and was a leader in developing scenario frameworks for forecasting. Blank taught MBA and Doctoral level courses on International Business in the United States, Japan, Germany, Mexico and Canada. His work on North American integration is well recognized and he served as a visiting professor at the Universities of Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Western Washington. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, he was awarded L’Ordre National du Quebec by the Government of Quebec. He serves as Senior Fellow of the Institute for Science, Society and Policy at the University of Ottawa. Blank was educated at Dartmouth, Cambridge University and Harvard.

**FINANCE**

**Fundamentals Of Personal Wealth**

*Study Leader: Peter Strope, Drew Hanson*

- 6 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 17*  
  *Class ID: 5009*
- Monday, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM  
  *Online Course, Zoom*

*Note: Class will not meet on May 27*

A deep look into the nuances and intricacies of fostering and growing personal wealth. We focus on everything from investment strategies to financial and estate planning. The goal of this class is to provide students with a deeper understanding of how to manage their financial life in a way that creates a comfortable retirement and an opportunity for generational wealth.

**Peter Strope**, with over 20 years of experience in the financial services industry, has developed a comprehensive approach for offering his clients customized wealth management advice delivered with personalized service. He prefers to adopt a scientific approach to providing financial advice and implementing solutions. He explores each client’s needs and goals to diagnose the situation and recommend the best strategy to address it effectively. Whether he is assisting his clients with finding an accountant, funding a college education, or obtaining a mortgage, Peter takes a comprehensive approach to helping clients coordinate all elements of their financial lives. To promote his field within the community, Peter teaches a financial planning course at the University of Pittsburgh as an adjunct professor and serves as a member of Pittsburgh’s Estate Planning Council. Additionally, he is a member of the International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy.

**Drew Hanson**’s dedication to wealth management doesn't stop in the office. He also serves as an adjunct professor and teaches a financial planning course at the University of Pittsburgh. Outside of the office and classroom, Drew volunteers actively in the Pittsburgh community, from Toys for Tots and the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank to youth groups at his church. In addition, he brings leadership experience to the team from his service as a program director and member of the board of AMI, a psychiatric healthcare facility in Washington and Greene County, Pennsylvania.
Chief Justice John Roberts originally promised to be an “unbiased umpire,” claiming he would lead using “judicial restraint” to maintain “equal justice under law”. There have been many significant cases where his court, often by a 5-4 vote, “aggressively enact(ed) conservative policy, overturned long-standing precedent or second-guessed the elected branches and struck down progressive reforms.” Various articles about cases involving police powers under the 4th Amendment, the progress of public-school integration, gun rights, equal access to jury trials in the courts, campaign financing, and voting rights will be circulated and discussed in class, as will articles about more liberal decisions like “Obergefell vs. Hodges”, which ruled unconstitutional, the laws prohibiting gay marriage. We will also discuss the changes which have already and are likely to occur now that Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett are on the bench, resulting in a 6-3 vote.

Errol Miller graduated from Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School, and has practiced law for 55+ years. He has been an Osher study leader since 2004, offering 6 different courses. Trust and Estates draws on his 40+ years in planning and administering estates and as a frequent lecturer in Continuing Legal Education on Elder Law. His two part, “Questioning The Criminal Justice System” reflects a life-long interest in Criminal Justice Reform and his experiences as a law clerk to a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice; his post-conviction appeals, his activity on Boards of Community Mental Health Agencies, and his participation in local reform groups who share his interest in reforming the system so it is better coordinated with mental health services and principles. “Those Who Trespass Against Us” addresses tort cases with practical advice for non-lawyers on the principles behind most civil cases. “The Current Supreme Court” reviews major decisions since Chief Justice Roberts assumed his position and what changes we might expect as court membership changes. Introduction to Real Estate Law explains the legal principles surrounding real estate transactions.
SELF IMPROVEMENT

Telling Our Stories:
The Family DMZ

*Study Leader:* Pamela Monk

- 4 Classes: Jul. 2 – Jul. 23  
- Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
- Online Course, Zoom

We are living through a time of fracture and division, even in our families. Topics of vital importance are avoided because of the potential for hard feelings and hurt. In this class, students will learn how to set up a demilitarized zone, a space where people can share their lived experiences with the people closest to them, without judgment or argument. Students will learn how to tell their own story, coach others to create personal narratives, and create rules of engagement to facilitate communication with willing family and friends.

*Pamela Monk* is a storyteller, teacher and writer. She spent 17 years in the Ithaca (NY) City School District where she taught middle school science and language arts, and oversaw her middle school performing arts program. During her Ithaca years, she was a founding member of Odyssey Storytellers. In 2021 she retired from the faculty of Penn State’s Donald P. Bellasario College of Communication’s Journalism Department after 20 years of teaching courses in feature writing for online publication. Her interests have led her to create a variety of theatre events that involve song parody, storytelling and audience participation. Her plays have been produced in PA, WI, and NYC, and her writings have been published in a wide variety of outlets. She is the founder of State of the Story, a personal narrative storytelling initiative that began in 2012 in State College, PA. Currently, she is a team member of Storyburgh, responsible for producing Storyburgh Live. A sampling of her work can be found at panelamonk.contently.com/.

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How To Deal With Bullies

*Study Leader:* Susan Morris

- 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25  
- Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
- Online Course, Zoom

No matter someone’s age, there can be people (whether it’s an on-again, off-again friend, a nasty neighbor or an unfriendly acquaintance) who will use insults, humiliation, dismissiveness or worse to belittle others. The students will learn to recognize bullying when it happens and learn practical strategies to respond effectively. Through discussion and guided role playing, students will gain the know-how and confidence to stand up to bullying.

*Susan Morris,* a 30-year radio broadcasting veteran, has produced news reports and documentaries for numerous news outlets, including National Public Radio and Voice of America. Her work has been recognized with numerous honors including the Matrix Women in Communications Awards and three Golden Quill awards. Susan has also been an adjunct writing professor at the University of Pittsburgh.
Aging And Sleep

Study Leader: Leah Bolen

- 1 Class: Jun. 26  
- Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
- Online Course, Zoom

Sleep patterns change as we age, but disturbed sleep need not be a part of normal aging. In this course you'll gain knowledge about the importance of sleep-in older adults and learn about the ways aging has been shown to impact one's sleep. You'll then be guided through the basics of sleep hygiene habits and learn about the best ways to maintain healthy wake/sleep cycles. You'll also be guided through top techniques for enhancing your ability to fall asleep and get back to sleep in the night.

Leah Bolen, CDP, CSSC helps others improve their sleep and connect with the power of dreams to enhance their waking lives. An award-winning leader, Leah’s corporate career spans 30 years, during which she experienced and witnessed the power of sleep to support productivity, personal growth, and overall wellness. Leah is a certified Sleep Science Coach with advanced training in dreamwork practices. Her work has been seen in Forbes.com, Women’s World Magazine, WellSpa360, and the Suitest Magazine.

How To Self-Publish Your Own Book Successfully

Study Leader: Tom Costello

- 6 Classes: May 9 – Jun. 13  
- Thursday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
- Online Course, Zoom

Book publishing has undergone a revolution—a democratization. Doors are opening for the self-published author, and the lines between self-publishing and independent publishing are blurring while the big traditional houses struggle to keep up with the new reality. Today, self-published authors are using their impressive book sales to launch big careers without ever signing on with a commercial publisher. I will begin with a no-nonsense discussion on being honest about your writing skills and how to avoid making one of the worst mistakes a self-published author can make—that is, edit or regret it, which opens the doors to the actual process of successfully self-publishing a book. On our way to revealing the secrets and rules, we will share the most frequently asked questions we receive from writers, the secrets to demystifying Amazon and how to get yourself poised to ignite healthy and enduring book sales.

Tom Costello received his PhD from Michigan State and he taught writing and literature at Northwestern. In the mid-90s, he founded Word Association Publishers near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He serves as publisher and chief editor. His wife and business partner, Francine Costello, who formerly worked for CBS News in Chicago, reviews new manuscript submissions and works closely with authors on their marketing strategies.
Write Your Own Legacy

Study Leader: Christine Michael

• 6 Classes: May 8 – Jun. 12  
  Class ID: 5043
• Wednesday, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
• Online Course, Zoom

Write your own legacy; tell your story of your own words. Through weekly themed prompts you will answer in journal or scrapbook fashion, various life probing questions, e.g. How did you get your name? What was your first job? What was the best advice given to you? Answering these prompts will help you create your story. Each class you will be given the questions for that week, you can use them as a prompt to motivate yourself and/or you can share your writings with fellow classmates if you wish. Every life is a story.

Christine Michael is a writer, gardener, scrapbooker and avid traveler (over 100 countries). She studied Business at Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada, French at Sorbonne University, Paris, France, and Master of Education at Carlow, Pittsburgh, PA. She taught in elementary school and college. Through her volunteering for Hospice and a grief center she appreciated the value to helping people write or scrapbook their life story in their own words.

National Resource Center’s

Osher Online

in collaboration with Northwestern University, School of Professional Studies

Osher at CMU is now offering courses presented by the Osher National Resource Center (NRC) and the School of Professional Studies at Northwestern University. This collaboration presents lecture and discussion-style courses to members of select Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLIs) from around the country.

Each NRC Osher Online course will cost $55. (Normal Osher at CMU term registration fees will not apply for these courses.)

You must have purchased a 2024 membership for Osher at CMU in order to register for these courses.

For full details and a list of course offerings, please visit our website cmu.edu/usher and click on the “NRC’s Osher Online” tab across the top.
ENVIRONMENT

Can We Stop Climate Change?

Study Leader: Seth Evans

• 4 Classes: May 9 – May 30
• Thursday, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

This series of four 90-minute meetings is designed for people interested in learning more about climate change and climate justice; becoming more effective in communicating with friends, family, and community members and leaders about climate change; and taking action to mitigate the impact of climate change on our planet and ourselves. We will cover the problems, basic science, equity issues behind climate change; a powerful simulation tool that lets you see the positive impacts of climate action; a wide range of climate change solutions, including the recent remarkable progress in renewable energy; climate change opinions in the US and how those relate to our local communities and affect communication and advocacy; and how you can effectively communicate with others and join together to take action on climate change.

Seth Evans serves on the Leadership Team of Elders Climate Action Massachusetts, and he chairs the Education Team. Recently retired from 19 years of teaching elementary school in Needham, MA, he remains active in the Massachusetts Teachers Association. Seth has also organized service workers in a Boston hospital, worked as a consultant to worker-owned businesses, and founded and managed a worker-owned home health care company. The father of two grown children, he lives in Brookline, MA. Seth has a B.A. in Biology from Antioch College, an MBA from Boston College, and an MAT from Simmons College.

TECHNOLOGY

STEM And Leaves

Study Leader: Mike Sussman

• 5 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 10*
• Monday, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

*Note: Class will not meet on May 27

Each class will consider one or two STEM subjects that might not be widely understood but that are interesting and can be explained to a general audience without any advanced knowledge of science, technology or mathematics. Examples may include: “What is a Bitcoin?”, “When is a computational problem ‘hard’ versus ‘easy’?”, “Who was Goedel and what did he say about philosophy?”, “How can Mathematics be beautiful?”, and other topics as time allows.

Myron (Mike) Sussman graduated from MIT and CMU, and then worked as a numerical analyst at the Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory in West Mifflin until retiring in 2006. He taught a numerical analysis computer laboratory at Pitt until fully retiring in 2018. He has participated in many Osher classes since then and he has published a textbook and a numerical analysis workbook based on his experience at Pitt.
CONTEMPORARY TOPICS/SOCIOLOGY

Making Sense Of Medicare

Study Leader: William McKendree

- 2 Classes: Jun. 18 and Jun. 25
- Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Online Course, Zoom

When it was first imagined, Medicare was supposed to be easy to access and simple to use. Unfortunately, the Medicare system of delivering healthcare coverage (for over 60 million people) has evolved into a worrisome thing that's led many to sing the blues in the night. This course will examine the characteristics of the Medicare system. It's a basic primer for individuals taking a long, serious look at Medicare (probably for the first time). It's designed to be simple, functional, and easy to understand. Class 1 will focus on entering Medicare — the eligibility and enrollment criteria, the various parts that comprise the Medicare system, and how these parts function and interact with each other. Class 2 will examine the private insurance products available under the Medicare system, how to compare and evaluate them, and how to shop for them effectively.

Bill McKendree is director of the Pennsylvania Healthcare Benefit Solutions Program (PHBSP), a non-profit program helping people access affordable healthcare services through counseling, education, and advocacy. Prior to his work at PHBSP, Mr. McKendree was program manager for the Allegheny County office of APPRISE - Pennsylvania’s Health Insurance Assistance Program. And before running Allegheny County APPRISE, he was director of the Western Pennsylvania Center for Aging Services, helping Pennsylvania's seniors access medical, legal, and social services. In addition to his work at PHBSP, Bill teaches at the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Pharmacy and is preceptor for the School of Pharmacy's Experiential Learning Program. He also teaches classes on health law and health care policy at Penn State University and Community College of Allegheny County.

When Charities Do Bad Things

Study Leader: Penina Lieber

- 5 Classes: May 7 – Jun. 4
- Tuesday, 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM
- Online Course, Zoom

Charities are known for their good deeds, but some charities fall off the rails. When that happens, their bad acts make them known for their fraud and corruption rather than the good work they could do. Their conduct harms other responsible charities and the people they serve. This course will look at several highly publicized scandals: National Rifle Association (NRA), Trump Foundation, Varsity Blues (College Admission), Lemington Home for the Aged, and Boy Scouts of America. Do directors have a duty to uncover wrongdoing? How are these charities held accountable? How should they be sanctioned?

Penina Lieber is Adjunct Professor at Pitt Law School where she teaches Nonprofit and Tax Exempt Law. She was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at Harvard University, a judicial law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals and a Partner in a national law firm. Penina has published three books and has spoken at many conferences. Penina has served on the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association and was an officer in the Pennsylvania Bar Association, PA Bar Institute, Disciplinary Board and IOLTA Board. She received the Anne X. Alpern Award for outstanding woman lawyer in Pennsylvania.
Chatgpt To Dall-E: A Rapid Tour Of Generative AI

Study Leader: Ashique Khudabukhsh

• 5 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 10*
• Monday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

*Note: Class will not meet on 05/27/2024, 05/27/2024

In light of the recent excitement surrounding ChatGPT, this proposal aims to provide a reader-friendly journey through the world of artificial intelligence (AI). We’ll cover the following topics: AI's Fascinating Journey — a quick tour of the history of AI research, highlighting key milestones and breakthroughs; Demystifying AI — we’ll offer a high-level explanation of how AI systems actually work to make it easier to grasp; Navigating the Pitfalls — delve into the important topic of bias in AI, exploring how it can potentially cause harm both in data and AI methods; ChatGPT and Its Peers — you’ll get an introduction to ChatGPT and some other generative AI tools; we’ll discuss their potential applications and the risks associated with them and Peering into the Future where we’ll open the floor for an open-ended discussion on the exciting prospects and challenges that the future holds in the realm of AI.

Ashique Khudabukhsh is an assistant professor at the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). He earned his Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). His current research lies at the intersection of natural language processing and AI for Social Impact as applied to: (1) polarization in the context of the current US political crisis; (2) globally important events arising in linguistically diverse regions requiring methods to tackle practical challenges involving multilingual, noisy, social media texts; and (3) auditing AI systems and platforms for unintended harms. In addition to having his research been accepted at top artificial intelligence conferences and journals, his work has also received widespread international media attention that includes coverage from The New York Times, BBC, Wired, Times of India, The Daily Mail, VentureBeat, and Digital Trends, to name a few.

Jerez/Sherry Wine Appreciation, Part 1

Study Leader: Ricardo Llovet

• 1 Class: Jun. 27
• Thursday, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
• Online Course, Zoom

This course will cover the Jerez (Sherry) “terroir”, varietals and fascinating winemaking methods. Jerez is a fortified wine with styles spanning from painfully dry to super sweet. This wine from the Southernmost tip of Spain was brought to World’s acclaim by British consumers from Imperial times but in the second part of the 20th century its popularity declined. However, in the last two decades the wineries have experienced a significant revitalization and have been producing wines of outstanding attributes that have received passionate reviews and ratings from the most renowned wine experts. Their aromas are just different and their bouquet very intense. It is worth giving them a try judging by ourselves, and that is what we will be doing in this course. The instructor will identify 2 wines available at the PA liquor stores. The students will enjoy them during class as well as many weeks after opening.

Ricardo Llovet has been a wine aficionado since his youth. He was taught by his father and then expanded his knowledge through extensive reading, tasting, traveling, and conversations with winemakers. He has harvested grapes, made red and white wines at home, tended his own vines, and visited many winemakers and vineyards in Spain, France, Italy, Bulgaria, Portugal, and the U.S. He has been conducting wine tastings during the last 42 years, well before it became a popular activity. Six years ago Ricardo started the website wineandfriends.net where he posts wine reviews and his most recent experiences in the world of wine. In 2021 he founded the City of Pittsburgh chapter of the American Wine Society. Ricardo just has a passion for wine and has been frequently told that he is able to transmit it. He has taught “The Art and Science of Wine Tasting and Terroir” during six Osher CMU semesters as well as courses focused on the Loire Valley and the Veneto wine regions, the Tempranillo varietal and a California versus France contest.

Zoom | SOCIAL SCIENCES
Enjoying The New Yorker

*Study Leader: Mary Duquin*

- 6 Classes: Jul. 9 – Aug. 27*  
  - Tuesday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM  
  - Online Course, Zoom  
  *Note: Class will not meet on 08/06/2024, 08/13/2024*

This will be an interactive discussion course with a limited enrollment. All members will be expected to present at least one article over the six weeks. Each week the class will focus on a current issue and discuss one or more features of particular interest. It might be part of the “Talk of The Town,” a short story, a cartoon, the cover art, or one or more critiques — whatever inspires members’ interests.

Mary Duquin received her Ph.D. at Stanford University in education with a minor in women’s studies. She taught at the University of Pittsburgh from 1974 to 2013. Over the past 40 years, she has taught courses in personal health and wellness. She enjoys reading The New Yorker and is excited about the dynamic discussions this course will produce.

HISTORY

History’s Villains: The Bible

*Study Leader: Richard Daffner*

- 5 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 10*  
  - Monday, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM  
  - Online Course, Zoom  
  *Note: Class will not meet on May 27*

History is rife with good guys and bad guys, patriots and traitors, heroes and villains. This course will discuss the lives and times of a group of nineteen of the Bible’s best-known villains and the background histories contributing to their actions and legacies of infamy. Were these people(s) really villains, as portrayed in the Bible, in movies, and on TV? Or were they victims of poor press? You be the judge. The majority (15) of the villains are in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and there are only four in the New Testament, owing to the nature of each.

Richard H. Daffner, M.D., F.A.C.R. is a retired radiologist who worked at Allegheny General Hospital for 30 years. He is also an amateur historian. His academic credentials include medical school faculty appointments at the University of Louisville, Duke University, Drexel University, and Temple University, where he is Emeritus Clinical Professor of Radiology. He is the author of nine textbooks.

Zoom Codes

Zoom codes are sent out in the 7-day class reminder emails. If you can't find this email, please check your junk or spam folder. If you still cannot locate the email, please contact the Osher Office by emailing osher@cmu.edu and ask for it to be resent.

To maintain the integrity of our organization, please do not share Zoom codes.
Imprisoned Without Trial: Japanese Internment In WWII

Study Leader: Denny Kato

- 4 Classes: Jul. 11 – Aug. 1  
  Class ID: 5014
- Thursday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Online Course, Zoom

Fear, hatred and racism toward the Chinese and Japanese began in the mid-1800s, culminating with the incarceration of over 125,000 Japanese at the beginning of WWII, two-thirds of whom were US citizens. From the perspective of a third generation Japanese American (Sansei), we will discuss how, when, and why racism landed Americans in what is more accurately described as prison camps, and what we can do to countermand the effect of anti-Asian violence and racism in America today.

Denny Kato is a third generation Japanese American or Sansei. He graduated from Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati and received a BA from the University of Cincinnati in political science. For the past nine years, he has been researching the events that led to the incarceration of over 125,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans. Fifteen of his family were incarcerated in three different camps. He and his wife Janet have been to all ten locations of the internment camps.

Living Dangerously: US 1783-1803

Study Leader: Stephen Blank

- 2 Classes: Jun. 20 and Jun. 27  
  Class ID: 5042
- Thursday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
- Online Course, Zoom

NEW! TWO DAY

After the Revolution, doubts the nation would survive were widespread. Many felt the continent would resemble a flag, with US and British, French and Spanish vertical stripes – and that Europeans would dominate North America. The rebel colonies were doubled in size by the 1783 settlement and doubled again by the acquisition of Louisiana in 1803 – creating vast opportunities and severe threats. In the 1840s – within the lifetime of a person born at the nation’s birth – the US would extend from ocean to ocean. US weakness was intensified by deep division about the role and power of the central government, which structured every issue the nation faced – from confronting menacing Europeans and disloyal Americans to infrastructure, regionalism, a national army – and slavery. (That this debate continues to structure US politics today will be noted.) These were years of dangerous living.

Stephen Blank’s career has spanned the academic, business and not-for-profit communities. His work corporate-business relations and on North American integration is well recognized. In visiting professorships in Japan, Germany, Mexico, Canada and the US, Blank taught masters and doctoral level courses on the international business environment that looked in depth at forces reshaping international political, economic and social relations. He served as Bissell Professor at the University of Toronto, Fulbright Distinguished Professor at the University of Montreal, Ross Distinguished Professor at Western Washington University and Fulbright Chair of Governance and Public Administration at the University of Ottawa. He was Managing Director of an alliance of four North American business schools. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, he was awarded L’Ordre National du Quebec by the Government of Quebec. He serves as Senior Fellow of the Institute for Science, Society and Policy at the University of Ottawa. Blank was educated at Dartmouth, Cambridge University and Harvard.
**Missed Connections With Pittsburgh’s City Steps**

*Study Leader: Laura Zurowski*

- 1 Class: Jun. 26
- Wednesday, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
- Online Course, Zoom

Pittsburgh has the largest number of public stairways in the country, nearly 800 — more than Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle. Built during the city’s population heyday as a cost-effective measure to move 700,000 people from their homes on the hills to the mills lining the three rivers, city steps offered a free and efficient way to get around. This course will provide a historical overview of the city’s outdoor stairways and the residents who used them, illustrate the various construction styles, and provide an update on the condition of the city’s steps.

*Laura Zurowski* is a writer/photographer living in Pittsburgh. She is currently working on a five-year public space documentation project that involves Pittsburgh’s public stairways, commonly referred to as “city steps.”

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**PowerPoint Tour Of The Pittsburgh Zoo And Aquarium**

*Study Leader: Cathy Gialloreto*

- 1 Class: Jun. 24
- Monday, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Online Course, Zoom

Join me for a visual trip through the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium. We will also take a look at the veterinary hospital and the International Conservation Center in Somerset.

*Cathy Gialloreto* has been a docent at the Pittsburgh Zoo since 1983. Her free time is spent with animals at the Zoo and Animal Friends. Other interests involve community theater and ushering at City Theater.
Zoom has recently made some changes to their program, and things may look different than you are used to. Please be patient as we adjust to these changes together! Here are updated steps to join your courses on Zoom:

**When accessing a course from a computer or laptop, we recommend the following steps:**

1. Open your internet browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Edge).

   ![Example Icons](image)

2. Type the following into the address bar: `join.zoom.us`.
3. Enter the meeting ID provided by Osher. Click Join.
4. You will be prompted to put in your name and email address. Click "Register."
5. Enter the meeting password provided by Osher. Click Join.

**When accessing a course from a phone or tablet, we recommend the following steps:**

1. If you have yet to do so, download the Zoom app from the App store or Google Play store.
2. Open the App. When you open Zoom, you'll click "Join Meeting."

   ![Example Icon](image)

3. Next, you'll put in the Meeting ID, and click on "Join Meeting."
4. A pop up will appear asking for the meeting passcode.
5. A second pop up will appear asking you to Register or Sign In. You need to click Register.
6. A third pop up will appear with the title of the class. It will ask for your first and last name, and your email address. Click "Register and Join."

**If you have downloaded Zoom to your device, and we recommend seeing if there are any updates by going to www.zoom.us/download and click on:**

- Download, if you are on a computer or laptop.
- Update (if necessary), if you are on a phone or tablet.

Having problems with Zoom? Shut down your computer, phone, or tablet, and start from the beginning. If it still isn't working, email the Osher office with a description of the issue.
Classes in this section will be held at various locations in the Pittsburgh area.
Fiber Art Field Trip To Erie Art Museum

Study Leader: Nancy Quick Langer, Rebecca Carpenter

• 1 Class: Jul. 20
• Saturday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
• Erie Art Museum, 20 E 5th St. Erie, PA 16507

Join us at Erie Art Museum to view the Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh’s 2024 Member Exhibition. Nancy and Becky will lead discussion of innovative fiber work by our local Pittsburgh fiber artists. Expect a beautiful and thought-provoking show and stimulating discussion! Students provide their own transportation.

Please note: Students provide their own transportation to Erie. Each student will pay $10 to get into the museum.

Nancy Quick Langer and Becky Carpenter are Osher Study Leaders with experience teaching literature, writing, and art. Nancy is an embroidery artist and member of the Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh. Becky, an educator for almost 40 years, brings insight and experience to the study of all types of art. Together, they make a great team.

Collecting Pre Columbian And Ethnographic Art

Study Leader: Joel Aaronson

• 6 Classes: May 6 – Jun. 17*
• Monday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
• Aaronson Home, Point Breeze

*Note: Class will not meet on May 27

Using the study leader’s collection of Pre-Columbian and ethnographic art as a teaching vehicle, the course will explore the evolution of collecting as an endeavor; the nature of Pre-Columbian and ethnographic art distinguishing it from other art forms; the psychological, social and cultural functions and context of Pre-Columbian and ethnographic art; the cultures creating the art; the art itself; and the moral, legal, authenticity and market considerations associated with the collection of Pre-Columbian and ethnographic art.

Joel Aaronson is an attorney by trade, recently retired from Reed Smith, but has studied and collected Pre-Columbian and ethnographic art for over 30 years. He is a long serving member of the Board of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Joel has travelled extensively in Mexico, Central America, and South America to Pre-Columbian sites and museums. He lives part of the year in Mexico.

Important

To attend a course, you must have received a course confirmation for that course through the office. Please don’t confuse the course confirmation with a wait list notice.

We appreciate your cooperation.

To maintain the integrity of our organization, please do not share Zoom codes.
Plein Air Painting On The Farm

*Study Leader: Betsy Bangley*

- 1 Class: May 31
- Friday, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Bangley Farm

Join Betsy and David Bangley at their Beaver County farm for a morning of watercolor painting outdoors followed by a potluck picnic lunch.

**Betsy Bangley** has had a lifelong love of drawing. She has kept a nature journal of sketches and observations for over 20 years, and currently teaches drawing, watercolor painting, art journaling, and other courses in the arts and humanities at the Community College of Beaver County through the Continuing Education and Workforce Development Department.

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**DANCE/EXERCISE**

**Hatha Yoga**

*Study Leader: Loretta Barone*

*Materials Fee: $10*

- 7 Classes: May 9 – Jun. 20
- Thursday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Dance Alloy Studio, 5530 Penn Ave, East Liberty

This class will involve gentle, sensible, challenging exercises. Each week participants will be performing classical postures of stretching and strengthening in accordance with the course objectives, which are to increase flexibility, to gain strength, to learn correct breathing techniques, to promote better body alignment, to learn deep relaxation techniques, and to manage stress and tension better. Exercises can be adapted for those with a variety of abilities. Participants will need a mat or pad to sit/lie on (a carpet strip, foam pad, or blanket is fine) and will need to wear loose, non-binding clothing.

Please note: Short summer session is for returning students only. You must have taken a previous course to enroll in this course. New students will be welcome in the fall and spring.

*For physical activity courses we encourage everyone to consult with a physician who can help assess fitness for participation. Please be aware that we do not have trained medical personnel on the premise during any courses with physical activity.*

**Loretta Barone** took her first yoga class in 1966. She's been practicing and teaching yoga ever since. Her class is a melding of all the best things she has learned from a variety of yoga teachers, disciplines, and practices. She began teaching in her son's kindergarten class when she realized that five-year-olds could not bend down and touch their toes. In 1978, she began teaching in the adult program of the Dade County Public Schools, Florida. After 10 years, she moved on to teaching privately. All in all, she taught for 20 years in Miami and has taught here since 1998.

*Materials fee information located on page 71.*
**MUSIC & DRAMA**

**Singing In A Choral Group**

*Study Leader: Constance Rapp*

*Materials Fee: $15*

- 6 Classes: May 9 – Jun. 13
- Thursday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
- Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 5700 Forbes Ave, Squirrel Hill, 15217

In an atmosphere of collegiality, the class learns choral music spanning the centuries. No experience is necessary; however, the class does learn 2- and 3-part music. Reading music is helpful. The desire to participate and learn is essential!

Please note: Sheet music is included in the fee.

**Connie Rapp** has been in Pittsburgh for many years, participating in teaching Osher classes at CMU and Pitt, piano teaching at Duquesne University and CMU Prep Division. Prior to coming to Pittsburgh, she taught choral music in public schools. She holds a M.Sci in piano from Juilliard, and a B.Music degree from the University of Michigan. Teaching choral classes at CMU and PITT for over 15 years has been a joyful experience.

*Materials fee information located on page 71.

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**TOURS**

**Our Three Rivers: Up Close & Personal**

*Study Leader: Scott Harshman, Richard Lockwood*

- 6 Classes: May 8 – Jun. 12
- Wednesday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Various Locations, TBA

The course is intended to increase awareness of the participants to the value of the major watersheds in Western Pennsylvania and their impact on the economic health of the region and the quality of life of the citizens. The course will consist of six unique weekly field site visits on Wednesdays from 9am - noon that highlight important aspects related to the watersheds including a lock & dam, an operating river terminal, an environmental site, and a recreational facility. On May 8, the class will be about the Inland Marine Transportation System and at the Carnegie Science Center. On May 15, we’ll be doing a tour of the Emsworth Lock & Dam. On May 22 we’ll be visiting a river terminal on the Ohio River and transportation will be provided. The May 29 class will have a recreation focus and the June 5 class will have a historical perspective focus. For June 12, we’ll conclude the course at the monthly meeting of the Waterways Association of Pittsburgh and a free lunch will be provided. For certain visits, charter bus transportation will be provided from the Port-Pitt office.

**Scott Harshman**, with over 20 years of public and private sector experience focusing on economic development, serves as the Marketing & Program Manager for the Port of Pittsburgh Commission. In this position, Scott works to promote the commercial and recreational use of our rivers and increase the visibility of the Commission's offerings in the Greater Pittsburgh region including the Revolving Loan Fund, financing packages for capital projects, access to various grant programs, and advocacy for increased lock and dam funding. Scott is a graduate of Indiana University of PA with a B.A. in political science and economics.

HISTORY

Liberty And No Excise!

*Study Leader: Denise Cummins*

Materials Fee: $25*

- 1 Class: Jun. 18
- Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- BHHA Meeting House, 182 S. Main St

This was the rallying cry for the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794, the first test of the power of the federal government under the new U.S. Constitution, when the unpopular excise tax levied against frontier farmers incited them to violent protest. The morning session is a lecture providing an overview of this insurrection and to establish historical context. The afternoon session is a site visit to the Bradford House Museum, where participants will tour the beautifully restored and appointed National Historic Landmark home of Whiskey Rebellion leader David Bradford, and the Whiskey Rebellion Education & Visitor Center, where visitors will walk through an illustrated timeline of events and period displays. Knowledgeable docents, in period attire, will provide additional insight as well as answer questions. All sites are located on South Main Street, Washington PA.

Please note: Lunch is included in tour. Material fee of $25 will be collected at the door.

Denise Cummins was born and raised in Washington, Pennsylvania, a few blocks from the Old Stone House that is now the Bradford House Museum. She began volunteering at the Bradford House following her retirement from teaching. A lifelong learner, she enjoys finding the story behind the history and sharing that story with others. Tracie Liberatore, the Executive Director of the Bradford House Historical Association since 2011, has a strong business and non-profit background. She works closely with the board of directors, docents, and volunteers to raise awareness for the Whiskey Rebellion.

*Materials fee information located on page 71.*

PITTSBURGH

Walking Uptown And Duquesne University

*Study Leader: Jay Steele*

- 1 Class: Jun. 27
- Thursday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Various Locations, TBA

In this one-day summer walking tour we will explore a mix of the old and the new, including the PPG Paints Arena and the exciting things being built at the former Civic Arena site. We'll also see churches such as Epiphany and St. Benedict the Moor, and locations such as Chatham Center, Crawford Square including Freedom Corner, UPMC Mercy, as well as the buildings of Duquesne University, and much more. The walking tour is led by an experienced 25 year plus tour guide. It’s a fun way to exercise!

Jay Steele is a retired adjunct professor of Health and Physical Education at CCAC. He is a Pittsburgh native born and raised in the Observatory Hill section of the North Side. He currently lives in Ross Township with his wife Carol and pug Charlie. He has also taught historical walking courses for CCAC, CMU and Pitt Osher, and Doors Open Pittsburgh. He has developed these walking tours/classes throughout the city of Pittsburgh/Allegheny County which combines his love of exercise, and Pittsburgh/Allegheny County history and architecture.
Tour Of UPMC Vision Institute

Study Leader: UPMC Vision

• 1 Class: Jun. 24
• Monday, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
• UPMC Vision Institute,
  1622 Locust St., Pittsburgh,

You will be given a tour of the UPMC Mercy Pavilion, a new 450,000 sq. ft. facility that is the home of the UPMC Vision and UPMC Rehabilitation Institutes. You will see cutting edge clinical and research technologies in a beautiful state of the art facility, which includes several commissioned works of art, designed specifically with the patient in mind. Come see this amazing new asset the community.

Lawton Snyder directs all development activities for the Eye & Ear Foundation in support of the academic and research efforts for Departments of Otolaryngology and Ophthalmology at the University of Pittsburgh, with the aim of enhancing the quality of patient care through advances gained through supported research. His responsibilities also include serving as the liaison between the Board of Directors of the Eye & Ear Foundation, UPMC, and the University of Pittsburgh, while enhancing public relations and awareness of the Foundation. Prior to joining the Eye & Ear Foundation in December 2009, Mr. Snyder served as Director of Development with the School of Pharmacy at the University of Pittsburgh. He has also held a fundraising appointment as Director of Development for University of Arizona Health Sciences, focusing primarily on Ophthalmology and Vision Science, the Sarver Heart Center, and the Center for Integrative Medicine. Mr. Snyder holds a bachelor’s degree in health sciences from Rutgers University, a Master of Science degree in Exercise Physiology from University of Pittsburgh, and an MBA from Robert Morris University.

Walking Historical Homewood Cemetery

Study Leader: Jay Steele

• 1 Class: Jun. 18
• Tuesday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
• Various Locations, TBA

Homewood Cemetery is 205 acres of rolling hills that sits on part of the land formerly owned by Judge Wilkins who called his mansion “Homewood.” Jay Steele, with 25 years of experience, will highlight the best of the cemetery including the main entrance buildings. See the tombs and mausoleums of Judge Wilkens, George and Pearl Mesta (machine works), Errol Garner (jazz musician), Pie Traynor (Pirate hall-of-famer), and David Clark (bar). Included in the tour is section 14—the most noteworthy section of the cemetery featuring the graves of Harry Brown (pyramid), HJ Heinz (57 varieties), Senator John Heinz, Henry Frick and family (coke and steel), Colonel Schoonmaker (civil war), James Mellon (businessman), Robert Pitcairn (railroad), Ed Bigelow (father of the Pittsburgh parks), and Michael Benedum (oil wildcatter).

Jay Steele is a retired adjunct professor of Health and Physical Education at CCAC. He is a Pittsburgh native born and raised in the Observatory Hill section of the North Side. He currently lives in Ross Township with his wife Carol and pug Charlie. He has also taught historical walking courses for CCAC, CMU and Pitt Osher, and Doors Open Pittsburgh. He has developed these walking tours/classes throughout the city of Pittsburgh/Allegheny County which combines his love of exercise, and Pittsburgh/Allegheny County history and architecture.
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<td>Liberty And No Excise!</td>
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<td>Our Three Rivers: Up Close &amp; Personal</td>
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<td>Jerez/Sherry Wine Appreciation, Part 1</td>
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GENERAL INFORMATION & POLICIES

CLASSROOM LOCATIONS
If you are not familiar with the Carnegie Mellon campus, we strongly advise you to plan a visit to locate parking and the Osher center in Cyert Hall before the first day of classes. You’ll find the campus map for CMU at the end of its section. For specific page numbers, please see the front of the catalog.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS
Photos and videos are taken at many Osher events/classes to be used on the website and in promotional materials. If you do not wish to have your photo taken, please advise the photographer before the picture is taken, otherwise your picture will be included. If you are taking picture in class, please ask permission first.

For privacy and copyright laws, we do not allow our Zoom courses to be recorded by anyone.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE
All of Osher’s instructors are volunteering their time and talents. We are respectful of our course instructors and fellow participants by:

• attending only course(s) we are registered for. Please DO NOT share Zoom codes and passwords with anyone.
• arriving to class just before class starts. Remember: 7 in, 7 out.
• wearing a name tag when attending in-person classes
• raising your hand to be recognized before speaking. On Zoom, be sure to have your full name entered so you can be appropriately called on.
• staying on topic during discussions and taking turns when speaking.
• on Zoom, staying muted when not speaking so background sound from your space won’t be shared with the rest of your classmates.
• muting or turning off your phone.
• On Zoom, please be dressed appropriatley

BAD WEATHER DAYS
All in-person classes will be canceled if Pittsburgh Public Schools are closed for inclement weather. No notice will be sent out. Zoom classes will still be held. Staff assistance may be limited.

If the Pittsburgh City Schools have a 2-hour delay, classes will operate as normal unless a study leader chooses to cancel their class. Please use common sense when venturing out.

If classes are canceled due to weather mid-day, you will receive both an email and a robo call alerting you to the cancelation from the Osher office.

CHECK YOUR SCHEDULE
The most up-to-date information about all classes is always available at cmu.edu/osher. Click on the Google calendar or go to Member Sign In and enter the course ID. It is important to note course locations on your calendar.

NON-DISCRIMINATION
Osher at CMU welcomes everyone regardless of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation, socio-economic status, or other identification markers. We respect all beliefs, perspectives, abilities, and experience. Actions such as bullying, hateful comments, or disrespectful behaviors are never tolerated.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Don’t let finances stop you from participating in Osher classes. Full and partial scholarships are available through a simple, friendly, and confidential process. Contact the Osher office for details.

CONTROVERSIAL SPEAKERS
On occasion, the sentiments and beliefs of a speaker or study leader may be controversial or divisive. To ensure the inherent rights of free speech and freedom of expression, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Carnegie Mellon does not censor or limit any materials or opinions expressed by persons involved in our courses or lectures. However, it should be noted that those opinions may not reflect the philosophical perspective of our organization.

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS
Study Leaders will frequently email handouts, assignments, and class notices to their students. It is important that we have your current email address:

• The Weekly Essentials newsletter is sent every Friday to notify you of upcoming Osher and CMU activities. Please do not opt out.
• The Osher office will send email notices for important course changes. If the change has been made less than 24 hours before the scheduled event, a robo call/text will also be sent.
• While the internet has a lot of fun and thoughtful “stuff” to share, it is important for you to know that who you are sending stuff to is a friend and that they want to receive what you want to share. Using Osher members’ emails for non-Osher stuff is not appropriate. Please ask permission first; to not do so goes against the Osher Privacy Policy.

OSHER EMAIL ADDRESSES
The following email addresses are used to disseminate information to our students. Please add the following addresses to your email address book so you won’t miss important information:

• osher@cmu.edu
• osher-email-to-students@andrew.cmu.edu
• osher-general@andrew.cmu.edu
CHECK YOUR CALENDAR

As you are picking your courses, please be sure none of your classes conflict with your family events, holidays, trips, or other important events. Please only register for courses you will be able to attend. A list of official non-class dates is located below. Osher at CMU follows the CMU calendar. Once course dates are established, they will not be changed unless there is an emergency.

MATERIALS FEES

Materials fees are due at the time of registration unless otherwise stated.

ZOOM CODES

Zoom codes are sent out in the 7-day class reminder emails. If you can’t find this email, please check your junk or spam folder. If you still cannot locate the email, please contact the Osher Office by emailing osher@cmu.edu and ask for it to be resent.

CONFIRMATION LETTERS

A “confirmation of class registration” will be automatically emailed to you for each course you enroll in. Should a course not be listed, it means that you are on the waiting list and you will receive a separate waitlist email. You will be notified via email, or phone, if and when you are enrolled in a wait listed class. Please do not attend any classes for which you do not have a confirmation.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Your attendance in class is very important. Attendance is automatically recorded for Zoom classes. For in person courses, please sign in for each class attended.

REFUND POLICY

If a student drops a course at least three full business days before the first day of the course, and building and/or material fees were paid, Osher will refund these fees minus a $10.00 administrative fee.

If a student drops all of their courses at least three full business days before the first day of the first course, Osher will refund that term’s registration fee and the building and/or material fees paid, minus a $10.00 administrative fee.

If Osher cancels a course, before it has begun, and it is the only course the member is registered for in the term, Osher will refund that term’s registration fee and any building and/or material fees paid.

If Osher cancels a course and the member is registered for other courses, Osher will only refund the course’s building and material fees paid for that specific course.

All refunds will be given as an electronic voucher for future use, unless a check is requested. Please see the Osher at CMU website for the refund policy for the NRC’s Osher Online courses.

OBSERVED 2024 OFFICIAL OSHER SKIP DAYS

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CMU is a nonsectarian organization. The organization follows the CMU holiday calendar. Once a course schedule is set by the study leader and the Registrar, no changes are permitted unless there is an emergency.

Osher at CMU is closed and staff are unavailable on the following days:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Jan. 15
- Memorial Day: May 27
- Juneteenth: Jun. 19
- Independence Day: Jul. 4
- Labor Day: Sep. 2
- Election Day: Nov. 5
- Thanksgiving Wednesday: Nov. 27
- Thanksgiving Day: Nov. 28
- Thanksgiving Friday: Nov. 29
- Winter Break: Dec. 23 - Jan. 1

CMU Carnival will be held on April 13th & 14th and no on-campus classes will be held.