



SPRING 2025 COURSE CATALOG

LEARNING FOR ADULTS AGE 50+

**REGISTRATION OPENS:
MONDAY, JAN. 27, 9 A.M.**

**NEW MEMBER WELCOME:
FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 10 A.M.**

**SPRING SEMESTER:
MARCH 3 - MAY 23, 2025**

**FEATURING 23
NEW COURSES**

**HYBRID, ONLINE,
AND IN-PERSON**



UConn
WATERBURY

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We are grateful to UConn Waterbury and the Osher Foundation for their continued support of OLLI at UConn.

MEMBER BENEFITS

IT'S MORE THAN GREAT CLASSES!

-  OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER FOR OLLI COURSES (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE)
-  FREE ACCESS TO MOST SPECIAL EVENTS (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE)
-  FREE ACCESS TO OLLI CAFÉ LECTURES (IN-PERSON ONLY)
-  ACCESS TO RECORDED CLASS LECTURES



DISCOUNTED PARKING FOR UCONN WATERBURY GARAGE



OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN OLLI TRIPS AND CLUBS (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE)



DISCOUNTS TO OLLI PARTNERSHIP EVENTS (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE)



YEAR-ROUND NOTICES ABOUT ADDITIONAL OLLI PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



UCONN LIBRARY PRIVILEGES

NEW MEMBER WELCOME



Remember that feeling of going to a new school and trying to figure out where to go and what to do? Are you concerned that joining OLLI will make you feel like that again? Don't worry - we've got you covered!

Our New Member Welcome Event is for anyone who is new to OLLI at UConn. This is an opportunity to come to the UConn Waterbury campus before in-person classes start. Spend the morning with us and find where your Friday classes are located, where to attend OLLI Cafe, how to get a parking permit, and more. Meet the OLLI staff and volunteers, and get all your questions answered before your first day of classes.

Our new member welcome is a great way to meet other members so you know a few faces on your first day. At OLLI, you don't have to feel like the new kid!

Join us on Friday, February 28, 2025

10 a.m. Welcome, coffee, OLLI overview, and your questions answered

11 a.m. Campus tour

Register for the New Member Welcome in the "Special Events" section of the registration system.

Mark your calendars! Our Events Committee is busy planning a special performance for our end-of-semester celebration. We invite all OLLI at UConn members to join us as we celebrate our unique learning adventures together.

End-of-Semester Celebration

When:

May 23, 2025 from 12-2 p.m.

Where:

UConn Campus MPR (113-119)

SPRING 2025 COURSE LISTINGS

ANIMAL SCIENCE

AS-124 *The Biology of the Honey Bee*
Alphonse Avitabile, Page 9

ART & ART HISTORY

***NEW* AH-414** *Sacred Geometry Explorations*

Helen Sperry & Rosalie Griffin, Page 10

***NEW* AH-443** *Modern Japan: History and Art*

MaryClaire Morin, Page 8

AH-456 *Riverside Cemetery: Museum of Art, History, and Nature*

Martin Begnal, Page 4

CULTURE & LANGUAGE

CL-412 *Venerdi In Italia Numero 1 (Part 2)*

Nunzio DeFilippis, Page 7

CURRENT EVENTS

CE-018 *Contemporary Issues*

David Corbett, Page 8

***NEW* CE-027** *Ranking the U.S. 2025! "Top 10" Lists*

Douglas Stowell, Page 4

***NEW* CE-033** *American Civics 101: A Crash Course*

Alan Perper, Page 3

***NEW* CE-035** *HIV and AIDS: Where Are We Now?*

Aviana Rosen, Page 8

HEALTH & WELLNESS

***NEW* HW-404** *Native American Culture and the Environment. An Old View Takes on a New Meaning.*

Catherine Iaccarino, Page 7

HW-413 *Chair Yoga, Stretch, and Balance Movement for Health and Well-being*

Roxann Riskin, Page 5

HISTORY

***NEW* HS-441** *The History of the Silent Film Era*

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***NEW* HS-443** *The Conquest of the West: 1803-1890*

Hamish Lutris, Page 6

***NEW* HS-445** *Discovering Albania: An Overview of Albania's History, Culture, and Contemporary Life*

Tefta Haxhi Bushka, Page 10

***NEW* HS-447** *France From the End of WWII to 1975 (Les 30 Glorieuses)*

Roger Levy, Page 8

HS-525 *The Magic Behind the Footlights - Backstage Secrets of Waterbury's Storied Palace Theater*

Donna Cameron, Page 3

HS-542 *Connecticut's Hidden History: 1640-1848*

Nicole Carpenter & Alexander Filippides, Page 5

HS-557 *Ellis Island and the Search for Living Relatives*

Eric Lanzieri, Page 7

HORTICULTURE

***NEW* HC-400** *Creating Hypertufa Garden Containers*

Joyce Fingerut, Page 4

***NEW* HC-401** *Creating a Native Plant Garden*

Allison Middlemass & Robin Ladouceur, Page 6

LITERATURE & WRITING

***NEW* LW-400A/B** *An Introduction to Writing the Food Memoir*

Neema Syovata, Page 7

***NEW* LW-413** *Enchantment of Poetry*

Julie Cook, Page 8

LW-416 *Spring Forth With Your Writing. Meander Down a New Page of Creativity. Find Yourself on the Page.*

Nancy T. Whitney, Page 4

***NEW* LW-417** *Entitled to My Opinion - A Course in the Personal Essay*

Gabriella Brand, Page 3

MATH & SCIENCE

MS-441 *What Color Are Your Genes?*

Douglas Welsh, Page 9

MUSIC

***NEW* MU-426** *Singing for the Fun of It*

Julie Cook, Page 7

***NEW* MU-437** *The Best Rock Songs of All Time*

Emanuel Abramovits, Page 3

MU-447 *There's More to "Messiah" Than Meets the Ear*

Donna Obarowski, Page 6

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

***NEW* PD-411** *Are Your Thoughts Weakening or Strengthening You?*

Stacey Altomari, Page 5

***NEW* PD-412** *Enough With the Talking Points: Doing More Good Than Harm in Conversation*

Reggie Marra, Page 4

PD-421 *The Major Arcana*

Rev. S. Weechie Baker, MA, Page 3

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

***NEW* PR-436A/B** *The Revealing of a Godly Man*

André L. McGuire, Page 9

***NEW* PR-437** *Introduction to Islam*

Rizwan Khan, Page 4

***NEW* PR-438** *Affirmative Prayer and Meditation for Healing and Personal Growth*

Rev. S. Weechie Baker, MA, Page 5

SOCIAL SCIENCES

SS-009 *Contemporary Economic Policy*

Geoffrey Woglom, Page 6

SS-011 *Healing America's Narratives: Owning Our National Shadow in 2025 and Beyond*

Reggie Marra, Page 8

SPECIAL EVENTS

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VISUAL ARTS

VA-408 *Some of My Students' Favorite Operas*

Nunzio De Filippis, Page 9

VA-409 *How to Edit Your Photographs Using Adobe Lightroom*

Tim Padgett, Page 5

VA-415 *Enriching Experience with Acrylic Medium*

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VA-416 *The Graphic Memoir*

Megan Jeffery, Page 9

VA-432 *Mandalas and More as Art and Personal Relaxation*

Rose-Ann Chrzanowski, Page 7

***NEW* VA-436** *Family Dynamics Through Film*

Joe Gambini, Page 9

VA-449 *Understanding Your Camera and/or Cellphone Camera*

Tim Padgett, Page 5

VA-456 *Fundamentals of Drawing*

Thelma Appel, Page 9

VA-461 *The Art In Painting: Learning to See - A Workshop*

Thelma Appel, Page 10

VA-480 *Zentangle Inspired Art*

Debbie Mitchell, Page 10

Hybrid Courses!

This spring, we are continuing to offer hybrid courses. A hybrid course is one where students can attend both in person and via Zoom. If you see the word "hybrid" next to a course description, then this means you can sign up to attend either in-person OR online.

An asterisk (*) in front of a course title means that that course has recommended and/or required course supplies. Course supplies can be viewed on the center insert pages titled *Required/Recommended Books & Supplies*.

MONDAY COURSES

NEW MU-437 | **The Best Rock Songs of All Time** with Emanuel Abramovits
5 sessions | 4/14 - 5/12 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | \$28 | **Online ; Recorded**

Let's discuss what makes the best rock songs great, the context when they became classics, the songwriters/performers, their cultural significance, and why it's advised to wear a black T-shirt in at least one class. From the '50s until today, there's plenty of great music to talk about!

HS-525 | **The Magic Behind the Footlights - Backstage Secrets of Waterbury's Storied Palace Theater** with Donna Cameron

5 sessions | 3/31 - 5/5 (*No class on 4/21) | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | \$28 | **In-Person, Off-Site**

We'll tour the theater's backstage, dressing rooms, and fly loft; view a slideshow of the restoration, old theater photos and a look at the life of Sylvester Z. Poli, builder/operator of the Poli chain of theaters; and meet with the theater's C-level officers to discuss theater operations and future plans. **The Palace Theater's address will be noted on the registration website once spring registration opens on 1/27.**

PD-421 | ***The Major Arcana** with Rev. S. Weechie Baker, MA

8 sessions | 3/3 - 4/21 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$45 | **Online ; Recorded**

Focused on the 22 Major Arcana cards, this course offers powerful insight and healing to the curious/devoted reader. You'll learn how to understand the Fool's Journey and the Major Arcana's archetypes and influences. This will be an interactive Tarot experience with reading practice each session!

NEW LW-417 | **Entitled to My Opinion - A Course in the Personal Essay** with Gabriella Brand

9 sessions | 3/3 - 5/5 (*No class on 3/17) | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$51 | **Online**

We all have opinions from the superficial to the profound. Do you like pineapple on pizza? Do you believe in the "right to die"? Participants will learn how to construct a personal essay and will have a choice of topics each week. Guaranteed lively results as the class listens to each other's essays.

NEW CE-033 | **American Civics 101: A Crash Course** with Alan Perper

5 sessions | 3/3 - 3/31 | 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM | \$38 | **Online ; Recorded**

If you had to take a citizenship test each year to remain a U.S. citizen, would you be able to pass? This unique civics course provides the answers to questions every person applying for citizenship today needs to know...how our Government is supposed to function.

TUESDAY COURSES

NEW PD-412 | **Enough With the Talking Points: Doing More Good Than Harm in Conversation** with Reggie Marra

6 sessions | 3/4 - 4/8 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | \$34 | **Online ; Recorded**

In difficult conversations, many of us label, insult, generalize, and characterize each other—doing more harm than good. We'll explore a practical approach to doing more good than harm in conversation by navigating cultural givens, facts, opinions, curiosity, learning, intention, and generosity.

NEW PR-437 | **Introduction to Islam** with Rizwan Khan

10 sessions | 3/4 - 5/6 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | **Online ; Recorded**

In this course, we will explore the religion of Islam. You will also have your questions and critiques about the second-largest and fastest-growing religion in the world answered.

LW-416 | **Spring Forth With Your Writing. Meander Down a New Page of Creativity. Find Yourself on the Page.** with Nancy T. Whitney

10 sessions | 3/4 - 5/6 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$56 | **Online**

Creative writing is fun, challenging, interesting and stretches my students on their own. I encourage them to write in their own style.

AH-456 | **Riverside Cemetery: Museum of Art, History, and Nature** with Martin Begnal

5 sessions | 4/8 - 5/6 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$28 | **In-Person, Off-Site**

We'll meet at Riverside Cemetery where students will be led on a weekly tour to view the monuments and hear the stories of those resting at Riverside, which includes architects, artists, industrialists, inventors, soldiers, suffragettes, and others who've changed local, state, and national history.

Riverside Cemetery's address will be noted on the registration website once spring registration opens on 1/27.

NEW CE-027 | **Ranking the U.S. 2025! "Top 10" Lists** with Douglas Stowell

1 session | 3/4 | 1:45 PM - 3:30 PM | \$5 | **Online ; Abbreviated ; Recorded**

We'll use the "Top 10" format to examine topics including: taxes, education, healthcare, music, etc. to see how the U.S. ranks relative to other nations in meeting challenges in 2025. Global surveys by credible worldwide orgs. will be used as sources. A complete pdf copy will be supplied in advance.

NEW HC-400 | ***Creating Hypertufa Garden Containers** with Joyce Fingerut

1 session | 5/6 | 1:45 PM - 4:45 PM | \$15* | **In-Person, Off-Site ; Abbreviated**

Participants will make styrofoam forms, mix cement and lightweight aggregates to make the hypertufa, and create a 12" x 12" x 8" garden planter to finish at home. The hypertufa planter will need time to cure (like concrete), but will be ready for planting a month later. **The OLLI Fulton Garden Project's address will be noted on the registration website once spring registration opens on 1/27.**

***Plus costs for supplies. The full supplies list, which includes the items on the *Required/Recommended Books & Supplies* insert page, will be sent to those who register.**

WEDNESDAY COURSES

VA-449 | **Understanding Your Camera and/or Cellphone Camera** with Tim Padgett
10 sessions | 3/5 - 5/7 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | [Online](#) ; **Recorded**

This course covers an understanding of how a camera works no matter if it is an SLR/mirrorless or a cellphone camera. Join me and get to know how to get the most out of them.

NEW PD-411 | **Are Your Thoughts Weakening or Strengthening You?** with Stacey Altomari
8 sessions | 3/19 - 5/7 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$45 | [Online](#)

Every single thought we have can be assessed in terms of whether it strengthens or weakens us. This course will show you how to measure your thoughts and how to change those that weaken us.

NEW PR-438 | ***Affirmative Prayer and Meditation for Healing and Personal Growth** with Rev. S. Weechie Baker, MA

5 sessions | 3/5 - 4/2 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$28 | [Online](#) ; **Recorded**

This non-denominational, spiritually based course combines spiritual principles with mindfulness practices to encourage personal transformation and healing. We'll learn the differences between traditional prayer, affirmative prayer, and meditation, and we'll explore basic meditation techniques.

VA-409 | ***How to Edit Your Photographs Using Adobe Lightroom** with Tim Padgett
10 sessions | 3/5 - 5/7 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$56 | [Online](#) ; **Recorded**

This beginner's course will help introduce or refresh students' knowledge on what Raw files are and how to edit photos in Adobe Lightroom. We'll cover everything from importing/exporting files to simple/advanced editing techniques. You'll be asked to submit a raw photo to edit together in class.

HS-542 | **Connecticut's Hidden History: 1640-1848** with Nicole Carpenter & Alexander Filippides
8 sessions | 3/5 - 4/23 | 1:45 PM - 2:45 PM | \$30 | [Online](#) ; **Recorded**

Westport Museum for History & Culture Directors will help you explore notable events and periods in CT history through untold stories of the people and places which participated. Stories will come alive through the use of artifacts and archival materials. ***The final session will be in person at the museum.***

THURSDAY COURSES

HW-413 | ***Chair Yoga, Stretch and Balance Movement for Health and Well-being** with Roxann Riskin
10 sessions | 3/6 - 5/8 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | [Online](#)

This engaging, low-impact chair yoga course will help enhance your mental and physical well-being by focusing on exercises with attention to breath awareness, and will incorporate balance, flexibility, etc. via visual and verbal awareness practices. Balls or stretch bands may be suggested in some sessions.

NEW HC-401 | **Creating a Native Plant Garden** with Allison Middlemass & Robin Ladouceur
4 sessions | 4/17 - 5/8 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$23 | **In-Person, Off-Site**

Through trips to the Bent of the River Audubon Center and Fulton Park, you'll learn about native plants, do a plant ID walk, install a native pollinator garden at the OLLI garden, learn how to create a native plant garden, and more! See the online registration site for more info once registration opens. **The Bent of the River Audubon Center and Fulton Park's addresses will be noted on the registration website once spring registration opens on 1/27.**

SS-009 | **Contemporary Economic Policy** with Geoffrey Woglom
5 sessions | 4/10 - 5/8 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$28 | **Online ; Recorded**

This course addresses a set of prominent policy issues where economics is at their core. We'll explore their origins as policy matters, the underlying data and evidence, and what policy levers are available to deal with them. Each lecture will be taught by a different subject matter expert.

An asterisk next to the course dates means that there is going to be a week that the course does not meet due to Good Friday (4/18) and/or UConn final exams (5/9).

FRIDAY COURSES (EARLY MORNING)

NEW HS-443 | **The Conquest of the West: 1803-1890** with Hamish Lutris
4 sessions | 3/7 - 4/4 (*No class on 3/21) | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | \$23 | **In-Person**

These four sessions will explore the way the United States explored, exploited, and finally conquered the western United States from the Lewis and Clark expedition to the closing of the frontier. Each session is self-contained, though all are closely linked.

MU-447 | **There's More to "Messiah" Than Meets the Ear** with Donna Obarowski
5 sessions | 3/7 - 4/4 | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | \$28 | **In-Person**

G. F. Handel's landmark oratorio, "Messiah" and its iconic chorus, "Hallelujah" is one of music's most celebrated works. His life, impact on music and culture and the "inner workings" of "Messiah" make for a fascinating story. Come and learn how "Messiah" is truly more than meets the ear!

VA-415 | ***Enriching Experience With Acrylic Medium** with Judy Jaworski
10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM | \$75 | **In-Person**

Students will be made aware of composition, balance of light and shadow, and develop their own style and expertise using acrylic. They will use a personal photo to guide them.

CL-412 | ***Venerdi In Italia Numero 1 (Part 2)** with Nunzio DeFilippis

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 9:45 AM - 11:45 AM | \$75 | **In-Person**

This course is a continuation of Venerdi in Italia Numero 1 and will offer a complete Italian experience for new Italian students with little-to-no Italian knowledge. We'll discuss elementary Italian grammar, vocabulary and conversation along with Italian culture, including history, movies, operas, etc.

HS-557 | **Ellis Island and the Search for Living Relatives** with Eric Lanzieri

4 sessions | 4/25 - 5/23* | 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | \$23 | **In-Person**

We'll interpret Ellis Island arrival records, show how they can be used to get info about ancestors, and suggest methods for using them to help discover living relatives in the ancestor's country of origin. Students are encouraged to submit their own ancestors' info for use as examples.

NEW MU-426 | **Singing for the Fun of It** with Julie Cook

5 sessions | 4/11 - 5/23* | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | \$19 | **In-Person**

Singing is good for our bodies, mind, and mood. Join us as we sing songs of love, inspiration, high energy, and peace. Our community of singers will also explore rounds, chants, and spontaneous song. No previous singing experience necessary.

FRIDAY COURSES (LATE MORNING)

NEW HW-404 | **Native American Culture and the Environment. An Old View Takes on a New Meaning.** with Catherine Iaccarino

2 sessions | 3/7 - 3/14 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$11 | **In-Person ; Abbreviated**

In this course you can discover a range of beliefs and customs of our first environmentalists; glimpse at their personal relationship with Mother Nature (and create one of your own); and learn how to help nature to enrich your life and your environment.

NEW LW-400A/B | ***An Introduction to Writing the Food Memoir** with Neema Syovata

5 sessions | 3/7 - 4/4 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$28 | **Hybrid**

Let's learn about the food memoir genre through personal stories, memories, and how cultural identity intersects with food. We'll focus on key aspects of memoir writing using exercises, readings, and talks to gain understanding. This course is perfect for food enthusiasts and aspiring writers alike!

VA-432 | **Mandalas and More as Art and Personal Relaxation** with Rose-Ann Chrzanowski

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | **In-Person**

We will explore different mediums to create art in the form of mandalas or anything you would like. No artistic ability is needed. Just come and explore the options and discover your own creativity!

SS-011 | **Healing America's Narratives: Owing Our National Shadow in 2025 and Beyond**
with Reggie Marra

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | **In-Person**

Through a multidisciplinary look at American history, current events, prospective futures, and selective denials, we'll explore prospects for healing our diverse narratives and growing together as more fully human beings—for our own sakes, and for our kids and grandkids, and theirs.

CE-018 | **Contemporary Issues** with David Corbett

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | **In-Person**

This course will serve as an examination of the salient issues facing the United States and the world. The class will have input in the selection of the issues we examine.

NEW AH-443 | **Modern Japan: History and Art** with MaryClaire Morin

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$56 | **In-Person**

We will be starting with the Edo Period (1615 - 1868), which was a time of peace and a flourishing of culture and art for Japan. Following this period, we will explore Japan in the 20th century and the events that triggered an outpouring of art. I aim to end with a look at contemporary Japan.

NEW CE-035 | **HIV and AIDS: Where Are We Now?** with Aviana Rosen

1 session | 4/4 | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$5 | **In-Person ; Abbreviated**

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) has taken ~40 million lives since the 1980s, and ~39 million people globally live with it today. We'll cover basic information regarding transmission, prevention, and treatment and dive into the risk factors for vulnerable populations who are most affected by it.

NEW HS-447 | **France From the End of WWII to 1975 (Les 30 Glorieuses)** with Roger Levy

4 sessions | 4/25 - 5/23* | 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM | \$23 | **In-Person**

The recovery of France, the country of my birth, in the 30 years post-WWII was stunning (hence "Les 30 Glorieuses" - the Glorious Thirties). We'll explore the major changes, including those in the population's culture and lifestyle during that time, and some major setbacks (such as colonial wars).

FRIDAY COURSES (MIDDAY)

NEW LW-413 | **Enchantment of Poetry** with Julie Cook

5 session | 3/7 - 4/4 | 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM | \$23 | **In-Person**

Join us as we read, enjoy, and learn from (mostly) contemporary poems. We will use examples and prompts to inspire our own poetry writing and play with pairing poems with music, art, and movement. Come and immerse yourself in the enchantment of poetry!

AS-124 | **The Biology of the Honey Bee** with Alphonse Avitabile

5 sessions | 3/7 - 4/4 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$28 | **In-Person**

Learn how the bee's anatomy fits its functions, about the relationships between bees and flowering plants, and how their co-evolution led to the dominance of flowering plants. Also explored is why there's one queen per colony and when/why bees swarm in order to multiply their colonies.

VA-416 | ***The Graphic Memoir** with Megan Jeffery

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$56 | **In-Person**

We'll use words and pictures to tell personal/ancestral stories to learn this sequential art experiment by making and using simple cartoon "avatars" as stand-ins for people in four-panel comics. We'll review the work of graphic memoirists (Barry, Chast, Kochalka, etc.) to understand their methods.

VA-456 | ***Fundamentals of Drawing** with Thelma Appel

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | \$56 | **In-Person**

This course will teach you about basic perspective, the relationships of objects to each other, how to energize a drawing by use of light and dark dynamics, how to explore different drawing instruments to achieve various effects, how to best express volume, and how to work with outlines alone.

VA-408 | **Some of My Students' Favorite Operas** with Nunzio DeFilippis

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM | \$75 | **In-Person**

Come watch favorite operas like: (Bel Canto) *La Sonnambula* by Bellini; (Romanticism) *Manon* by Massenet, *The Tales of Hoffmann* by Offenbach, and *La Traviata* by Verdi; (Operas in Transition) *La Boheme* by Puccini; (Verismo) *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Mascagni and *Pagliacci* by Leoncavallo.

FRIDAY COURSES (LATE AFTERNOON)

NEW VA-436 | **Family Dynamics Through Film** with Joe Gambini

4 sessions | 3/7 - 3/28 | 1:45 PM - 4:00 PM | \$34 | **In-Person**

Filmmakers often present issues that may exist in families and their positive and negative results. Often, these issues arise among families newly arrived in the U.S. trying to both assimilate and uphold their culture.

MS-441 | **What Color Are Your Genes?** with Douglas Welsh

5 sessions | 3/7 - 4/4 | 1:45 PM - 3:15 PM | \$28 | **In-Person**

This course will give an introduction to the science of genetics. We will present the current state of human genetics and the exciting new research in the field.

NEW PR-436A/B | ***The Revealing of a Godly Man** with André L. McGuire

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 1:45 PM - 3:30 PM | \$66 | **Hybrid**

Students will become aware of the attributes of Godliness and God's design for men in His word and the idea of women spiritually supporting the men in their lives and in their relationship with God. This will help them understand their relationship to God and one another, bringing couples closer.

VA-461 | ***The Art in Painting: Learning to See - A Workshop** with Thelma Appel

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 1:45 PM - 3:30 PM | \$66 | **In-Person**

We'll review the basics of organizing pictorial space to help us master painting in acrylics or oils by mixing primary colors and diluting them with white to contrast loud and muted values. We'll use still-life models/photos and study Old Master paintings for reference to create a dynamic work of art.

VA-480 | ***Zentangle Inspired Art** with Debbie Mitchell

10 sessions | 3/7 - 5/23* | 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM | \$75 | **In-Person**

Have fun using the Zentangle method of drawing to create many different pieces of art (no experience is required)! Create a lacy moon or star with white pen on black paper, Zen buttons, landscapes, and more! This method can be relaxing and fun.

NEW AH-414 | **Sacred Geometry Explorations** with Helen Sperry & Rosalie Griffin

5 sessions | 4/11 - 5/23* | 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM | \$23 | **In-Person**

Come learn the principles of sacred geometry, including the symbolism of geometric shapes and patterns found in history and nature - no math needed! We'll learn to draw and construct sacred geometric designs, their spiritual significance in cultural traditions, and study their practical uses.

NEW HS-441 | **The History of the Silent Film Era** with Leon Di Martino

4 sessions | 4/25 - 5/23* | 1:45 PM - 3:15 PM | \$23 | **In-Person**

This set of classes will feature talks on the following film stars of the "Silent Film" era: Harold Lloyd, Mack Sennett and the Sennett Film Studios, Buster Keaton, and the history of Silent Film Era Westerns. Silent-era film clips will be a part of this series of classes.

NEW HS-445 | **Discovering Albania: An Overview of Albania's History, Culture, and Contemporary Life** with Tefta Haxhi Bushka

1 session | 5/2 | 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM | \$5 | **In-Person ; Abbreviated**

This introductory course provides a history of Albania, its culture, and contemporary life, focusing on the communist regime of Albania from 1944 to 1991.

PARKING INFORMATION

If you take in-person courses and want to use UConn parking, you now have two payment options:

1. Purchase a parking permit online for the semester through UConn's Parking Services department (<https://park.uconn.edu>). *

To purchase a parking permit, either submit the online form and pay by check, or pay by credit card using the permit store. More information regarding this method can be found at <https://park.uconn.edu/student-parking-general-information-2/> under the "Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) - Parking Permits" section.

2. Use the PayByPhone: Mobile Parking service. This simple, convenient method requires you to download a mobile application to use when you arrive on campus. Once on the application, all you have to do is enter your license plate information, and the amount of time that you think you will need to park.*

More detailed instructions on how to use this new service are available at: <https://park.uconn.edu/pay-by-phone/>.

**If you are only taking a five-week course, then you may find it cheaper to use PayByPhone than to buy a parking permit for the full semester.*



Questions? Please contact the OLLI office at osher@uconn.edu.

Parking is available at both the UConn attached garage and the Scovill Street garage.

To learn more, visit:

<https://olli.uconn.edu/parking-and-directions/>.

Please Note: The OLLI office is *not* responsible for choosing which parking option is best for you; we just present you with the available options. It is up to you to pick which parking method works best with your schedule.

The OLLI Garden Project



FREE! We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays at our garden in Fulton Park, Waterbury. Sign up under "Projects" in the online registration system!

Join our exciting project for a unique social and learning experience!

By participating in *The OLLI Garden Project*, you can expect a deeply rewarding experience in urban gardening. Enjoy time outdoors at the OLLI garden in Waterbury's Fulton Park, while learning about soil preparation techniques, planting, growing seedlings, and raised-bed gardening techniques.

All produce is donated to local food banks and pantries. This year, do good and feel good!

This project is funded by the Connecticut Community Fund. We are grateful for their support.

SPRING 2025 OLLI CAFÉ LECTURES

- Lectures are held on Fridays in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) on the UConn Waterbury campus. Doors to the MPR (Rooms 113 - 119) will open at 11:45 a.m.
- To learn more about these OLLI Café presentations, visit: <https://olli.uconn.edu/olli-cafe-lecture-descriptions/>

March 7	<p>Beatriz Torres Presents <i>Aging Well: Resources and Support From the Western CT Area Agency on Aging (WCAAA)</i></p> <p>Join us for an informative session on the programs and resources offered by the WCAAA. They'll cover a range of services designed to support older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their families. How they provide guidance on critical areas such as housing, transportation, in-home support, and financial assistance, all aimed at promoting independence and enhancing quality-of-life will also be discussed.</p>
March 14	<p>Peg Shimer Presents <i>So Many Stories, So Little Time: Some of the Lesser-Known Stories of the Bellamy-Ferriday House and Garden</i></p> <p>Having witnessed 260 years of American history, the stories linked to the Bellamy-Ferriday House and Garden are numerous. This session will explore some of lesser-known (yet still fascinating) stories, staff and visitor favorites.</p>
March 21	<p>Mayor Paul Pernerewski and Chief Fernando Spagnolo Present <i>Update on Our City</i></p> <p>Mayor Paul Pernerewski and Chief Fernando Spagnolo will give an update on city improvements, issues, and goals. There will be time for questions and answers.</p>
March 28	<p>Dale Picard Presents <i>Changing Lives 4 Paws at a Time: ECAD Service Dogs</i></p> <p>ECAD co-founder Dale Picard will speak about ECAD's mission, programs, and volunteer opportunities. He'll be joined by our Puppy Instructor, Christina, and a Service Dog in Training.</p>
April 4	<p>Vickie Orsini Nardello Presents <i>So You Think You Know How Laws Are Made? The Textbook Description of the Legislative Process and What Really Happens Behind the Scenes.</i></p> <p>The basics of the CT State Legislature, how a bill becomes a law, and the unexpected reasons why a proposed bill may pass or fail will be presented based on Vickie's experiences of serving as a CT legislator.</p>
April 11	<p>Craig Repasz Presents <i>Humans and the Night Sky: Our Lost Heritage</i></p> <p>Light pollution has robbed us from experiencing the night sky. With this loss humans have suffered from insomnia, stress, and increased cancer rates. Join us as we explore the human connection to the cosmos focusing on mythologies, human health, and well-being.</p>
April 25	<p>Carol Ziske Presents <i>My 2nd Act</i></p> <p>Join us for a musical biography of Carol's professional acting and stage directing career, which will be presented in cabaret style with live piano accompaniment.</p>
May 2	<p>Allison Middlemass Presents <i>Spring Bird Migration</i></p> <p>Here come the birds! Migrating birds are coming north from southern wintering grounds to breed in the spring. We will use the Audubon's Migration Explorer and Motus website to see how far they have traveled and talk about why some birds migrate, how they do it, and when. We will also discuss the challenges these birds face and how we can help them on their journey.</p>
May 16	<p>Catherine Iaccarino Presents <i>The Search for the Barking Nun: The Journey into a Medieval Forbidden Romance</i></p> <p>Author Catherine Iaccarino will discuss her book, "The Search for the Barking Nun," which offers a unique view of a 600-year-old romance hidden in Chaucer's poem, "The Complaint of Mars." Catherine's book gives lovers of history, mystery, and poetry the chance to discover Geoffrey Chaucer not only as the father of English literature, but also as the Master of Mystery.</p>
May 23	<p>End-of-Semester Celebration</p> <p>Join us as we celebrate another great semester!</p>

WHAT IS OLLI CAFÉ ?



OLLI Café is a weekly lunch-and-learn event on campus. Every Café features a different guest speaker presentation. Complimentary coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. OLLI Café is a great place to bring your lunch, chat with other members, and enjoy a potpourri of presentations and activities. Come and take advantage of a free opportunity to engage socially and intellectually with other OLLI members!

- Free with membership (it's like a free class!)
- Meet other OLLI members
- Lectures are held from noon - 1:15 p.m. on Fridays during the Fall and Spring semesters in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) at UConn Waterbury. Doors to the MPR (Rooms 113 - 119) will open at 11:45 a.m.
- To learn more about OLLI Café presentations, visit: <https://olli.uconn.edu/olli-cafe-lecture-descriptions/>
- *Please register for the OLLI Café Lunchtime series if you plan on attending some or all of the presentations.* Registration for OLLI Café saves you a seat for every event, even if you cannot attend every week.

Have you seen or heard about an interesting speaker? Suggestions for future presenters are always welcome! You can suggest a speaker by emailing osher@uconn.edu.

SPRING CAFÉ OPPORTUNITY

Bring a friend to OLLI Café and get a \$15 gift certificate if they join!

For the Spring 2025 semester, if you know someone who might enjoy OLLI, then you can invite them to attend one OLLI Café lecture for free! If they join OLLI, then you will receive a \$15 gift certificate to put toward your next order with OLLI at UConn.

All you need to do is email (osher@uconn.edu) or call (475-222-6232/6261) us in advance and tell us the following:

- Your name
- Name of the friend you're bringing
- Friend's email address and/or phone number

Gift Certificate Guidelines

- Each friend is only allowed to attend **one** free OLLI Café lecture.
- You can bring a different friend to each Café lecture.
- Your friend must purchase an annual membership within 6 months of attending the Café lecture for you to be eligible to receive the \$15 gift certificate.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
University of Connecticut
99 East Main Street
Waterbury, CT 06702



UConn
WATERBURY

40+
CLASSES

Monday to Friday Options

1-10 Meetings Per Class

Classes Starting at \$5

**Online and In-Person
Courses Available**

**For more information
please visit:**

olli.uconn.edu



UConn Waterbury serves more than 1,100 students annually. In more than 60 years of operation, UConn Waterbury has opened the doors to educational access and excellence to thousands of Connecticut residents, many of whom have distinguished themselves in the fields of community service, business, education, law, and politics.