Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

PREMIER LEARNING FOR PEOPLE AGES 50+ SPRING 2021 CATALOG

REGISTRATION OPENS TUESDAY, JAN. 19

UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

I have been thinking a lot about change, adapting and resilience, from a personal perspective as well as an organizational perspective.

**Change** can be a positive action...though sometimes it is hard to embrace. It allows us to try new experiences. It provides an opportunity to consider new perspectives and new ideas, where creativity can flourish.

**Adapting** is the acceptance of the reality that last year is very different from this year and perhaps beyond. Acceptance, adjustments and how we respond are the keys to our happiness and contentment and success moving forward.

**Resilience** is the choice to react positively to change, disruption and the adversity that currently surrounds us, to take risks despite the challenges we have been dealt. Consider Maya Angelou’s words: “I can be changed by what happens to me. But I refuse to be reduced by it.”

I have been energized by how OLLI at UNCW faced adversity, effectively addressing what has turned out to be long-term major adjustments. Our organizational resilience, when faced with closing our doors to social congregating during the pandemic, forced us to contemplate how to re-tool the implementation of our organizational mission. Many people responded positively to our “call to action” for volunteers, instructors, re-tool the implementation of our organizational mission. Many people responded positively to our “call to action” for volunteers, instructors, as well as continued financial contributions.

By nature, I am a “glass half full” person. Thankfully, I am very lucky to work with a team of dedicated staff who share this approach. We welcomed and embraced the many volunteer members who also believe that positive and creative approaches can abound by working together for a common goal.

Take a look through the new catalog and consider a new subject to learn, participate with a favorite instructor, consider teaching a course or becoming a volunteer. Get involved! Embrace what you can do, not what you cannot do. And believe that through adversity, change and adaptation, we can continue to grow, prosper and enjoy our lives!

Shelley L. Morse, Director

LETTER FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR

Greetings to all! A mere few months ago, "unprecedented" was the catchphrase we were all conditioned to accept regarding the impact of COVID-19.

For OLLI at UNCW, "anticipation" became our internal catchphrase. How would our OLLI family respond to membership and registration? Would members embrace an online-only course delivery rather than in person?

These anticipations were soon revealed: people did return, allowing for an enriching Fall 2020 semester program to be enjoyed by those who decided to take the plunge. We are grateful to all of our OLLI members for adapting to a new way of learning, and for their generous response to our call for donations during these trying times.

Our volunteers also showed their vital contributing roles: putting together the content curriculum, chairing and leading sessions, with our Distance Learning Team hosting actively facilitating audience participation.

From your feedback, our lessons learned from the Fall sessions, and the information that your Advisory Council has gathered from other OLLI chapters across the nation, we have a renewed confidence in our ability to offer you a quality learning experience.

Your continued engagement and support is crucial to OLLI’s ongoing success, so please explore our Spring 2021 Catalog. I am certain you will find numerous opportunities to continue your learning journey.

Thanks for your support, and I hope to see you all in class!

Bruce Myers, Advisory Council Chair, 2020-22

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNCW is to be the premier lifelong learning opportunity for members 50 years of age or older in southeast North Carolina who seek academic, social and experiential learning. This is achieved through:

1. Fostering a high-quality, intellectually stimulating curricula centered on programs developed and led by university faculty, fellow OLLI members and others throughout the region.
2. Sustaining a positive, open environment that offers respect for sharing ideas and perspectives where people feel valued.
3. Connecting the university and lifelong learning community by serving as a gateway to university events and creating opportunities for involvement in teaching, research and service.
4. Partnering with area organizations to support the mission of OLLI.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a diverse, member-driven organization committed to being an exceptional community of lifelong learners.

WHO WE ARE

OLLI at UNCW is a membership organization which seeks to foster lifelong learning opportunities, individual growth and social connection. Funded in part by the Bernard Osher Foundation, we are part of a national network of 124 lifelong learning institutes on college and university campuses in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The common threads among members of the network are: an advisory council; lifelong learning programs specifically developed for “seasoned” adults age 50+; university connection and support; volunteer leadership; and a diverse selection of intellectually stimulating courses.

We depend on OLLI members to contribute to the success and growth of OLLI at UNCW by serving as volunteers either in our classrooms, on our Advisory Council or on many committees which design our high-quality programs and events.

BECOMING A MEMBER

Membership is a requirement for enrollment in all OLLI courses or events.

- Spring membership: $30 (expires June 30, 2021)

Membership entitles you access (fees apply) to all courses and activities, members-only special events, as well as the many advantages of being a member of the UNCW family. It is easy to join! Visit www.uncw.edu/olli or call our registration office at 910.962.3195.
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Full Registration Opens Tuesday, Jan. 19 • 9 A.M.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Events</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecting with OLLI</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Classes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art History</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public and International Affairs</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Technology</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Active and Outdoors</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birding</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Tours</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardening</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayaking</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shared Interest Groups</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Interest Groups (SIGS)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lecture and Discussion Series</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLATO</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women on Wednesdays</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEA and Coffee</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American History Forum</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Women of Valor</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Public Issues Forum</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Forum</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Forum</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food and Wine</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Wine Society</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPECIAL EVENTS

OLLI MEMBERS COFFEE KLASTCH
Friday, Feb. 5 • 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

The term “coffee klatch” comes from the German word, “kaffeeklatsch,” which translates to coffee (kaffee) and gossip (klatsch). It refers to a group of friends coming together to drink coffee and chat. During the past year, we have hoped to stay in contact with our members and have striven to remain a source of connection and intellectual stimulation. There is no question that the casual, unplanned interactions and impromptu conversations are a major loss during this time of social distancing. We miss seeing our members for coffee in the morning and hope you will virtually drop by our open coffee klatch just to say hello. Bring us news from your life and we will share ours! Bring your favorite mug and come klatsch with us!

OLLI SPEED FRIENDSHIP
Session I: Friday, Feb. 12 • 3 – 4:30 p.m.
Session II: Friday, April 9 • 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon of connections and laughs. We will send a list of questions to prepare you to break the ice and to meet new friends. Smiles are guaranteed or your money back! The 90-minute session will include small group breakouts to introduce yourself and to get to know others. You will share a three- to five-sentence biography with everyone before the event. And if you choose, your contact information (name/email) will be shared with others after the event.

OLLI SPEED FRIENDSHIP FOR SINGLES
Session I: Friday, March 12 • 3 – 4:30 p.m.
Session II: Friday, May 14 • 3 – 4:30 p.m.

A casual “speed friendship” event with no pressure… just an opportunity for meaningful conversation for our single OLLI members to increase social networks and to make new friends! You will share a three- to five-sentence biography with everyone attending. And if you choose, your contact information (name/email) will be shared with others after the event.

NEW MEMBER MEET AND GREET

The New Member Meet and Greet provides new and potential members with the opportunity to talk with staff and volunteers. All questions are welcome! Ask about our programs, the culture of volunteerism, OLLI committees, and OLLI’s ongoing relationship with UNCW. Learn how OLLI communicates with its membership and how pricing and registration are managed. And of course, learn more about how OLLI uses the Zoom experience to connect you with others in these interesting times. All this… and any other questions you might have!

Each month’s gathering will feature different guest co-hosts. We welcome you to come more than once to get the full range of experiences from people who have made OLLI their primary source for learning, volunteering and remaining socially active.

- Wednesday, Feb. 3 11 a.m. – noon
- Wednesday, March 3 11 a.m. – noon
- Wednesday, April 7 11 a.m. – noon
We are using Zoom, a video conferencing technology, to conduct many of our programs. Zoom is a free online tool that allows you to see the presenter’s material, make comments, ask questions, and interact with your instructor and your classmates – all safely and comfortably through technology from home.

OLLI at UNCW is providing complimentary technology training to get adults age 50+ comfortable with distance learning!

Free and open to the public. Registration is required.

Wednesday, Jan. 27 • 2 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 1 • 1 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 2 • 10 a.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 10 • 11 a.m.
Friday, Feb. 19 • 1 p.m.

**Death by PowerPoint**
with Cleve Callison, Ph.D.
Wednesday, March 17 • 1 – 2 p.m.

The Zoom era has meant all of us are spending a LOT of time watching PowerPoint presentations. Some are good, some are OK and some are – well, let’s just say some could use improvements. We’ll talk about dos and don’t-you-dares, with examples, and look at ways to make your presentation go to the head of the class.

**Making the Most of Zoom – Tips for Presenters**
with Sandie Bateman, MBA, CPTD
Tuesday, Feb. 9 • 10 – 11 a.m.

Learn how to use Zoom tools to engage your audience and invite more participation. We’ll explore best practices using Zoom for virtual meetings and programs.

**Zoom Mysteries – What Else Can I Do in Zoom?**
with Sandie Bateman, MBA, CPTD
Friday, Feb. 26 • 1 – 2 p.m.

Ever wonder what all those symbols/icons mean on the Zoom meeting window? We’ll pull back the curtain and share some of the many interesting options available to users in Zoom sessions.
ART HISTORY

The Godmothers: Women Artists in a Man’s World
with Parme Giuntini, Ph.D.

Thursdays, May 6 – 20
Three sessions • 2 – 3:30 p.m.
$45

Join us for an exploration of women artists across the centuries and continents. Parme Giuntini will share her expertise and passion for women in the arts, including Georgia O’Keeffe, Mary Cassatt, Berthe Morisot, Artemesia Gentileschi (an outstanding 17th century fine artist), and the Italian Renaissance painter Sofonisba Anguisolla.

Parme Giuntini was director of art history at Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles for 20 years. Her research focuses on 18th century art: domestic portraiture, fashion, gender, design and pedagogy.

BIOLOGY

The Human Microbiome II
with Patrick Erwin, Ph.D., MBA

Thursdays, Feb. 18 – March 4
Three sessions • 3 – 4:30 p.m.
$45

Each human body is home to a microscopic world (more than 40 trillion cells) that plays a critical role in physical and mental health: the human microbiome. Microbiomes (symbiotic microbes) help calibrate our immune system, enhance digestion, and even affect our emotions and cognition. Unlike the human genes that dictate many aspects of health, it is possible to change the composition of your microbiome. This course will provide foundational knowledge on form and function in the human microbiome, with a specific focus on mental health impacts (the ‘gut-brain axis’) and influences on longevity. Beyond these focal session topics, expect opportunities to voice wide-ranging questions about microbiome science and its application to human health and well-being.

Patrick Erwin is an associate professor of biology and marine biology at UNCW. His primary interest is microbial ecology, the study of how the diversity of microscopic life interacts with higher plant and animal life for the purpose of sustaining the biosphere. Erwin’s current research program focuses primarily on microbiomes in ocean life – as diverse as sponges on coral reefs and whales in the open ocean. He developed and teaches the first human microbiome course at UNCW.
Vaccines: Facts and Myths  
with Kevin Kiser, Ph.D.  
Fridays, April 9 – 23  
Three sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m.  
$45

Vaccines are responsible for preventing two to three million deaths from infectious diseases each year. Because many developing areas of the world lack access to vaccinations, 1.5 million deaths are still caused by vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles and influenza. Fortunately, vaccines are readily available in the U.S. However, recent vaccine fears have created inadequate vaccine coverage and a reemergence of some diseases. Understanding how vaccines work and how they are produced will help people regain confidence in vaccine safety. That understanding will also help determine which vaccines are appropriate, particularly with multiple COVID-19 vaccines being fast-tracked through clinical trials. This course will cover the history of vaccination, the origin of vaccine fears, vaccinations for adults, and the development and distribution of new COVID-19 vaccines.

Kevin Kiser is a microbiologist who studied vaccines as a postdoctoral fellow at the Channing Laboratory in Boston. His work there included the study of immune protection against Staphylococcus aureus. He is currently a senior lecturer in the department of biology and marine biology at UNCW, where he continues to share his interest in vaccine issues and antibiotic-resistant bacteria with students in his microbiology and immunology courses. Kiser holds a Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Biology from the Medical University of South Carolina.

CREATIVE WRITING

The Story of Your Life  
with Sherry Rotz, MSW, M.Ed., Certified Instructor in Guided Autobiography  
Mondays, Feb. 1 – March 8 • Six sessions • 9:30 – 11 a.m. • $70

Every life has a story, a purpose, a lesson – a plot. Using Guided Autobiography, a semi-structured process for life review, this program helps unearth the roots of memory and use those memories to write “the Story of Your Life,” two pages at a time. The course utilizes a series of life themes to gain access to memories and to organize them in a way that honors the complex threads that shape our lives. By writing two pages each week and sharing in small groups, participants gain an appreciation for the direction their lives have taken and an understanding of how their identity has been shaped by their crosscurrents.

Sherry Rotz practiced as a clinical social worker specializing in individual and group therapy with children, adolescents and adults for 18 years. Prior to that, she taught fourth grade for 20 years. The highlight of her teaching career was teaching others to write their stories. Rotz is a certified instructor for Guided Autobiography and believes that everyone should have the opportunity to tell her or his unique story.

Writing a Short Story  
with David Braga, MFA  
Mondays, March 22 – April 26 • Six sessions • 9:30 – 11 a.m. • $70

What a great time to work on writing short stories! Students will read short stories and work to create compelling characters and to write captivating short fiction. There will be ‘prompt writing’ in class, reading and discussion and workshopping one’s work. By the end of the course, students will have written a draft of a short story. This class is limited to six participants.

David Braga is a writer based in Wilmington, NC. He studied creative writing at Emerson College in Boston. Braga’s fiction has been published by Redivider, Necessary Fiction and Pantheon, among others; his film criticism has been published by Bright Wall/Dark Room, IndieFilmMinute and WhatCulture!

One Art: Reading and Writing Villanelles  
with Emily Jaeger, MFA  
Wednesdays, March 24 – April 7 • Three sessions • 9:30 – 11 a.m. • $45

This course will take a deep dive into Elizabeth Bishop’s iconic poem “One Art.” We will discover how Bishop’s poem reimagines its heritage of villanelles (a poem of 19 lines with a strict pattern or repetition and rhyme) and how it processes loss through poetic form, imagery and metaphor. As we analyze villanelles, we will also learn the no-fail method of how to write this complex form – perfect for examining and overcoming repeated patterns in our lives.

Emily Jaeger is the author of The Evolution of Parasites (Sibling Rivalry Press, 2016). She was the 2017-18 Fellow at Colgate University. Her poems have appeared in The Indiana Review, B O D Y, TriQuarterly and Passages North. Jaeger has received support from LAMBDA, TENT and the New York State Summer Writers Institute. She holds an MFA from UMASS Boston.
ACADEMIC COURSES - ONLINE

CULTURE

Mediterranean Masterpieces
with Julie Hunt, travel expert and consultant

Wednesdays, Feb. 17 – March 3 • Three sessions • 4 – 5:30 p.m. • $45

Mediterranean Masterpieces is an exploration of art and architecture, and of food and wine for the intrepid traveler. Delve into the well-known landmarks and the hidden gems in these three classic destinations.

Rome, Italy
Take a virtual tour of Rome, following in the footsteps of Gian Lorenzo Bernini, sculptor and architect of Rome's most famous treasures, including St. Peter's Basilica. Plus, we will explore some lesser-trampled sites to see Bernini's most exquisite works. The Italian capital is a feast for the eyes and the appetite. Learn where to find the perfect plate of cacio e pepe with a side of Roman artichokes.

Valletta, Malta
One of Caravaggio’s most important (and largest) paintings was created while he was in exile on the island of Malta. The capital, Valletta, is a treasure trove of historic works, dating back 7,000 years. The Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, British and, of course, the Knights of St. John have each left behind their influence on Malta’s architecture, culture and cuisine.

Barcelona, Spain
Stunning architectural diversity draws visitors to this sunny Mediterranean capital of Catalonia. Gaudí, Miro and Picasso all left their mark here, as have modern-day chefs and musicians alike. We’ll explore some of the unique barrios, including the Gothic Quarter.

Julie Hunt is a travel expert and consultant to the travel and cruise industry for the last 20 years. She has served as producer, creative director and client advocate for a multitude of projects. She has project managed 12 new cruise ship deliveries, most recently Seabourn Ovation in Valletta, Malta. Hunt also works as an advisor on travel-related television programs, most recently for Jeff Corwin’s Ocean Treks.

ECONOMY

The Cost of Health Care in the United States
with Allison Witman, Ph.D.

Wednesdays, April 14 – 28
Three sessions • 2 – 3:30 p.m.
$45

This course will examine the high cost of health care in the United States, what we get (or don’t get) from the high cost, how our costs and outcomes compare internationally, and the nature of current policy discussions affecting health care costs in the United States.

Allison Witman is an assistant professor of economics at UNCW. She is a health economist who previously worked as a consultant to the CDC, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, part of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Her consulting work focused on health policy changes to Medicare and Medicaid. Her current research examines the effects of public policies regarding substance use on pregnant women and newborns.

The Impact of Hurricanes and COVID on North Carolina’s Economy
with J. Edward “Ed” Graham, Ph.D.

Tuesdays, May 11 – 18
Two sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
$30

Several recent hurricanes and the coronavirus have created challenges for the people of North Carolina. Have these developments hurt the regional economy, or have other factors helped the economy to remain strong? We will consider the answers to these questions and will pay particular attention to the impact of severe weather and the pandemic on real estate values in southeastern North Carolina.

Ed Graham is a professor of finance at the UNCW Cameron School of Business. He teaches courses on real estate investment analysis, foundations of finance, MBA finance for executives, commercial banking, bank management, international real estate investments, corporate finance, personal finance, and principles of real estate.
ENGLISH

Louis MacNeice's 
*Autumn Journal* (1939)  
*with Alex Porco, Ph.D.*

Thursdays, April 1 – 22  
Four sessions • 2 – 3:30 p.m.  
$60

Explore the poetry of Louis MacNeice, “one of the giants of modern poetry,” to quote Derek Mahon. We will read a selection of MacNeice’s poems dating before, during and after WWII. However, the course will focus on MacNeice’s masterpiece, *Autumn Journal*, a long poem in diary-like style, first published in 1939. It is a deeply personal poem, remarkable in many ways. MacNeice reflects with emotion on the events in his life, but the poem also documents key political events of that tumultuous time: the looming threat of fascism on the continent; the Munich Agreement; the Oxford by-election of 1938; and the Spanish Civil War. *Autumn Journal* is composed, then, in a time of entangled personal and political crises. It presents a mind – and heart – concerned with rediscovering those ethical modes of action essential to existential and political survival. As such, the poem remains as relevant today as when it was first published so many years ago. Note: no experience with poetry is required; all readers welcome.

Alex Porco is an associate professor of English at UNCW. He earned his Ph.D. in poetics from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

A Shakespeare Sampler  
*with Cleve Callison, Ph.D.*

Every other Monday,  
Feb. 15, March 1, 15, and 29  
Four sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m.  
$60

This class will look at the great variety of William Shakespeare’s literary and dramatic works. We will begin with the sonnets — looking at the mysteries of their creation, identifying who (if anyone) is inspiration for characters like the Rival Poet, the Dark Lady and the Young Man. For those who have taken this class before, there will be new characters. We will discuss one of the historical plays, *Richard III*, featuring Shakespeare’s greatest villain. This is the play that skyrocketed his career. We will continue to at least one other play, either tragedy or a comedy (or perhaps both), chosen by the class, and different from those in previous sessions of this class.

Cleve Callison is retired station manager for WHQR Public Radio and has a Ph.D. in English from the University of Wisconsin. He has taught adult education programs at Miami University (Ohio) and UNCW.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Nature Conservation and Human Development in Mesoamerica  
*with Warren Darrell, professional engineer, M.S.*

Tuesdays, March 16 – 23  
Two sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m.  
$30

Warren Darrell presents a review of projects in the tropical biodiversity hotspots of Honduras and Guatemala. These projects are designed to empower rural and indigenous people to:

- Protect and restore the ecosystems upon which they depend
- Improve their nutritional security and water quality
- Upgrade their economic standard of living

These “integrated conservation and human development” projects include sustainable agriculture, forest and watershed protection, and improving family living conditions. The first session will explore the natural history and human societies of Honduras and Guatemala, and the second session will take a photographic journey of development projects in the countryside of those countries.

Warren Darrell is a professional engineer with an M.S. in environmental engineering from the University of Alabama and an M.S. in environmental science from Montana State University. He is an active volunteer with sustainable development projects in Central America. He is also a volunteer with the North Carolina and National Estuarine Research Reserve.
HISTORY

Mao's Chaotic China, 1958-1978
with Yixin Chen, Ph.D.

Wednesdays, March 17 – April 7
Four sessions • 3 – 4:30 p.m.
$60

Two major campaigns in China – the Great Leap Forward and the Great Cultural Revolution – were initiated by Mao Tse Tung, respectively in 1958 and 1966, to promote industrialization and to purify ideology for the Chinese people. This course will examine why these two campaigns have been viewed by history as two great catastrophes. The Great Leap Forward soon became the greatest famine in human history claiming more than 30 million lives between 1958 and 1961; while the Cultural Revolution forced the country into 10 tumultuous years of social engineering. Mao's ambition to dominate all aspects of life in China brought only relentless chaos to its people.

Yixin Chen is an associate professor of East Asian history at UNCW, with a Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis. Chen teaches courses on the history of China, Japan, as well as global history. His research focuses on 20th century socioeconomic history of China. Chen recently completed a study on the Great Leap Famine at village level, investigating why some peasants starved while others survived when all were experiencing food shortage.

History of Wilmington
with Nathan Saunders, Ph.D.

Tuesdays, April 20 – May 11
Four sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
$60

This course will cover Wilmington's history in general, focusing on four major themes/events: the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, the Fall of Fort Fisher, the Shipyard during World War II, and the Wilmington Ten. Using each event as a jumping-off point, the class will explore Wilmington's social, economic and political situation surrounding each theme/event.

Nathan Saunders is associate director of Randall Library at UNCW. He supervises special collections, university archives and government information. After earning his Ph.D. in American history at the University of South Carolina, he worked at South Caroliniana Library before coming to UNCW in 2017.

with Ginger Davis, Ph.D.

Wednesdays, May 5 – 26
Four sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m.
$60

Post-1954 policy decisions that led to the outbreak of hostilities in Vietnam often can be traced to the pursuit of honor. Hanoi sought honor in its effort to maintain Vietnam's independence and reunify the country. At the same time, the U.S. believed its honor rested on containing communism and protecting the Saigon government and citizens. This course covers events in Vietnam from the Geneva Conference of 1954 through the Tet Offensive of 1968. Davis will discuss the major diplomatic, military, economic and socio-cultural factors of the war from the perspectives of the U.S., North Vietnam and South Vietnam. She will also address the role of the international Cold War, decolonization, the ongoing Civil Rights Movement and anti-war demonstrations in the U.S.

Ginger R. Davis, a native North Carolinian and UNCW alum, received her doctorate in history from Temple University, where she specialized in U.S. foreign policy, race relations and Vietnamese studies. After research in the Hanoi archives through a Fulbright grant, she taught for a decade at Vietnam National University and served as director of the University of California's Vietnam program. She has also served as Capstones Director of Norwich University while remaining a Fulbright Vietnam consultant and lecturer at Duke University.
LITERATURE

OLLI Literary Club: Food Memoirs
Tuesdays, Feb. 23, March 23, and April 27
Three sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m. • $45

The literary book club focuses on writing about life, love and food from three great writers’ diverse perspectives. Explore these books together, with special guest speakers leading each session.

February 23
Vibration Cooking:
Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor’s Black Cultural Memoir
led by Maia Butler, Ph.D.
Come discuss Smart-Grosvenor’s memoir, Vibration Cooking: Or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl (2011). We will explore the literary, linguistic and cultural significance of her work to promote pride in low country cuisine and culture during the Black Arts Movement of the 1960s-1970s.

Maia Butler is an assistant professor of African American Literature in the UNCW department of English. She teaches courses in Africana studies and women’s studies. Her research addresses Black communities, home and migration in Black women’s literature. She has published work in the following areas: the literature, activism and public intellectualism of Haitian American author Edwidge Danticat, the North Carolina literature of Stephanie Powell Watts, and decolonial feminist teaching practices.

March 23
Food, Family and Diaspora in Esmeralda Santiago’s Memoir
When I Was Puerto Rican
led by Jennifer M. Lozano, Ph.D.
With a focus on Esmeralda Santiago’s memoir When I Was Puerto Rican (1994), the session will explore how language, food and place are intricately interwoven into an evolving personal and political identity. Topics include the historical relationship of Puerto Rico and the United States, the Puerto Rican diaspora, and colorism among Latinx and non-Latinx populations. Discussion will also include the role and power of the female voice in using memoir as a technique to document these histories.

Jennifer M. Lozano is assistant professor of English at UNCW. Her research focuses on women of color feminism, contemporary narrative practices (including digital media) and the politics of culture. Her published work includes a chapter in the edited collection Latin@ American Media Studies in the Age of Digital Humanities that explores the intersection of blogs, participatory culture and Latinx literature. She has forthcoming essays in The Global South and Texas Studies in Literature and a monograph exploring the development of the Latinx identity across different digital media landscapes. She is an active voice in shaping the literary and cultural sphere of the Global South.

April 27
Food, Relationships and Identity in Padma Lakshmi’s Memoir:
Love, Loss and What We Ate
led by Barbara Waxman, Ph.D.
We discuss the trajectory of Padma Lakshmi’s life story, which she tells in part through food, meals created and consumed and through the inclusion of recipes. Readers also get to know her – including her physical ills, insecurities and sense of dislocation – through her experiences as a model, actress, food writer and TV. culinary personality. Important to the memoir and to the formation of her identity are the presence of her mother and grandparents; the parenting of her daughter; and the influences of three men, including the prominent writer Salman Rushdie. Throughout her narrative, food anchors her, and cooking is both therapy and vehicle for her professional successes.

OLLI member Barbara Waxman is a professor of English emerita at UNCW, where she taught literature for three decades. Her teaching interests include multicultural American literature, memoirs and Victorian literature. She co-chairs OLLI’s American Women of Valor Forum and is a member of OLLI’s academic courses committee.
**MUSIC**

**Learning Guitar: A Practical and Effective Roadmap**
with George Pace, B.A.

Saturdays, April 10 – 24  
Three sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m.  
$45

Are you interested in getting started on the guitar? Learn a simple framework for understanding the instrument itself, a bit of basic music theory and a simple approach to learning that works very well. Pace will include tips on buying a beginner instrument. He will recommend various online lessons/courses for those who want to pursue learning after the class.

George Pace has been playing guitar (both acoustic and electric) for more than 40 years and has taught multiple styles of guitar to beginners and more advanced players. He studied music theory and history at the Oberlin Conservatory of music but is a self-taught guitarist who learned from records and other musicians. He plays multiple styles of music and has played in bands since he was 16, ranging from traditional Irish music to funk, gospel, blues, and heavy metal. Pace’s approach to teaching is straightforward and designed to get his students playing and enjoying the guitar as quickly as possible.

**PHILOSOPHY**

**Mindfulness**
with Beverley McGuire, Ph.D.

Thursdays, Jan. 28 – March 4  
Six sessions • 6 – 7:30 p.m.  
$70

Mindfulness involves cultivating an embodied presence, receptivity, and awareness of whatever arises in oneself and one’s surroundings. This course will provide a six-week introductory training in mindfulness including mindfulness of breath, of body, of feeling and tone, of emotions, and of thought. In the final week, we will explore ways to cultivate kindness and appreciative joy.

Beverley McGuire is a professor of East Asian religions at UNCW, where she teaches courses in Buddhism and Asian religions. Her research interests include religion and digital media, the history of Chinese religions (especially late imperial and modern Chinese Buddhism), religious practice, and karma. She has a Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University, and an M.Div. from Harvard Divinity School. She is also a certified mindfulness teacher (through the Mindfulness Training Institute) and a certified yoga instructor (through the Wilmington Yoga Center).

**Golf: A Philosophical Perspective**
with Tom Schmid, Ph.D.

Wednesdays, Feb. 3 and 10  
Two sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m.  
$30

Join us for a conversation on two games – golf and life. Schmid explores why people love, and sometimes come to hate, the game of golf. He discusses how skill can be related to attitude in developing “fine play.” He also looks at how rules, competition and friendship point to a strong relationship with the game of life.

Tom Schmid is a philosopher with scholarly interests in Plato and Aristotle as well as the philosophies of drama, sport and aging. Schmid studied Greek philosophy and drama at Yale University and has been teaching philosophy and religion at UNCW since 1979. His publications include *Golf as Meaningful Play: A Philosophy and Guide*, Rowman & Littlefield (2017).
ACADEMIC COURSES - ONLINE

PSYCHOLOGY

Making Your Memory Stick
with Len Lecci, Ph.D.

Thursdays, March 18 – 25
Two sessions • Noon – 1:30 p.m.
$30

When it functions well, we take our memory for granted. We assume that if and when our memory declines, we’ll notice it and take appropriate action at that time. But the “secret” to a healthy brain and functioning memory is not what we do after it has declined significantly, but rather what we do proactively. The discussion will explore common memory disorders, how they differ from normal failures of memory, and what we can do to help preserve our memory functioning, and thus, our quality of life (i.e., making our memories “stick”).

Len Lecci is a professor of psychology at UNCW, with a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Arizona State University. He is the director of clinical services at MARS Memory-Health Network. The clinic focuses on the early detection of memory disorders. Lecci has published and received funding on the topics of memory and health concerns. He has helped develop new tests to assess the neurocognitive and neurobehavioral consequences of concussion.

PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Crime in the Cape Fear
with Benjamin David, District Attorney for New Hanover and Pender counties

Pre-recorded sessions (8):
Feb. 19 – April 16 • Eight sessions
Released weekly/Password required

Discussion sessions (2):
Fridays, March 19 and April 23 • Two sessions • Noon – 2 p.m.
$50

District Attorney Ben David will provide a broad introduction to topics relating to crime and punishment. Through his insight and legal experience, DA David will review and explore 25 legal cases that helped to shape this region and to create legal precedent in North Carolina.

This course will be available through eight pre-recorded sessions and two interactive sessions. The first four sessions will concentrate on the foundational tenets of the prosecution process. The fifth session will be an interactive session with DA David focusing on the first four chapters of Crime and Community in the Cape Fear: A Prosecutor’s Guide to A Healthier Hometown (see below). The final sessions will shift the focus to citizens’ responsibility and how to build community to fight crime.

Ideas to be explored include establishing youth programs to prevent gang violence, handling the opioid crisis at the community level, caring for victims of sexual and intimate partner violence, and confronting evolving conversations regarding race and justice. This dynamic course will conclude session 10 with an interactive discussion.

Required reading: Crime and Community in the Cape Fear: A Prosecutor’s Guide to A Healthier Hometown. Details covering the book purchase will be sent to registered course participants. The book will be available at the UNCW bookstore and for order online.

The U.S. Constitution in 2021
with Julie Lane, Ph.D.

Mondays, March 15 – 29 • Three sessions • 2 – 3:30 p.m. • $45

This course will explore the U.S. Constitution, giving particular attention to those parts of the document that have relevance for the extraordinary political events taking place. We will consider thought-provoking Supreme Court cases related to freedom of speech, religious freedom, equality of rights, presidential powers and more.

Julie D. Lane holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Texas at Austin. She is a lecturer in the department of public and international affairs at UNCW. She teaches courses in constitutional law, political theory and American government.
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Artificial Intelligence
with John LaSala, Ph.D.

Wednesdays, Feb. 3 – March 3
Five sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m.
$65

In this course, we will investigate multiple aspects of artificial intelligence, a.k.a. “machine intelligence.” Starting with its development after WWII, learn about the many false starts leading to its recent explosion into our lives and about the technologies that enabled it. We will learn the rudiments of deep learning and convolutional neural networks that make technologies like speech and facial recognition possible, as well as their limitations and risks. We will explore the impact AI may have on our lives, including self-driving cars, job-displacement and associated ethical issues. Finally, we look ahead to the possibility of general AI embodying human-level intelligence, and discuss the technological, philosophical, ethical and even existential implications.

For a full description, please refer to LaSala's web page at www.johnlasala.net/spring-2021.html.

OLLI member John LaSala earned his Ph.D. in applied physics at Stanford University. He served as active duty U.S. Army officer for 12 years as a physics professor and lab director at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. He also held the Class of ’67 Endowed Professor of Physics role at West Point, where he developed a course on renewable energy. Upon retirement from the Army, he spent 15 years in private industry, specializing in lasers and optics to develop new products and businesses. He volunteers as a business student mentor in UNCW’s Cameron Executive Network.

Gendering Technology
with Sarah Hallenbeck, Ph.D.

Tuesdays, March 23 – April 13
Four sessions • 3 – 4:30 p.m.
$60

Would it surprise you to know that the microwave was first sold in the electronics section of department stores, geared toward young bachelors who didn’t know how to cook? Or that electric cars were available during the early 20th century, but (mostly male) drivers preferred the dirtier and noisier experience of the gas-powered car? In this class, explore these unexpected moments in the history of technology, focusing on the ways that technologies—such as the microwave and the automobile—become gendered, affecting who uses them, to what ends they are used, and how we think of what it means to be “masculine” or “feminine.”

Sarah Hallenbeck is an associate professor of English at UNCW, where she teaches courses in professional writing and rhetoric, as well as women’s and gender studies and the Honors College. In addition to her current work on inventors, Hallenbeck has written a book about late 19th century women bicyclists. She examined how these women used persuasive, creative, travel and technical writing to shape their experiences on wheels. Other past projects have involved the rhetoric surrounding contemporary “baby-wearing,” nineteenth-century telegraphic work, and early 20th century Girl Scout manuals.

Complex Systems, How They Fail (and Why You Should Care)
with Lee Ward, Ed.D., M.S.

Thursdays, April 8 – 29
Four sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
$60

We live in a world in which many complex technologies, machines and organizations seem incomprehensible and uncontrollable. Notable catastrophes – Space Shuttle Challenger, B.P. Deepwater Horizon, Three Mile Island, Hurricane Katrina, Yarnell Hill Wildfire, the coronavirus pandemic – were not only technological failures, but human and organizational failures as well. This non-technical, cross-disciplinary course will explore the causes and costs of complex system failure and how rational people become blinded to the presence of danger, the probability of catastrophe and the consequences of their actions.

Lee Ward is director of the James Madison University Career Center. He is also an assistant professor in the College of Integrated Science and Engineering at James Madison University, where he teaches courses on complex systems and how they fail. He has presented at more than 50 national and international conferences and is the author of several books, book chapters and academic articles.
The Birds of Southeastern NC: Spring Nesting Season

*with Jill Peleuses*

Wednesdays, March 17 – 31
Three sessions • 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
$45

March 17  Burnt Mill Creek
March 24  Fort Fisher
March 31  Airlie Gardens

Located along the “Atlantic Flyway,” southeastern North Carolina is a haven for many different bird species. Join us to discover the birds of our region as we bird watch in some of our area’s great birding hotspots. Throughout this class students observe and learn how to identify spring migrants, backyard birds, shorebirds and resident songbirds during nesting season. You’ll soon be hooked on this lifelong hobby.

Jill Peleuses is the owner of Wild Bird & Garden with stores in Wilmington and Southport. She leads birdwatching classes, walks and tours throughout southeastern North Carolina.

The Birds of Southeastern NC

*Join us virtually!*

**Zoom Series**

*with Jill Peleuses*

Tuesdays, Feb. 9 – 23
Three sessions • 4 – 5 p.m.
$30

Feb. 9  Birding 101 – Get started with birding in our area and become a local birder. Find out what binoculars are best for specific purposes, what field guides are used by local birders, how to use birding apps, and how to identify our most popular species.

Feb. 16  Nesting Birds – Learn how to arrange your yard to attract a variety of nesting species. Understand how and where birds in our area nest.

Feb. 23  Spring Migrants – Learn which species make their way into the area for the springtime and how they migrate.
ACTIVE AND OUTDOORS

Gentle Yoga – Zoom Series
with Heather Till, e-ryt 500

Session I
Mondays, Feb. 1 – March 22
Noon – 1 p.m.
$69

Session II
Mondays, April 5 – May 24
Noon – 1 p.m.
$69

This class is appropriate for all levels (especially stiff bodies!). It incorporates gentle and restorative (supported) yoga, breath work, meditation and relaxation. Classes offer an opportunity to slow down and focus on mindful movements that help to improve strength and coordination, flexibility and resilience. Gentle yoga allows for a reduction of stress/tension and for an opening into greater well-being.

Yoga for Balance – Zoom Series
with Heather Till, e-ryt 500

Session I
Wednesdays, Feb. 3 – March 24
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
$69

Session II
Wednesdays, April 7 – May 26
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
$69

Discover a balance of effort and ease. These classes are a combination of floor yoga and standing poses (using a wall, chair or free-standing). They are designed to improve coordination and increase physical strength and stability. The classes are a fun and slightly challenging exploration of finding more balance in our bodies, minds and lives.

Heather Till, e-ryt 500, is a Certified Professional Yoga Therapist and Integrative Nutrition Health Coach (Institute for Integrative Nutrition). She teaches simple practices for mindful living that help individuals to reclaim their natural energy and live healthier, happier lives.

Airlie Gardens Walking Tours
with Alyssa Taylor

Tuesdays, March 30 – April 13
Three sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m.
$45

March 30 Airlie Gardens History
April 6 Art in the Garden
April 13 Exploring the Ecosystem

Airlie Gardens is a 67-acre historical, cultural and educational public garden. Join us on a three-session walking tour of some highlights that make Airlie so special. Learn about the history of the garden. Experience the art features throughout the garden, including a discussion of Minnie Evans, the famous folk artist. Finally, take a leisurely and informed walk through the grounds to understand more about the diversity of our ecosystems and enjoy our beautiful spring blooms!

Alyssa Taylor is the Environmental Education Coordinator at Airlie Gardens, part of the New Hanover County Parks and Gardens Department. She has been teaching environmental education in coastal North Carolina for the past 10 years. Her focus is horticulture and the importance of native plants and pollinator habitat.

Virtual Walking Tours of Airlie Gardens
Zoom Series
with Alyssa Taylor

Wednesdays, March 31 – April 14
Three sessions • 1 – 2 p.m.
$45

March 31 Airlie Gardens History
April 7 Art in the Garden
April 14 Exploring the Ecosystem
Oakdale Cemetery Historical Tour

with Eric Kozen

Session I
Thursday, Feb. 25
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
$15

Session II
Wednesday, March 10
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
$15

Join Eric Kozen for a two-hour walking tour of Oakdale Cemetery, a natural outdoor museum. Learn how this majestic cemetery was founded in Wilmington. Kozen shares many stories of those who have passed and how they have played a meaningful role in our lives today. In addition, Oakdale’s grounds represent an arboretum treasure and are abundant with horticultural specimens of grandeur along with many towering monuments. The cemetery is a unique blend of history, nature and funerary art.

Eric Kozen has been superintendent of Oakdale Cemetery since 2002. His primary work includes the operation and management of the cemetery. He is also responsible for budgeting, sales, fundraising, building and grounds maintenance, planning, repairs, and historic preservation.

NC Horticulture – Zoom Series

with Master Gardener Susan Brown

Mondays, March 1 – March 29 • Five sessions • 10 – 11:30 a.m. • $60

Join Susan Brown as she takes us through the various issues facing horticulture in North Carolina. What does coastal living mean to plant life? What soil and weather challenges are related to oceanic influences? How does this same environment affect trees, flowers, weeds and even pests? And most importantly, what can we do about it?

Susan Brown graduated from NCSU in 1996 and has been working in the horticultural industry ever since. She is a Certified Arborist, a Certified Plant Professional, has a pesticide license and specializes in growing roses, perennials and poinsettias. After 10 years as the horticulture agent for Brunswick/New Hanover counties, Brown has opened her own landscape consultation business called Cape Fear Plant Pro.

Kayaking Adventure: Historic Eagle Island

with Don Harty, owner of Mahanaim Adventures

Session I
Thursday, April 22
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
$79

Session II
Friday, April 23
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
$79

Join us as we explore historic Eagle Island by kayak. Just minutes away from downtown Wilmington, Eagle Island offers a great chance to view wildlife in its natural habitat. Eagle Island lies in the confluence of the Cape Fear and Brunswick Rivers in southeastern NC in the Lower Cape Fear River Basin. It consists of approximately 3,100 acres situated between Wilmington and Leland. The area was cultivated in the 1700s as a rice and indigo plantation and offers a historical perspective on the region. This adventure is an easy 5-mile kayaking trip that is timed to take advantage of the tides. You will have a chance to experience the beauty of Eagle Island, learn about its history and explore some of the existing (original) rice canals on the island. The trip will leave from the Brunswick River Walk landing in Belville and will take approximately three hours.

Don Harty is an owner of Mahanaim Adventures. He has considerable canoeing, kayaking, backpacking and backcountry camping experience and has led trips for individuals and a variety of scout and church groups. He is highly experienced and holds multiple safety certifications.
ACTIVE AND OUTDOORS

Kayaking Adventure: Sea Turtle/Fort Fisher Basin
with Don Harty, owner of Mahanaim Adventures

Session I
Thursday, May 13
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.*
$79

Session II
Friday, May 14
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.*
$79

Join us for an adventure to the Fort Fisher Basin during sea turtle nesting season! “The Basin,” as it is known to locals, is located just below the Fort Fisher Ferry. This part of the Cape Fear area is well-known as a sea turtle nesting area. This basin is one of the original National Estuarine Research Reserves dedicated by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration and the Division of Coastal Management in 1985, and one of the most unusual areas of the North Carolina coast. The largest of the three islands in this lagoon is Zeke’s Island, which is located along the rock wall that borders the Cape Fear River. This area has extensive marshes and tidal flats that provide excellent viewing of different sea birds, migratory birds, and the sea turtle nesting area in the spring and summer.

*NOTE: We will meet at the Federal Point Wildlife Boat Ramp at 8:30 a.m. Bring plenty of water and sunscreen. Participants will have two opportunities to disembark the kayaks and to explore Zeke’s Island and the southern end of Fort Fisher Beach. The first stop will be at one of the secluded beach access points, along the southern end of Fort Fisher State Park. Once there we will have a short program on sea turtles.
Shared Interest Groups (SIGs)

A SIG is a group of OLLI members looking to meet people who share a specific common interest. SIGs may evolve from an OLLI class, in which members are motivated to continue to explore the subject in more depth. SIGs may begin when a member wants to create a new group to share an interest or experience. SIGs may include less formalized learning such as book clubs, walking groups, genealogy research, etc. These member-led groups are free to OLLI members; registration is required, and space is limited.

**COVID-19 Research SIG**
*Facilitator: Joanna Clancy*

Mondays, Feb. 8, March 8, April 19 and May 17
2 – 3:30 p.m.

This member-led group is a continuation from last semester. It will seek to monitor the latest scientific research and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss medical trends and sociological issues arising from our present pandemic reality. New members are welcome!

**White Privilege and Racism SIG**
*Facilitators: Rich Cooper and Donna Coulson*

1st and 3rd Fridays, Feb. – May • 2 – 3:30 p.m.

This member-led group is a continuation from last semester. Its purpose is to share information and discuss the issue of racism in our society as well as locally. At the time of publication, the group is planning to meet either bi-weekly or monthly from 2 – 3:30 p.m. on the first and third Fridays of the month on an ongoing basis. This could change depending on the will of the group. New members are welcome!

**OLLI Walkers SIG**
*Facilitators: Pat McCarthy, Christine Parker and Susan Williams*

Tuesday, March 2 • 1 p.m.

This walking SIG seeks to foster the enjoyment of walking in the greater Wilmington area, combined with promoting wellness and strength. Group leaders provide varied levels of walks to meet the needs of group members; introduce a variety of walking locations, which can be enjoyed by others; and provide a social outlet to interact with other OLLI members. Small groups, locations, and time and dates of walks will be arranged after the initial Zoom meeting.

**Have an idea for a Shared Interest Group?** Find others to explore a shared interest or passion! To propose a new SIG, review the guidelines and complete a Shared Interest Group proposal form on the OLLI webpage. Please contact Program Coordinator Susan Williams (williamssl@uncw.edu) if you have any questions.
Feb. 16  The History of Thalian Hall
Tony Rivenbark, Executive & Artistic Director

Thalian Hall was designed by John Montague Trimble, one of America’s foremost 19th century architects. It was constructed from 1855-58. Learn how this theater has become the area’s political and cultural center.

Feb. 23  Cameron Art Museum
Anne Brennan, MFA, Executive Director

Anne Brennan has spent 16 years at the Cameron Art Museum as curator of exhibitions and collections and 10 years as executive director. She will discuss the museum’s history, educational opportunities, current/future showings, and membership opportunities.

March 2  Field Trip: Using Gardens for Therapy
Heather Kelegian, Therapeutic Horticultural Agent, NH County Director of the Ability Garden

Heather Kelegian will take us on a walking lecture at the Arboretum as she guides us through the Ability Garden facilities. She will describe how the program assists those people with disabilities and encourages their growth. The group is divided into 20 students, the first at 10 a.m. and the second at 11 a.m. Each lecture takes approximately one hour.

March 9  English is a Weird Language
Cleve Callison, Ph.D.

OLLI member Cleve Callison leads this presentation on the English language. Why, when we say that someone is scanning the horizon, does it mean careful looking, whereas scanning a newspaper means a quick glance? Why do two-thirds of English words not come from the English language? We will look at some quirks of English, caused by weird words, weird pronunciation, weird spelling—and that’s only the beginning.

March 16  What Is White Privilege, and How Does It Relate to Systemic Racism?
Rich Cooper, OLLI Member

PLATO member Rich Cooper explores the origin, definition, use and historical perspective of white privilege. He will engage the audience in a self-examination of society’s relationship to the concept and the part each person plays in its continuation.

March 23  The New Hanover County Senior Resource Center
Amber Smith, Director, Senior Resource Center

Have you ever wondered about the Senior Resource Center? Come learn about the opportunities, programs/services and the development of the county’s first strategic Master Aging Plan.

March 30  Lessons in Developing Emotional Strength and Agility – A Tool to Develop Your Resilience
Sandie Bateman, MBA, CPTD, Director, Learning and Development

Today’s environment continually challenges our sense of normality. We will discuss how you can determine your natural reaction tendencies and learn to become more adaptive. The session will include use of DISC, a tool that combines the personalized insights with active emotional intelligence development to support increasing agility.

April 6  The Pandemic’s Impact on Our Culture and Healthcare System Going Forward
Murray Sherman, OLLI member

The COVID-19 pandemic has been one of the most traumatic experiences for our country since WWII. It has already seriously impacted our health and our economy. It has also disrupted our educational system. We will explore the significant impact COVID-19 is having on our culture and on our institutions.
Feb. 17  Aging Immunity: Viral Infections and Vaccinations
Jennifer McCall, UNCW assistant professor of clinical research at the School of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Services discusses the fundamentals of the body’s immune response with a particular emphasis on aging. She focuses on COVID-19 disease implications and issues related to vaccinating an aging population.

March 17  Keeping Emotionally Fit in a Stressful World
Jane Brody, retired nurse and educator, presents the meaning of stress and the way it affects us physically and emotionally. She also explores the ways we can change our environment and ourselves to decrease the stress in our lives.

April 21  Physical Fitness: Any Movement is Better Than No Movement!
Holly Konrady, stress management specialist at NHRMC’s Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit and personal fitness trainer, joins forces with Susan Williams, certified yoga instructor and OLLI program coordinator, to explain the importance of everyday intentional exercise. They will demonstrate foundational exercises that can easily be performed at home with the goal of inspiring you to be active every day.
Jan. 28  CRISPR 2020: The Revolutionary Gene Editing Tool  
Patricia Young, Ph.D.  
Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna published their work on CRISPR, a tool for easy, precise gene edits, in Science in 2012. Just eight years later, they were awarded the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 2020. This lecture will provide a brief overview of CRISPR science, discuss its uses and explore the ethical concerns of this revolutionary biomedical technology.

Feb. 4  Immune System Response to Infection and Vaccine Development  
Jennifer McCall, Ph.D., assistant professor, School of Nursing Clinical Research Program, UNCW  
An overview of the immune system and response to infection will provide a foundation to understand vaccination. We will discuss vaccine design, herd immunity, and a myriad of myths surrounding vaccination to understand how vaccination and vaccine hesitancy affect community spread of infections.

Feb. 11  The Role of Laboratory Animal Veterinary Medicine and Its Impact on Animal Welfare and Good Science  
Coralie Zegre Cannon, DVM, DACLAM  
Learn why research programs using animals in their work depend on the watchful eye of the lab animal veterinarian. We will discuss the importance of laboratory animals to good, scientific data outcomes and learn how an international voluntary laboratory animal accreditation program ensures the best standard of laboratory animal program care.

Feb. 18  Seafood Forensics – Fishy Fraud: Seafood Mislabeling in North Carolina and Why It Matters  
John Bruno, Ph.D., professor, Department of Biology, UNC Chapel Hill  
Seafood mislabeling occurs when a market label is inaccurate, primarily in terms of species identity. Mislabeling also concerns weight, geographic origin or other characteristics. This widespread problem allows cheaper or illegally caught species to be sold as a premium product. The practice has negative consequences for marine ecosystems, for consumers, and for our fishing communities. One promising solution is genetic testing and certification, which can help consumers find accurately labeled seafood products.
Feb. 25  Avian Ecology and Climate Change: Antarctic Penguins – Past, Present and Future
Steve Emslie, Ph.D., professor, Department of Biology and Marine Biology, UNCW

This presentation will provide an overview of penguin ecology in Antarctica with a synopsis of Emslie’s research on the impacts of dramatic climate change in the past 25 years. Emslie will explain how endemic species have adapted to Antarctica’s extreme conditions and how climate change is affecting their survival. He will describe how the unique fossil record discovered for the Adélie penguin gives us insight into its responses to climate change.

March 4  Innovative Solid Waste Management in New Hanover County
Joe Suleyman, Director, New Hanover County Environmental Management

The New Hanover County Department of Environmental Management oversees one of the state’s most innovative integrated solid waste disposal systems. This system minimizes the potential risks of contaminating the area’s delicate environment. With every man, woman and child generating 1.3 tons of solid waste every year, the responsible management of these waste materials is a public safety and health priority. This presentation will explore various management techniques used to divert waste away from landfill disposal while exploring the science and engineering behind those techniques.

March 11  From Seed to Shirts: Cotton and Hemp Production in North Carolina
Howard Wallace, Hoke County Extension Director, NC Cooperative Extension, NC State University

Naked and hungry…that is what you would be without agriculture. Have you ever wondered where the fiber for your clothes comes from? In this presentation, we will discuss the history of cotton and hemp production in North Carolina. We’ll learn how each is grown and examine their significance to the modern agricultural economy of North Carolina.

March 18  Hurdles to Net-Zero Carbon Emissions: An Analysis of Clean Energy Objectives

What will it take to achieve the goal of “net-zero” carbon emissions? Will it be possible to attain these goals using only renewable energy? Environmental groups and concerned citizens continue to advocate for using greater amounts of renewable energy. In this presentation, we will analyze the technological, political and socio-economic issues that impact our ability to attain “net-zero” carbon emissions through renewable energy. We’ll explore the creation of a practical roadmap to identify the priorities and path forward toward a lower-carbon economy.

March 25  Why People Often Fall for Conspiracy Theories: A Cognitive Science Perspective
Julian Keith, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Psychology, UNCW

This presentation will explore how the human mind’s vulnerabilities to misinformation can lead intelligent people down rabbit holes and into alternate realities where lines between fact and fiction are blurred and/or erased. The presentation will be informed by discoveries from evolutionary psychology, neuroscience, cognitive psychology, social psychology, and complex systems/network theory—collectively known as cognitive science. The overarching goal is to explore antidotes for misinformation, cultism and chaos that can corrode public discourse, the foundation of self-governance.

April 1  The History and Science of Beer Brewing in North Carolina
Jud Watkins, owner, brewer and head oyster shucker, Wrightsville Beach Brewery

North Carolina’s moonshine history is transitioning to craft beer brewing. The increasing popularity of homebrewing beer in the 1970s, the rise of microbreweries in the 1990s and the current spread of microbreweries across the state have led to a boom in commercial beer brewing in North Carolina. It may not have the cachet of California, Colorado or Washington, but North Carolina has become one of the nation’s craft-beer meccas. Learn about this transition and how modern brewers have perfected the craft so that North Carolina now has the largest number of craft breweries in the American South.
AMERICAN HISTORY FORUM
From Robber Barons to Rough Riders,
the Gilded Age 1877-1900
Committee Chair: Clauston Jenkins

Wednesdays, April 14 - May 5
Four sessions • 1 – 3 p.m.
$32

We often hear that we are living in the second Gilded Age. Are we? Join the History Forum and be part of the discussion.

Mid-Nineteenth-Century America saw the rise of giants in American industry that propelled the country to worldwide economic leadership in a mere 30 years. There was incredible growth in income and living standards for many. At the same time, workers were exploited through levers of government and monopoly. Great cities grew, peopled with millions of immigrants in successive waves from Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Asia. Americans moved westward with prosperity for some and exploitation of Native Americans. There was widespread corruption in business and government. Still, America rose as a diplomatic world power, extending its reach into the Pacific and the Caribbean and creating an imperial domain that rivaled those of the European Powers.

April 14 All that Glitters is Not Gold: A Survey of the Gilded Age
led by Clauston Jenkins

April 21 From Seward to San Juan Hill: Diplomacy in the Gilded Age
led by Jim Horan

April 28 Tammany, Tenements and Typhoid: Growth of the American City in the Gilded Age
led by Joanna Clancy

May 5 How Wild Was the West in the Gilded Age?
led by Lana Nesbit and Jim Horan

AMERICAN WOMEN OF VALOR
Second Tuesdays, Feb. 9 – May 11
Four sessions • 2 – 4 p.m. • $32
Committee Chairs: Nancy Nail and Barbara Waxman

Each session brings a knowledgeable discussion leader who has researched the chosen valiant woman’s life and work using various biographical, autobiographical and historical sources. Participants in the forum will be encouraged to ask questions and to join the conversation.

Feb. 9 Women in the American Military
led by Ron Henderson

March 9 Padma Lakshmi: Culinary Star, Author, Activist for Immigrants
led by Barbara Waxman

April 13 Fighting for the Children of Flint: Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha
led by Patricia Kopchick

May 11 Women War Correspondents in WWII – Breaking Another Gender Barrier
led by Nancy Nail

Special-interest forums are thought-provoking discussions led by OLLI member volunteers and special guests. Participants are encouraged to suggest topics, lead the discussion on topics of special interest to them and help develop the agenda for future sessions.
THE PUBLIC ISSUES FORUM
Committee Chair: Don Messer, Committee Members: Len Bull, Rich Cooper, Jim Horan, Bruce Jordan, Sharon Valentine

Second and fourth Mondays, Feb. 8 – May 10
Seven sessions • 1 – 2:30 p.m. • $50

The Public Issues Forum is for those interested in gaining a deeper understanding of major political, economic and societal issues. Brief background articles may be provided by various speakers. Members are encouraged to read books or articles on the subject in preparation for the discussion. The format may include lectures by UNCW faculty/other experts, book discussions, videos and presentations by members. Presentations are followed by a facilitated discussion.

Feb. 8 Climate Change – Potential Impacts on the Wilmington Area

Is Wilmington a canary in the climate change coal mine? Warren Darrell and Len Bull will explore the future effects of the changing climate in Wilmington and the surrounding communities. The Cape Fear River – a resource of drinking water, commercial fishing and recreation – will likely experience more flooding and worsening water quality as climate change drives rising sea levels, extreme hurricanes and rainstorms.

Feb. 22 Building Childhood Resiliency

What some used to call “grit,” resiliency is the ability to bounce back from adverse experiences or traumatic events. Mebane Boyd, coordinator of the Resiliency Task Force, will discuss diminishing the impact of negative experiences by building resilience in children, caregivers, schools, first responders and our communities.

March 8 An Environmental Perspective on Wilmington's Growth

Glenn Harbeck, director of planning, development and transportation for the City of Wilmington, will discuss how Wilmington can best accommodate the growth that is anticipated for our area. He will provide a balanced perspective on how we might best grow our city and region while preserving the natural environment that attracts people here. He will discuss how to make the most of our infrastructure for future generations.

March 22 What is White Privilege?

What is white privilege and how does it relate to systemic racism? In addition to exploring the meaning of this term, OLLI member Rich Cooper hopes to engage the audience in self-examination of their role and the part they play in its continuation.

April 12 Methyl Bromide

Joel Porter, policy manager for Clean Air Carolina, and Dr. Robert Parr, retired physician, will discuss methyl bromide in our region. Topics include why residents of Wilmington and surrounding areas are being exposed to a highly toxic greenhouse gas used in log fumigation; what are the medical risks of this exposure; how it is being regulated; and what are the solutions?

April 26 Black Lives Matter

Sonya Patrick is the regional director of the New Hanover County Black Leadership Caucus, part of a national organization of leaders whose mission is to promote social justice and political and financial empowerment for people of color. Patrick will describe the Black Lives Matter movement. She will discuss the core commitment of the group here in Wilmington as well as the national movement.

May 10 Election Results 2020

With the national, state and local elections completed, those elected will now step forward to implement policy platforms and initiatives. The first 100 days of an administration have been a traditional benchmark for assessing the performance of the President. This session will examine the activities of those elected in terms of successes and shortcomings toward the achievement of their stated goals. Participants will be encouraged to participate in a civil discourse sharing their assessments on the achievement of stated goals.
FRIEDAY FORUM
Committee Chair: Bruce Myers
Committee Members: Ed DeMarco and Don Anderson

Fridays, Feb. 19 – May 21 (See dates below)
Six sessions • 10 a.m. – noon • $48

The Friday Forum is a program for individuals who seek adventures in collaborative learning and informed discussion. Each group member becomes a vital contributor to the learning experience and is expected to lead a session after two semesters of attendance. The objective is to have group members increase their knowledge of significant issues facing us in the 21st century.

Feb. 19 Enlightenment Now
led by Joanna Clancy

Is the world falling apart? Those who follow the news might well believe it so! Stephen Pinker’s Enlightenment Now is a groundbreaking collection of recent social science research, proving that ‘it just isn’t so.’ Pinker demonstrates that on a global scale, health, prosperity, knowledge and happiness – life’s important goals – are all increasing. The presenter will share Pinker’s assertion that by seeking rational solutions to our societal problems, the outcome for the world can be bright.

March 19 Streaming Entertainment Services: How Do They Stack Up?
led by Bruce Myers

One side effect of the COVID pandemic is the sharp increase in subscribers of internet-based streaming media services, conveniently delivered directly into the comfort of our homes. What has been your experience? In this facilitated session, a few volunteers from the class will be asked to report their personal experiences in using their subscribed streaming services such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney +, Hulu and others. A set of pre-compiled questions will be used by each volunteer leader as a guide to form a basis with which to rate their services, such as content quality, cost and ease of use.

April 16 The Aftermath of COVID-19
led by Murray Sherman

The COVID-19 pandemic has been the most traumatic experience for our country since WWII. It has already decimated our economy and disrupted our educational system from preschool through the university system. The presenter will facilitate a discussion that will include the disruptive impact on our culture and possible influence on our health care system going forward.

May 7 Navigating International Business
led by Gus Dahl

Few Americans understand the complexity of global commerce and the benefits our country gains both economically and politically through our active participation in the world of international business. During this session, the presenter’s perspective of these global economic benefits will be shared for group discussion.

May 21 Win One, Lose One: The Politics of Redistricting
led by Jim Horan

The 2020 census is history, but it is only the beginning of the process for the states. With North Carolina likely to gain a seat in the U.S. Congress, the legislature has begun redrawing the map for congressional districts. In this session we will examine the process and problems with redistricting. We will also discuss proposals for reform to limit gerrymandering.
**ONLINE SPECIAL-INTEREST FORUMS**

**LANGUAGE FORUM**
Committee Chair: Stan McLeroy
Committee members: Cleve Callison, Janet Stiegler and Louis St. Peter

Second and fourth Fridays, Feb. 12 – April 9
Five sessions • 10 a.m. – noon • $40

The Language Forum presents relevant topics of historical and present-day significance on the development, evolution and usage of languages. UNCW faculty and other knowledgeable individuals share their expertise and create a forum for discussion. We welcome suggestions for future topics and speakers.

**Feb. 12** Talkin' Tar Heel: Language Treasures of North Carolina
led by Walt Wolfram, Ph.D.; William C. Friday Distinguished University Professor, English Linguistics; Director, Language & Life Project at NC State

Walt Wolfram’s Language and Life Project has studied North Carolina’s dialects both systematically and thoroughly. Wolfram will discuss his two decades of research and 3,000 recorded interviews from every corner of NC, resulting in his book *Talkin’ Tar Heel*. He will introduce the unique regional, social and ethnic dialects of our state as a reflection of our past and present. It is a fascinating way to understand North Carolina’s rich and diverse cultural heritage.

**Feb. 26** The Language of Thieves: A Secret Code the Nazis Tried to Eliminate
led by Martin Puchner, Ph.D., professor, English and comparative literature, Harvard University

Why was there a cross inside a circle carved into the foundation of young Martin’s rowhouse in Nuremberg? Martin Puchner discusses his family’s obsession with Rotwelsch – a mix of Yiddish, Hebrew and repurposed German used for centuries by all manner of vagrants – and with the zinken pictograms these travelers used to leave messages for their fellows. Learn why Rotwelsch was “secret,” why it has no literature and why Hitler wanted to eliminate it.

**March 12** Language Tapas I: Two Small Tidbits

1. Cockney – A Look At London’s Secret World
   led by Eric Robinson, UK-born, studied Electrical Engineering at Royal Navy Weapons Electrical School

   Robinson rabbits on with the history of Cockney, its rhyming slang, and much more ... but yer don’t ‘ave to Adam and Eve wat ’e goes on abaat. Come and learn about a butcher’s hook at Lunnun’s secret world.

2. A Brief Introduction to Constructed Languages
   led by Stan McLeroy, MS, Computer Science

   Most people have heard of Esperanto and Klingon, but how many other “non-natural” languages have been created over the years? Learn about the many reasons that people have constructed new languages, ways they are classified, and the interesting back-stories on some of their creators.

**March 26** Language Tapas II

1. Introduction to Typography
   led by Cleve Callison, Ph.D., English, retired station manager WHQR Public Radio, Wilmington

   We have dozens of fonts in our computers, yet rarely use more than a handful. Why do very close differences communicate different things? What non-verbal “language” do they convey? Why is it so important to designers and advertisers to get just the right one, and why do they sometimes miss so badly? How subtle is too subtle?

2. Constructed Languages, continued from March 12.
   led by Stan McLeroy; M.S., Computer Science

**April 9** A Linguist’s Look at Language Peeves
led by Anne Curzan, Ph.D.; Professor of English, Linguistics and Education, University of Michigan

Anne Curzan examines some of the most common peeves in grammar. How long have speakers been doing this? Should we accept it in formal writing? When does a “grammatical error” stop being an error? Curzan, as a former member of the American Heritage Dictionary usage panel and as an academic writer, teacher and copy editor, explains how she handles these usage questions.
Committee Chair: Buzz Ames  
Committee Members: Don Brisson, Sue Cause, Rosemary Fisette, Tony Longo, Mike Obrochta, Ted Richman, and John Tufano

These classes are all held virtually.

**Wine 101**  
*with OLLI members John Tufano and Don Brisson*  
Thursday, Feb. 18 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.

$10

If you only buy a bottle of wine when you are having Italian food or to go with a steak, this is for you. If you choose a bottle because you like the looks of the label, sign up now. If your one rule is “red with red meat” but you want to learn more – we have more. But not too much more, just meaningful basics about white, pink and red wines.

**North Carolina's Yadkin Valley Wine Country**  
*with Jones von Drehle Vineyards and Winery*  
Wednesday, April 21 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.

$10

Did you know that wine has been produced in North Carolina since the early days of European colonization in the 17th century? Discover just how far the wine industry has progressed since those early years and learn about quality wines being produced today. This session will focus on the Yadkin Valley, which has emerged as the premier wine region in our state for production of wines with a European style. Diana Jones, co-owner of Jones von Drehle, will discuss the history and development of their wine operations and will describe tasting several of the diverse varietals they grow and produce.

**St. Supéry Estate Vineyards and Winery**  
Wednesday, March 24 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.

$10

Members of the St. Supéry team alongside the St. Supéry winemaker personally "transport" you to Napa Valley to provide gorgeous views of the winery and vineyards. This customized event includes exclusive behind-the-scenes insights into the deep history, growing and making of award-winning single-vineyard estate wines. Tod Kawachi, St. Supéry Estate chef, will demonstrate quick and simple wine-friendly dishes that promise to pair beautifully with your wine of choice.

**Styles of the Loire Valley**  
*with Kiera Hill, Certified Sommelier*  
Wednesday, May 19 • 6 – 7:30 p.m.

$10

The Loire Valley covers close to a third of France. As a result of its size, the range of styles of wine is immense! From rustic reds to sweet whites, from dry and tannic to soft and feminine, still to sparkling, the Loire Valley has it all! Explore some of the classic regions and styles of the area and discuss its history, wine making styles and food pairings. This class will be taught by Kiera Hill, Certified Sommelier and owner of Vino Culture, a wine education company. Hill’s passion is teaching about wine; be prepared to learn and to have fun.

The OLLI Wine Society offers educational programming for those interested in learning about the many aspects of wine. Discover more about your own palate and preferences.
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DON MESSER ........................................ Public Issues Forum
BRUCE MYERS .................................... Revenue Development, Friday Forum
PAMELA DRESSELL ................................. SEA & Coffee
JOANNA CLANCY ....................................... SIG: Covid
RICH COOPER ........................................ SIG: Racism
DONNA COULSON .................................... SIG: Racism
PAT MCCARTHY ....................................... SIG: Walking
CHRISTINE PARKER ................................... SIG: Walking
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## Event Calendar Index

### January
- 27 Free Zoom Training .......... 5
- 28 Mindfulness ....................... 12
- 28 SEA and Coffee ................. 22

### February
- 1 Free Zoom Training .......... 5
- 1 Gentle Yoga - Zoom Series I ... 16
- 1 The Story of Your Life .......... 7
- 2 Free Zoom Training .......... 5
- 3 Artificial Intelligence .......... 14
- 3 Philosophy of Golf ............... 12
- 3 New Members: Meet & Greet .... 4
- 3 Yoga for Balance - Zoom Series I ... 16
- 5 Members Coffee Klatch .......... 4
- 5 SIG - White Privilege and Racism ... 19
- 8 SIG - COVID 19 Research .......... 19
- 8 The Public Issues Forum .......... 25
- 9 American Women of Valor .......... 24
- 9 Birding: Zoom ..................... 15
- 9 Zoom Tips for Presenters .......... 5
- 10 Free Zoom Training .......... 5
- 12 Language Forum .................. 27
- 12 Speed Friendship ................ 4
- 15 Shakespeare Sampler ............ 9
- 16 PLATO ............................... 20
- 17 Mediterranean Masterpieces .... 8
- 17 Women on Wednesdays ........... 21
- 18 The Human Microbiome II ....... 6
- 18 Wine 101 ......................... 28
- 19 Crime in the Cape Fear .......... 13
- 19 Free Zoom Training .......... 5
- 19 Friday Forum ..................... 26
- 23 Literary Club: Food Memoirs .... 11
- 25 Oakdale Cemetery Tour .......... 17
- 26 What Else Can I Do in Zoom? .... 5

### March
- 1 NC Horticulture - Zoom Series ... 17
- 2 SIG: Walking ....................... 19
- 3 New Members: Meet & Greet .... 4
- 10 Oakdale Cemetery Tour .......... 17
- 12 Speed Friendship for Singles .... 4
- 15 U.S. Constitution in 2021 ........ 13
- 16 Conservation and Development in Mesoamerica .... 9
- 17 Birds Spring Nesting Season .... 15
- 17 Death by PowerPoint .............. 5
- 17 Mao's Chaotic China .............. 10
- 18 Making Your Memory Stick ........ 13
- 22 Writing a Short Story ............ 7
- 23 Gendering Technology .......... 14
- 24 Reading and Writing Villanelles ... 7
- 24 St. Supéry Vineyards ............ 28
- 30 Airlie Garden Walk .............. 16
- 31 Virtual Tour at Airlie Gardens .... 16

### April
- 1 Louis MacNeice Autumn Journal .... 9
- 5 Gentle Yoga - Zoom ............... 16
- 7 New Members: Meet & Greet .... 4
- 7 Yoga for Balance - Zoom .......... 16
- 8 Complex Systems, How They Fail ... 14
- 9 Speed Friendship .................. 4
- 9 Vaccines: Facts and Myths .......... 7
- 10 Learning Guitar ................... 12
- 14 American History Forum .......... 24
- 14 Cost of Health Care in the United States .......... 8
- 20 History of Wilmington .......... 10
- 21 Yadkin Valley Wine Country ........ 28
- 22 Kayaking: Eagle Island .......... 17
- 23 Kayaking: Eagle Island .......... 17

### May
- 5 Vietnam’s Wars .................... 10
- 6 Women Artists in a Man’s World ... 6
- 11 Impact of Hurricanes and COVID on NC Economy ........ 8
- 13 Kayaking: Fort Fisher Basin ........ 18
- 14 Kayaking: Fort Fisher Basin ........ 18
- 14 Speed Friendship for Singles .... 4
- 19 Wine of the Loire Valley ........ 28
Register online or by phone
www.uncw.edu/olli
910.962.3195

A confirmation letter and program information will be sent to you via email. If you do not have an email address, you will receive these materials at the address you provide. Specific course location will be provided at registration.

Refunds/Cancellations: Fees can only be refunded if a written notification of withdrawal is received three (3) university working days prior to the start of the program, unless otherwise noted. A processing fee of $10 is charged on cancellations.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNC Wilmington follows the closings of the university. If the university’s opening time is delayed or if the university is closed, all OLLI classes, events, meetings and other activities will be canceled for that duration. Visit the university website at www.uncw.edu for the latest information on university closings.

We are located at 620 South College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403-5614.

UNC Wilmington is committed to and will provide equal educational and employment opportunity. Questions regarding program access may be directed to the Compliance Officer, UNCW Chancellor’s Office, 910.962.3000, Fax 910.962.3483. UNCW does not discriminate on the basis of sex. Questions regarding UNCW’s Title IX compliance should be directed to TitleIX@UNCW.edu.

UNCW complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accommodations will be made available upon request. If you have special needs and would like to participate in this program, please contact the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNCW, 910.962.3195 ten (10) days prior to the event so proper consideration may be given to the request. This publication is available in alternative format on request. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of North Carolina Wilmington follows an open admissions policy.

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