

Winter 2023 Courses



January 17 - March 6

No tests, no grades, just learning for the joy of learning!

Classes marked limited registration may fill up quickly.

Registration opens Tuesday, November 29.

Our schedule includes courses online and in-person at Berkshire Community College, 1350 West Street, Pittsfield, MA.

Courses held online are recorded so if you miss one, or your schedule doesn't work for a particular course, you can request recordings and watch the class sessions on your own time. (Note: in-person classes are not recorded.)

We look forward to seeing you!

How to register

To register for our Winter 2023 Semester, visit berkshireolli.org or call 413-236-2190.

For full course descriptions and to register online go to:
www.berkshireolli.org/winter2023

Join OLLI at BCC

OLLI, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkshire Community College, is a membership program that provides a variety of free and affordable learning, social, and volunteer opportunities designed especially by and for people 50+ (but anyone can join!)

Contact OLLI

www.berkshireolli.org

email: olli@berkshirecc.edu

OLLI Office hours: M - F, 9:00 - 4:00

Phone: 413-236-2190



Monday

Women, Art and Activism

Instructor: Marney Schorr

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. EST

Four Sessions - 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13

Limit: 15

Location: Zoom

Join art therapist, Marney Schorr, as we review, discuss and create images inspired by women artists who bravely challenged assumptions and defied expectations in the art world.

Today's Headlines

Instructor: Jeff Mann

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/27, 3/6

Location: Zoom

Today's Headlines is a moderated discussion course that provides an opportunity to voice your opinions on national and international issues.

The Short Story: Tales of Books and Libraries, Readers and Reading

Instructor: Elizabeth Young

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/27, 3/6

Limit: 25

Location: In-Person at BCC

This course will explore six stories about fiction itself, as we see how they affect us artistically, psychologically, and politically, and experience even more pleasure in reading as a result!

Think Like A Terrorist To Defeat Terrorism and Radicalization In Prison

Instructors: Bill Sturgeon and Francesca Spina

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. EST

Four Sessions - 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13

Location: Zoom

This class will discuss the unique and challenging differences between criminal offenders and terrorist/extremist offenders in a correctional environment on a domestic and international level.

Engaged Lovingkindness Meditation

Instructor: Greta Phinney

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/27, 3/6

Limit: 12

Location: In-Person at BCC

This class will introduce the basics for those who are new to mindfulness meditation, and provide ongoing support for those to whom the practice is familiar. All are welcome!

CRISPR and the Gene Editing Revolution

Instructor: Bryan McKersie

Time: 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/27, 3/6

Location: Zoom

CRISPR technology has brought a revolution in biology, medicine, and agriculture because we can now modify the genetic makeup of any organism, including ourselves. Which of these technologies should we enthusiastically embrace, which should we ban, and how should we regulate these applications?

Tuesday

A Life Well Lived: A Study of Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics

Instructor: Dr. William Cameron

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21

Limit: 22

Location: In-Person at BCC

Aristotle's view of "the good life" is markedly at odds with modern views of ethics. We will look briefly at Aristotle's divergence from his teacher, Plato, on whether anyone does bad things knowingly.

Treasures of Chamber Music - Form, Function, and Secret Delights

Instructor: Harriet Wetstone

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST

Four Sessions - 1/17, 1/31, 2/14, 2/28

Limit: 30

Location: In-Person at BCC

Treasures of Chamber Music - Form, Function, and Secret Delights cont.

Each session features a genre of chamber music including information about musical and historical context, and discussion about the ways in which composers, performers, and listeners contribute to the nature of the listening experience.

Religious Freedom in America: Of, For, or From?

Instructor: Michael Feldberg

Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. EST

Five Sessions - 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14

Limit: 80

Location: In-Person at BCC

The United States has become deeply divided over the role that religious values should play in shaping law, public policy, education, health care, and other social issues. This course will explore the nation's history of religious liberty and some of the complex legal and moral questions raised by the First Amendment's prohibition of an "establishment" of religion and its guarantee of religion's "free exercise."

American Dreams: Plays About The American Immigrant Experience - Part II

Instructor: Jeannie Woods

Time: 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21

Location: Zoom

This course will examine three contemporary plays that dramatize the tension between assimilating to American culture and preserving one's native culture, the daily battle against discrimination, and the courage it takes to carve out a new life and identity in a strange and often hostile land.

Wednesdays

Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale

Instructor: Ann Berman

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. EST

Four Sessions - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, (2/15)

Location: Zoom and 2/15 additional In-Person session

This play prompts us to awaken our faith in the power of love and forgiveness, as well as in the power of

theater. We will cover the text through reading aloud and discussion, and presentation of supplementary material.

The World We Live in... a Look at our Commercial Environment

Instructor: Jerry Schaufeld

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22

Limit: 18

Location: Zoom

There is an endless array of new products, services and technologies available to us on a daily basis. What are the resources that allow this to happen? Who are the inventors... and what are the processes that allow this to happen?

Imperial Reckoning: Rethinking Britain's Imperial Legacy

Instructor: Katherine Kidd

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22

Limit: 30 for In-Person; No limit for Zoom

Location: Zoom and In-Person at BCC

The death of Queen Elizabeth and numerous new scholarly studies are raising many questions about the nature of the UK's imperial actions and their multifaceted legacy. We will consider aspects of the legacy of the British empire in Canada, Sierra Leone, India and Pakistan, Kenya, and Malaysia.

Masterpieces of Spanish Theater in English Translation

Instructor: Dr. Peter Podol

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. EST

Five Sessions - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15

Limit: 30 for In-Person; No limit for Zoom

Location: Zoom and In-Person at BCC

After an overview of the history and evolution of theater in Spain this course will examine and analyze closely four plays.

Explorations In Ekphrasis: The Poetry of Art

Instructor: Kate Sontag

Time: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions, with two additional optional - 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, (3/1, 3/8)

Limit: 20

Location: Zoom

Explorations In Ekphrasis: The Poetry Of Art cont.

By discussing a wide variety of ekphrastic poems and their respective artworks, we will examine the techniques poets use to draw inspiration from, interrogate, celebrate, and transform the visual into the verbal as well as share our own reactions.

Thursdays

Conversations with Berkshire Historical Societies

Instructors: John Dickson and Guests

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23

Location: Zoom

Each class will feature a historical society from a different town each week, whose historians will talk about significant events and people in their past, as well as their society's planned programs.

Family, Flood, and Fire: William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying*

Instructor: Nancy G. Walters

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23

Limit: 25

Location: Zoom

We will examine William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* in terms of how Faulkner experiments with language and employs cubism and country music to create the work that he intended to be his "tour de force."

Ovid's *Metamorphoses*

Instructor: Jamie Keller

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23

Location: Zoom

Join me as we read the myths in Latin and consider the language, poetry and interpretations of some of the greatest stories ever told!

Creative Card Making 101

Instructor: Linda Goff

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. EST

Four Sessions - 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9

Location: Zoom

This class will teach you the basics of card making. Instruction will build your confidence in designing and decorating cards that will please your friends and family!

The Films of Leni Riefenstahl

Instructor: Richard Maturro

Time: 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23

Location: Zoom

In this class we will view all six of Leni Riefenstahl's feature films in their entirety, with time set aside to consider Riefenstahl's history, her contradictions, and her art.

Fridays

Shakespeare's Sonnets: The Untold Tale

Instructor: Carl Atkins, MD

Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24

Location: Zoom

In this course, we'll talk about how to understand Shakespeare's way of speaking and, more importantly, how to follow the story he tells in *The Sonnets*.

Science Conversations

Instructors: Peter Bluhm and Tony Segal

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24

Location: Zoom

Join us to discuss science news appearing in the Tuesday "Science Times" section of *The New York Times*, plus magazines and journals.

Advances in Medicine

Instructor: Various Presenters

Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. EST

Six Sessions - 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24

Location: Zoom

There will be five instructors for this course, a perennial OLLI favorite, who will update the attendees on recent advances in ophthalmology, cardiology, vascular surgery and the All of Us research program.