



OLLI

at Vanderbilt

Where Curiosity Meets Community | Courses for Adults 50 and Older

WINTER 2026

Registration Opens

Monday, December 8

Registration Deadline

Sunday, January 4

First Day of Classes

Friday, January 9



Welcome to the Winter Term at OLLI at Vanderbilt

As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, we're excited to welcome you to a new season of discovery, connection and fun at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Vanderbilt University—*Where Curiosity Meets Community*.

This **Winter Term**, our team of staff, instructors and Advisory Board members has prepared an engaging lineup of courses to keep your mind active and your spirit warm. History enthusiasts will be fascinated by a new course exploring **Civil War hospitals**, offering an in-depth look at medicine, innovation and humanity during one of America's most challenging eras. Science lovers can dive into a course examining **Alfred Nobel's controversial legacy**—and how it has shaped the work and recognition of other Nobel laureates across disciplines. For the first time we are offering an OLLI math course, exploring the **hidden stories behind everyday math!**

We're also bringing back several favorites: **Mahjong** and **Improv** will be back by popular demand. Our musical favorites—Ukulele, Chorale, and Steel Drumming are back this term with **Steel Drumming having more space and being offered on a new day of the week** to accommodate growing interest and participation.

For those who like to keep moving, we have plenty of opportunities to stay active and connected, including **English Country Line Dancing** and a variety of **movement and fitness classes**. And for the darker, colder months ahead, we're adding **more online offerings** to make learning accessible and enjoyable from the comfort of home.

Our **Shared Interest Groups** (also known as SIGs) continue to flourish—this term, we're hoping to launch **three new groups**, bringing our total to **13!** These groups are a wonderful way to connect regularly with fellow members who share your hobbies and passions.

We're continually inspired by the curiosity, creativity and community spirit that make OLLI at Vanderbilt such a special place. Thank you for being part of this vibrant community of lifelong learners.

Here's to a winter filled with warmth, wisdom and wonderful connections. We can't wait to learn and laugh with you this season!

— *Tara Hamilton, Jenelle Spicer and the OLLI at Vanderbilt Advisory Council*



MISSION STATEMENT

OLLI at Vanderbilt helps adults over 50 rediscover the joy of learning and build community through diverse social interaction.

MEMBER BENEFITS

(Attending class within calendar year)

- Attend courses
- Participate in all special events and day trips
- Stay informed about other Vanderbilt activities and educational opportunities
- Participate in our Shared Interest Groups
- **More benefits to come in the future!**

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Ways to Register

ONLINE

1. Visit vanderbilt.edu/olli.
2. Choose your course(s).
3. Log in to your account or create an account.
4. Complete your course registration.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- For your safety, your credit card will not be saved in our registration system.
 - You are not fully registered for a course until payment has been received.
 - We hold checks for deposit until the second week of the course.
 - We can accept registrations by phone; however, **please do not call and leave your credit card information on a voicemail**. Please allow 24 hours for us to respond to voicemails.
-

MAIL














Send completed registration form and payment by check to the following address:

OLLI at Vanderbilt
PMB 407760
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37240

NOTE: This is not our physical address.

Winter 2026 Schedule-at-a-Glance

Time	Course	Type	Dates
MONDAYS			
10–11:30 A.M.	Beginning Digital Photography		1/12–2/23
12–1:30 P.M.	Legendary Foods of Southern and Western Europe		1/12–2/23
2–3:30 P.M.	The Civil War Hospitals of Nashville		1/12–2/23
12–1:30 P.M.	History of Sicily		1/26–3/2
4–5:30 P.M.	Post-Impressionism and the Birth of Abstraction		1/26–3/2
TUESDAYS			
10–11:30 A.M.	Beyond the Genius: Nobel Stories of Passion and Controversy in Science		1/13–2/17
10–11:30 A.M.	OLLI Choral		1/13–2/24
2–3:30 P.M.	Navigating the Turbulent Waters: Pirates of the Slave Trade		1/13–2/17
12–1:30 P.M.	More than Parks: A History of American Conservation		1/20–2/24
6–7:30 P.M.	Japanese History Through the Lens of Shōgun		1/20–2/24
10–11:30 A.M.	Let's Mahjong! A Six-Week Beginner Course		1/27–3/3
12–1:30 P.M.	Mahjong 102: Playing with Strategy and Confidence		1/27–3/3
4–5:30 P.M.	Einstein Without Tears: His Theories Explained Without Math and in Everyday Language		1/27–3/3
WEDNESDAYS			
10–11:30 A.M.	I Speak Therefore I Am: Poetry as Natural Intelligence		1/14–2/18
10–11:30 A.M.	Telling Your Story: A Deep Dive into Memoir Writing		1/14–3/4
12–1:30 P.M.	Working Virtues: Essential Moral Skills for a Good Life		1/14–2/18
1–2 P.M.	Tai Chi for Health, Balance and Relaxation		1/14–2/18
2–3:30 P.M.	Heroes of the Holocaust: Lights in the Darkness		1/14–2/18
2:30–3:30 P.M.	English Country Line Dancing		1/14–2/18
4–5:30 P.M.	The Magic Behind Film Scores: Exploring the Role of Music in Great Movies		1/14–2/18
6–7:30 P.M.	Using Google Workspace Tools with Confidence		1/21–2/25

Time	Course	Type	Dates
THURSDAYS			
10–11:15 A.M.	Beginner Ukulele		1/15–2/19
10–11:30 A.M.	From Triangles to Circles: The Hidden Stories Behind Everyday Math		1/15–2/19
11:45 A.M.–1 P.M.	Intermediate Ukulele		1/15–2/19
12–1 P.M.	Gentle Yoga		1/15–2/19
2–3:30 P.M.	Improv Theater		1/15–2/19
2–3:30 P.M.	Intro to Landscape Painting and Creating Illusionistic Space		1/15–2/19
4–5:30 P.M.	Invisible Intelligence: The Unseen Algorithms Reshaping Your Daily Life		1/15–2/19
10–11:30 A.M.	John James Audubon and the Birds of America		1/22–2/26
12–1:30 P.M.	Judaism, Christianity and Islam: A Comparative Exploration		1/29–3/5
FRIDAYS			
9:30–10:45 A.M.	OLLI Steel Drum Band – Beginner		1/9–2/20
11 A.M.–12:15 P.M.	OLLI Steel Drum Band – Intermediate		1/9–2/20
12:30–1:45 P.M.	OLLI Steel Drum Band – Advanced		1/9–2/20
10–11:30 A.M.	How the U.S. Immigration System (Usually) Works		1/16–2/20

All classes are listed in Central Time.

COURSE ICON KEY



In-Person – These courses are conducted in person at various locations in Nashville. These classes are not recorded.



Online via Zoom – These courses are conducted by OLLI at Vanderbilt online via Zoom. These classes are typically recorded, but there are exceptions. Check the course description to see if the course is recorded.



Osher Online – Osher Online offers online courses for OLLI members across the country. You will be joining an online classroom space that includes fellow OLLI members from across the United States. These courses are created and delivered by the Osher National Resource Center at Northwestern University through their online website platform. NRC staff will provide all content, moderators and technical assistance. These classes are not recorded.

Winter 2026 Course Descriptions

MONDAYS

Beginning Digital Photography

Mondays, January 12 – February 23
(no class on Monday, January 19)

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location:  Online via Zoom

Instructor: Eli Vega

If you use a camera for your photography, this course is for you. You will learn the basics, like those dials on your camera; those mysterious menu items; composition; f/stops, shutter speeds and the exposure meter and how they all work together; ISO and white balance; different types of lenses; the No. 1 solution to the No. 1 problem in photography; recommendations on photo editing software; and tips on buying your next camera. You will also receive constructive feedback on your photos. This course is highly interactive, including a chance for student questions and discussion, as well as several PowerPoint slides/photos to help participants connect the dots. Participants are expected to have their cameras, equipment, camera manuals and participant workbooks available throughout the course.

*Cameras, equipment and camera manuals are NOT provided. Participant workbooks are provided.

Enrollment is limited to 35 participants.
This class is recorded.

Eli Vega is a widely published, award-winning photographer and author. He has published two books on photography and has taught photography for 30 years, including field workshops in Rocky Mountain National Park and classes for Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes throughout the country. He is a certified facilitator and makes his classes and workshops casual, engaging and fun.



Legendary Foods of Southern and Western Europe

Mondays, January 12 – February 23
(no class on Monday, January 19)

Time: 12–1:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location:  Online via Zoom

Instructor: Larry P. Canepa

This six-week culinary series offers an in-depth exploration of the legendary foods and traditions that define the cuisines of France, Italy, Spain and Portugal. Participants will journey through centuries of culinary evolution—discovering how geography, history and culture have shaped some of the world's most enduring and influential dishes.

The course begins with the foundations of French gastronomy, from its regional specialties to its elegant confections and global influence. It then turns to Italy's rich culinary heritage, tracing the roots of regional cooking and its celebration of simple, seasonal ingredients. The series concludes with the Iberian Peninsula, examining the shared yet distinct traditions of Spain and Portugal and how exploration and trade expanded their culinary reach across the globe.

Designed for food lovers and cultural enthusiasts alike, this primarily lecture-based course invites participants to savor the stories behind Europe's most iconic cuisines and the legends who brought them to life.

Enrollment is limited to 300 participants.
This class is recorded.

Larry P. Canepa is a Certified Culinary Educator and Le Cordon Bleu Chef, author, researcher, food historian and lecturer on culinary topics. Chef Larry has a dynamic, innovative and engaging style that incorporates food history, culinary arts, education and “food-tainment” into every class and event.

The Civil War Hospitals of Nashville

Mondays, January 12 – February 23
(no class on Monday, January 19)

Time: 2–3:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏛️ St. George's Episcopal Church, 4715 Harding Pike

Instructor: Brandon Hulette

Based on original research in this area, the course will cover the interesting and little known story of the hospitals of the Civil War era in Nashville. During this period, Nashville became a hospital center with more than 25 military hospitals established and saw the development of innovations still with us today, from the first antisepsis to some of the first specialty hospitals.

Enrollment is limited to 200 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Brandon Hulette is a longtime OLLI instructor who has held appointments in multiple Vanderbilt University departments and manages the Heard Libraries grants program. He has a background in infectious disease epidemiology and public health as well as Civil War and public health history. He is also an Army officer of 23-plus years and current president of Uniformed Services Environmental Health Association.

History of Sicily

Mondays, January 26 – March 2

Time: 12–1:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location: 🖥️ Osher Online

Instructor: Douglas Kenning

Sicily has been a mythic crossroads of heroes, conquerors and culture for more than 3,000 years. From Odysseus and the Arabo-Norman Golden Age to the Mafia and modern mythmakers like Garibaldi and Coppola, Sicily's story is rich, complex and central to Western history. This course explores its pivotal role in shaping civilization—and why Goethe famously said, “To have seen Italy without having seen Sicily is not to have seen Italy at all.”

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Douglas Kenning earned a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh and is a writer, lecturer, and former professor of literature and history. He has taught in the U.S., Tunisia, Japan and Italy. Now based in the San Francisco Bay Area and Sicily, he offers dynamic lectures on Mediterranean civilizations and leads small-group tours exploring history, myth and culture.



Post-Impressionism and the Birth of Abstraction

Mondays, January 26 – March 2

Time: 4–5:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Lauren Weingarden

This course explores Post-Impressionism's bold departure from naturalistic light and color, focusing on the expressive use of form, symbolism and vivid, often unnatural, color. Through the work of Cézanne, van Gogh, Gauguin, Seurat and Matisse, we will trace the movement's challenge to artistic norms and social values—laying the foundation for modern art and redefining the artist's role in society.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Lauren Weingarden is professor emerita of art history at Florida State University. Her work explores the intersections of literature and visual art in 19th-century culture, focusing on figures like architect Louis Sullivan, Charles Baudelaire and Édouard Manet. She has published widely and developed an embodied aesthetic model that helps viewers re-experience artists' encounters with modernity and nature's transience—an approach that informs her teaching on Impressionism.



TUESDAYS

Beyond the Genius: Nobel Stories of Passion and Controversy in Science

Tuesdays, January 13 – February 17

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location:  St. George's Episcopal Church, 4715 Harding Pike

Instructors: Virginia Shepherd and Charles Brau

In this course we will discuss the lives and science of Alfred Nobel and several controversial Nobel laureates. These include Fritz Haber, whose invention of artificial fertilizer feeds the world but who also introduced poison gas in WWI; Otto Hahn and Lise Meitner, who discovered nuclear fission but who illustrate the plight of women and Jews under Hitler; Werner Heisenberg, the German genius who created quantum mechanics but failed in the attempt to make an atomic bomb for Hitler; William Shockley, the “father of the transistor” who founded Silicon Valley and promoted racist eugenics; and Carleton Gajdusek, who pleaded guilty to child abuse, and Stanley Prusiner, considered by some to have an outsize ego, who unraveled the mystery of “mad cow” disease. Together their stories show that science is done by real people with real challenges, faults and failures who nevertheless made fundamental, significant contributions and discoveries.

Enrollment is limited to 200 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Virginia Shepherd completed her doctoral studies in biochemistry at the University of Iowa and spent an additional four years at Iowa completing postdoctoral work.

Charles Brau earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University and did postdoctoral research at the University of Leiden, Netherlands. Both taught at Vanderbilt and are now retired. For several years they taught a popular honors seminar on the Nobel Prize winners in science. The goal of the course was to provide the science behind the prizes, as well as the lives and controversies of the Nobel laureates.



OLLI Choral

Tuesdays, January 13–February 24

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$70

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Mary Combs

This seven-week course will instruct singers in blending tones, singing in harmony, and in musicianship and vocal techniques, as well as preparing participants to perform a few songs for an audience. The goal for the overall experience is to have fun while making beautiful music together. Be aware that some side effects may occur such as spontaneous happiness, increased memory and motor function, social connection, and movement of the feet and head. Since singing skills build on each other, attendance at each class is encouraged, barring signs of illness, for participants to benefit most from this course.

Enrollment is limited to 50 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Mary Combs has 40 years of experience directing choirs and musical groups in college, school, church, theater and community settings. As a teacher in public and private schools and as director of church choirs, she has worked with all levels of vocal experience and a wide variety of musical backgrounds. As founder and director of the South Cheatham Choral Society, she is known for her talent for guiding singers in developing a “choral sound” while exploring a wide range of musical genres and styles. She graduated with a degree in music education from Lynchburg College in Virginia, with a major in voice. She and her husband, Jody (retired associate dean of libraries at Vanderbilt), have two sons and live in Bellevue.

Navigating the Turbulent Waters: Pirates of the Slave Trade

Tuesdays, January 13–February 17

Time: 2–3:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏡 St. George’s Episcopal Church, 4715 Harding Pike

Instructor: Angela Sutton

What happened when 18th-century pirates stole slave ships off the coast of Africa? How could that practice have shaped American society today? In this course, we will use documents from English, Dutch and Prussian human traffickers to explore the fraught connections between piracy, the Atlantic slave trade and U.S. history. We will examine the motivations behind piracy, looking at economic instability, colonial competition and the many meanings of freedom. This course highlights the dual nature of pirates as both perpetrators and adversaries within the broader context of slavery, analyzing their impact on African as well as American societies.

Enrollment is limited to 100 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Angela Sutton is a research associate professor of communication of science and technology at Vanderbilt, although her Ph.D. is in history. She is a scholar of slavery and its legacies in the United States and around the world and is the author of *Pirates of the Slave Trade: The Battle of Cape Lopez and the Birth of an American Institution*. Her next book is about Nashville’s Fort Negley Park.



More than Parks: A History of American Conservation

Tuesdays, January 20 – February 24

Time: 12–1:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Fraser Livingston

Explore the evolution of American conservation from the 19th century to today. This course goes beyond national parks to examine how urban reformers, scientists, women activists and Native communities shaped the movement. Through diverse stories and landscapes, we will gain a deeper understanding of how Americans have fought to preserve—and define—the natural world.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Fraser Livingston is an environmental historian with a Ph.D. in American history from Mississippi State University. His research focuses on the history of science, technology and agriculture. He received the 2023 Gilbert C. Fite Award for Best Dissertation on Agricultural History and is currently working on a book about conservationist George Bird Grinnell. He also serves as book review editor for *Environmental History*.

Japanese History Through the Lens of Shōgun

Tuesdays, January 20 – February 24

Time: 6–7:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Megan McClory

Inspired by the 2024 FX miniseries *Shōgun*, this course explores Japan's transition from civil war to peace between the 15th and 18th centuries. We will examine the rise of key unifiers, the roles of diverse social groups (like merchants, peasants, women and outcasts), and the era's political, cultural and artistic shifts. For fans of the series or those new to Japanese history, this course offers a rich, accessible introduction.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Megan McClory is a doctoral candidate in history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research explores sword restrictions in early modern Japan and their role in shaping peace and power. A Global Research Fellow at Kokugakuin University, she has spent years living and studying in Japan and earned a B.A. from Brandeis University.

Let's Mahjong! A Six-Week Beginner Course

Tuesdays, January 27 – March 3

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$80

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Joy Marini

American Mahjong, also called Mah Jongg, is a fast-paced, brain-boosting tile game based on the traditional game developed in 19th-century China. Played with four people racing to build specific tile combinations, it's a blend of strategy, memory, pattern recognition and fun. This beginner-friendly course will teach you everything you need to confidently join a game. Over six lively, hands-on lessons, you'll learn the rules, tile sets, game flow and strategy behind this timeless favorite. Learn how to read the Mahjong card, navigate the Charleston (the unique tile-passing ritual) and develop your playing style. By the end of the course, you'll be ready to join local games and host your own

Mahjong night. All materials are provided, and you will receive your own card to keep.

Enrollment is limited to 26 participants. This class is not recorded.

Joy Marini started out curious about American Mahjong and just a little confused, but quickly fell in love with the challenge, strategy and community that come with playing. She now hosts regular games and teaches new players, building a growing Mahjong circle that's as much about laughter as it is about learning. In the classroom, she creates a fun, relaxed space for beginners to gain confidence and fall in love with the game, just like she did. She loves watching the “aha!” moments when new players grasp the rhythm of the game. She emphasizes that you don't need to be a lifelong player to enjoy Mahjong – all it takes is one game to get hooked. A member of the Mahjong Instructors' Guild and an Oh My Mahjong teacher, she is a former physician assistant, corporate leader at Johnson & Johnson and a global health advocate for mothers and children.



Mahjong 102: Playing with Strategy and Confidence

Tuesdays, January 27 – March 3

Time: 12–1:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Joy Marini

This course takes new players beyond the basics and into the heart of the game. Designed for graduates of the OLLI beginners Mahjong course, this six-week class focuses on building speed, strategy and confidence while strengthening understanding of the National Mahjong League card. Players will sharpen their ability to spot patterns, make quick Charleston decisions, and read exposures, all while developing the mental flexibility to shift from one hand to another mid-game. Each session includes full gameplay, so students can immediately apply what they learn in real time. Through guided instruction and plenty of table practice, students will gain the skills and awareness that separate beginners from confident players. Along the way, they'll also learn table etiquette, defensive play and practical strategies so that they can shout "Mahjong!" By the end of Mahjong 102, players will feel comfortable joining regular games with Mahjong enthusiasts while enjoying the rhythm, challenge and camaraderie that make this game so endlessly engaging. Student Level: Beginner or New Intermediate. Players should have completed the OLLI beginner's Mahjong course or have a basic understanding of tiles and game play. If you'd like to lead or participate in a Mahjong Shared Interest Group, please let us know.

Enrollment is limited to 26 participants. This class is not recorded.

Joy Marini started out curious about American Mahjong and just a little confused, but quickly fell in love with the challenge, strategy and community that come with playing. She now hosts regular games and teaches new players, building a growing Mahjong circle that's as much about laughter as it is about learning. In the classroom, she creates a fun, relaxed space for beginners to gain confidence and fall in love with the game, just like she did. She loves watching the "aha!" moments when new players grasp the rhythm of the game. She emphasizes that you don't need to be a

lifelong player to enjoy Mahjong – all it takes is one game to get hooked. A member of the Mahjong Instructors' Guild and an Oh My Mahjong teacher, she is a former physician assistant, corporate leader at Johnson & Johnson and a global health advocate for mothers and children.



Einstein Without Tears: His Theories Explained Without Math and in Everyday Language

Tuesdays, January 27 – March 3

Time: 4–5:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location: 🏠 Osher Online

Instructor: Andrew Fraknoi

Explore the fascinating world of Albert Einstein's theories—no math or science background required. This course introduces key ideas like time travel, warped space, black holes and gravitational waves, all in accessible terms. We will discover how modern science continues to confirm Einstein's predictions and why his work remains a source of wonder for both scientists and science fiction fans.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants. This class is not recorded.

Andrew Fraknoi is the former chair of the astronomy department at Foothill College and now teaches noncredit astronomy courses at San Francisco State and the University of San Francisco. He is lead author of OpenStax Astronomy, the most widely used free introductory astronomy textbook in North America. Named California Professor of the Year in 2007, he frequently explains astronomy in everyday language on national radio programs. The International Astronomical Union named Asteroid 4859 Fraknoi in his honor as a recognition of his contributions to the public understanding of science. Learn more online at fraknoi.com.

WEDNESDAYS

I Speak Therefore I Am: Poetry as Natural Intelligence

Wednesdays, January 14 – February 18

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🌸 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Roderick Hofer

In each of its six sessions, this course will take up to two or three poems in English that represent one of the following conditions of speech: choice, imagery, echoes, meaning, voice and community. (“Echoes” will include both patterns of sound and fixed poetic forms, like the sonnet.) By means of close attention to individual poems, students will begin to develop the interest and skills for reading more widely in poetry’s vast library. No less important, all of the sessions of this course will emphasize poetry’s cultivation of natural intelligence, a distinguishing element of human creativity.

Enrollment is limited to 35 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Roderick Hofer is a retired professor of English. He began as a teaching assistant at Kansas State University in 1971 and subsequently taught in two high schools and several colleges and universities, retiring from Indian River State College (Fort Pierce, Florida) in 2017 as a full professor. Among other courses, he taught Introduction to Poetry and, beginning in the 1990s, he presented an annual series on poetry for the Martin County Library System.



Telling Your Story: A Deep Dive into Memoir Writing

Wednesdays, January 14 – March 4

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$100

Location: 🖥️ Online via Zoom

Instructor: Miriam Mimms

“The past is never dead. It’s not even past.”
—William Faulkner

Everyone has a story to tell about their past. Writing our personal stories helps us make sense of that past and allows us to share meaningful memories with loved ones. If you’re ready to tell yours—even if only to yourself—this introduction to memoir writing may be the nudge you need.

In this generative, eight-week course, we will assemble a tool kit of practical techniques for beginning and more practiced writers. We’ll explore works of notable memoirists, discuss elements that can enliven personal storytelling and develop strategies to strengthen the voice of our lived experiences. Topics include authenticity, ethics, the use of AI and publishing. Participants will aim to complete a chapter-length memoir, sharing prompted writings and workshoping their piece in a supportive setting. Reading and writing assignments are strongly encouraged but optional. A laptop or notebook is needed.

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants.
This class is recorded.

Miriam Mimms is a writer, memoirist, poet and editor. Her writing has been published in print, her poetry received The Academy of American Poets Prize at Vanderbilt Honorable Mention, and the Sewanee Writers’ Conference awarded her a residency in fiction writing. She earned the master of liberal arts and science from Vanderbilt University with dual concentrations in creative writing and creative arts, as well as a certificate in college teaching from the Vanderbilt Center for Teaching. A seasoned workshop leader, her approach to facilitating writing groups is supportive, encouraging and collaborative. When not working on her latest writing project, she can be found enhancing green space and sustainability initiatives as a commissioner of beautification and environment for the city of Nashville.

Working Virtues: Essential Moral Skills for a Good Life

Wednesdays, January 14 – February 18

Time: 12–1:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location:  Online via Zoom

Instructor: Larry R. Churchill

The most important part of our moral lives is not the occasional big decisions we have to make but the virtues that shape our daily lives. These routine, practical virtues of the everyday become traits of character that live and work in us as personal and interactive skills. It is these skills that both give us our daily orientation and shape our occasional big decisions. This course will define and explore those moral skills that are most important for a good and happy life. These skills need to be periodically examined and developed, and like other skills—such as tennis, sewing, cooking or carpentry—can either grow or wither. We will examine especially those virtues that seem to be out of favor or under criticism at this juncture in our cultural and social life. Presentations will draw from a wide range of sources: religious and secular, humanistic, poetic, literary and scientific. The emphasis will be on how these essential virtues function, that is, the work they do for us. Exercises and practical engagement will be a part of each session.



Enrollment is limited to 300 participants. This class is recorded.

Larry R. Churchill is a professor emeritus of medical ethics, Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Churchill played a major role in developing a bioethics program at Vanderbilt and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has been cited for excellence in teaching at both Vanderbilt and UNC, is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and a fellow of The Hastings Center. He is the author of seven books, including most recently *Ethics for Everyone: A Skills-Based Approach* and *Bioethics Reenvisioned: A Path Toward Health Justice*. Churchill's work has been featured in popular media such as *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, *Bill Moyers Journal*, and the Alex Gibney documentary *Money-Driven Medicine*.

Tai Chi for Health, Balance and Relaxation

Wednesdays, January 14 – February 18

Time: 1–2 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location:  Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd. **OR**
 Online via Zoom

Instructor: Peter Hodes

Tai Chi is an easy-to-learn routine that improves health, balance and relaxation. This low-impact exercise can easily be done by everyone including seniors, people with illnesses and injuries, and even small children. In fact, it is a great exercise for these types of people due to the extraordinary health benefits that result from continued efforts.

No special clothing or equipment is needed. Students can expect gentle movements with no sweating or straining. This course is appropriate for beginners or those with experience. We will learn about body alignment, gravity, motion and power. Students will practice deep breathing and strategies for relaxing and reducing anxiety. We'll have fun and enjoy getting healthy together.

Enrollment is limited to 50 in-person participants and 100 online participants. This class is recorded.

Peter Hodes has always been interested in martial arts and in Asian culture. After graduating from the University of Florida with a degree in Asian studies and studying abroad in Japan, he began practicing tai chi chuan in 1990 on a beach of Thailand. Beginning with a two-day workshop, he stayed for three additional weeks, training daily and learning the traditional Yang-style tai chi of Professor Cheng Man-Ching.

In 2017, he sold his company and, on a whim, began teaching tai chi classes in Nashville. The classes were an unexpected success and have continued to grow and expand since then. Now, he is a full-time tai chi teacher and a strong advocate for this amazing, healthy and relaxing activity. He is “old school” Nashville, having attended H.G. Hill Elementary School and graduated from University School of Nashville in 1985.



Heroes of the Holocaust: Lights in the Darkness

Wednesdays, January 14 – February 18

Time: 2–3:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Howard Kerner

When we think of the Holocaust, we recall the horrors perpetrated by evildoers. Even in humanity's darkest hours, courageous individuals risked everything to save lives. This course sheds light on these little-known rescuers—ordinary people who defied laws, resisted hate and acted with moral clarity and compassion. Their uplifting stories are powerful reminders of resilience, morality and hope.


Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Howard Kerner, who earned a B.A. and an M.A. from SUNY Albany, is a retired English professor who spent 47 years teaching and publishing more than 100 scholarly articles, primarily on the Holocaust. In retirement, he researches and shares the powerful stories of little-known Holocaust rescuers. Through his talks at lifelong learning programs, he highlights acts of extraordinary bravery and altruism—offering timely reminders of human goodness.

English Country Line Dancing

Wednesdays, January 14 – February 18

Time: 2:30–3:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location:  Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Susan Kevra

Are you captivated by the dancing in film adaptations of Jane Austen's novels or dance scenes in *Bridgerton*? This course will teach you these simple and elegant dances, typically danced in long lines with a partner. Upon concluding a series of figures set to classical-sounding music, you progress to dance the next round with the next couple and the next. No experience or partner is necessary, just a desire to make friends and get gentle exercise with a little bit of dance history thrown in for good measure!

Enrollment is limited to 50 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Susan Kevra is a dance caller, clarinetist, singer, and a professor of French at Vanderbilt University. For the last 30 years, she has traveled across the country and around the globe to teach and play for English Country dancing, French dancing and New England contra dances and square dances. Her book of original English dances, *Trip to Provence: English Country Dances and Tunes*, was published in fall 2025. Kevra has taught experienced dancers at balls and dance workshops but loves getting newcomers up and dancing in no time!



The Magic Behind Film Scores: Exploring the Role of Music in Great Movies

Wednesdays, January 14 – February 18

Time: 4–5:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Mike Agron

Discover how film music enhances storytelling, sets mood and place, defines character and blends styles—jazz, classical, pop—into powerful cinematic impressions. We will discuss how composers shape emotion across genres like drama, romance, comedy, sci-fi and westerns. From *The Jazz Singer* to James Bond, we will trace the evolution of film scores, spotlighting legendary composers such as Bernard Herrmann, Ennio Morricone, and John Williams. Celebrate the artistry of film music and its lasting emotional impact.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Mike Agron, born in LA's entertainment scene, is a former high-tech exec and entrepreneur who now creates and delivers dynamic, story-driven seminars on music and entertainment. With a storyteller's eye and a DJ's ear, he has led 15 acclaimed seminar series, each spotlighting a different facet of music and entertainment, for the Sacramento Renaissance Society and national lifelong learning groups including OLLI, Osher Online, Encore Learning and more.

Using Google Workspace Tools with Confidence

Wednesdays, January 21 – February 25

Time: 6–7:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Chelsea King

This beginner-friendly course introduces Google Workspace tools like Drive, Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Sheets and Slides. We will learn core features, basic navigation and practical applications for personal and professional use. With guided instruction and real-world examples, the course builds confidence and foundational skills to boost productivity and collaboration.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Chelsea King is a learning and development specialist with more than a decade of experience in teaching and training. She began her career as a high school English teacher and now focuses on adult learners, especially in professional development and technology integration. Her approach emphasizes practical, collaborative learning experiences that reflect her commitment to accessible, tech-forward instruction in both educational and corporate settings.

THURSDAYS

Beginner Ukulele

Thursdays, January 15 – February 19

Time: 10–11:15 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Theresa Romack

This six-week course is designed to introduce the group to the ukulele and group singing. Participants will learn the basics of tuning, strumming, chords and, of course, a few songs. Each week builds on the previous one, with ample time for practice and review. Ukuleles will be provided for all participants.

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants. This class is not recorded.

Theresa Romack graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a bachelor's degree in zoology and a minor in piano performance. She then studied contemporary writing and production and vocal performance on a talent scholarship at Berklee College of Music. Her passion for education started when she was given 10 private piano lessons during her junior year of high school. She has completed professional development courses in education, music and instruction. She has experience working with students of all ages and in various capacities, as well as private and group piano, voice, guitar and ukulele instruction. From 2021 to 2023, she taught general music, bucket drumming and ukulele at LEAD Cameron Middle School in Nashville.

From Triangles to Circles: The Hidden Stories Behind Everyday Math

Thursdays, January 15 – February 19

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Tekin Karadag

What exactly is π , and how do we know it's a constant? Why is the area of a circle always πr^2 ? In this course, we'll explore the fascinating history behind these familiar ideas. We'll start with Archimedes, who first introduced the concept of a limit, follow Newton and Leibniz as they developed calculus, and see how Weierstrass and Riemann refined these ideas into the mathematics we use today.

Along the way, we'll uncover the reasoning behind formulas we've long accepted as facts but rarely questioned. No advanced math background is required—just curiosity and an interest in understanding where our favorite mathematical truths really come from.

Enrollment is limited to 30 participants. This class is not recorded.

Tekin Karadag is a senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at Vanderbilt University. He has been teaching in the United States for eight years at schools including Texas A&M University, College of Charleston, University of Georgia, and Vanderbilt. He has taught all levels of math courses to a variety of students and is a highly interactive lecturer both in university and public settings.



Intermediate Ukulele

Thursdays, January 15 – February 19

Time: 11:45 A.M.–1 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🧑🏻 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Theresa Romack

This six-week course is designed for players who already have basic ukulele skills and their own instrument. Participants will expand their chord vocabulary, explore new strumming and picking patterns, and build confidence playing in different keys and styles. Emphasis will be placed on group playing and singing, with more challenging songs introduced each week. Students should be comfortable with fundamental chords and strumming before enrolling. You must have your own instrument to enroll.

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Theresa Romack graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a bachelor's degree in zoology and a minor in piano performance. She then studied contemporary writing and production and vocal performance on a talent scholarship at Berklee College of Music. Her passion for education started when she was given 10 private piano lessons during her junior year of high school. She has completed professional development courses in education, music and instruction. She has experience working with students of all ages and in various capacities, as well as private and group piano, voice, guitar and ukulele instruction. From 2021 to 2023, she taught general music, bucket drumming and ukulele at LEAD Cameron Middle School in Nashville.





Gentle Yoga

Thursdays, January 15 – February 19

Time: 12–1 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Staci Smith

This gentle yoga class is designed to promote flexibility, balance and mindfulness. Each class will feature slow, flowing movements and gentle stretches suitable for all levels.

Enrollment is limited to 40 participants. This class is not recorded.

Staci Smith is a certified yoga teacher with more than five years of teaching experience and 25 years of personal practice. She is dedicated to creating a welcoming, inclusive and accessible environment in each class, encouraging students of all levels to explore their practice and cultivate mindfulness. She offers modifications to ensure everyone feels comfortable and empowered on their journey. Outside of teaching, she enjoys hiking, photography, rock hunting and gardening. She wholeheartedly believes that yoga is a way of life that fosters connection, unconditional love and inner peace.

Improv Theater

Thursdays, January 15 – February 19

Time: 2–3:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🏡 Second Presbyterian Church, 3511 Belmont Blvd.

Instructor: Unscripted Teaching Artist

Looking for a fun, supportive way to connect with others and spark some creativity? This playful improv class invites you to laugh a lot, move a little, and always be in the moment through games designed for joy and connection. No experience needed—just bring your curiosity and sense of humor.

Improv is not just a form of comedic entertainment. It is now cited as being helpful in treatment for anxiety and in finding comfort with uncertainty, according to Psychology Today. There is also a movement toward mindful improv which explores the benefits for people living with dementia and Parkinson's disease and for their caregivers.

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants. This class is not recorded.

Unscripted is a nonprofit organization that uses improv to heal, empower and connect communities, especially those historically excluded from the arts. Their teaching artists are not only expert improvisers, but also trauma-informed facilitators, educators and community leaders who reflect the lived experiences of the people they serve. Unscripted improv classes meet you where you are and provide a space for joy to thrive.



Intro to Landscape Painting and Creating Illusionistic Space

Thursdays, January 15 – February 19

Time: 2–3:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$60

Location: 🖥️ Online via Zoom

Instructor: Lily Prince

This online studio art course will introduce students to the basic concepts of depicting landscape space and creating the illusion of depth on a two-dimensional surface. We will focus on the most important aspects of creating illusionistic space that is necessary for painting and drawing landscape imagery. We will cover and practice techniques such as use of value (light and shadow), perspective, layering of forms, and scale (size) change. Approaches and styles of well-known landscape artists will be viewed and discussed to exemplify the basic principles being introduced. Artists to view and practice from include J.M.W. Turner, Anselm Kiefer, Richard Diebenkorn, Vincent van Gogh, Fairfield Porter and Joan Mitchell. Many contemporary landscape painters will be discussed as well. Students will approach each new topic by first making quick copies of some of these master artists' works, focusing on one artist per week, which exemplify specific illusionistic "tricks." Students will then create their own interpretations of these same techniques while working from memory, from photos or from a landscape view for inspiration. An abstract or

representational approach will be determined by each individual student, but mood, atmosphere and expression will be stressed rather than mere representational accuracy.

Materials will be discussed and chosen by each student. Previous experience with painting is helpful but not required. Toward the end of each weekly class, students will share their work created during that class for discussion with and feedback from the group and the instructor. Lively art discussions welcome!

Enrollment is limited to 15 participants.
This class is recorded.

Lily Prince earned her B.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design and M.F.A. from Bard College and attended the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture. A 2020 Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant recipient, she has exhibited nationally and internationally, including recent shows at Tinney Contemporary (Nashville), Brattleboro Museum (Vermont), and 532 Gallery Thomas Jaeckel (New York/Switzerland). Upcoming exhibitions include Albany Airport (2025). Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine* and *The Brooklyn Rail*. Prince has lectured at Yale, Vassar, and the Rhode Island School of Design and was a tenured professor of painting. She now teaches online and privately. She maintains studios in New York and Nashville. Learn more at lilyprince.com and [@lilyprince_studio](https://www.instagram.com/lilyprince_studio).

Invisible Intelligence: The Unseen Algorithms Reshaping Your Daily Life

Thursdays, January 15–February 19

Time: 4–5:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Eliot Bethke

Artificial intelligence shapes our daily lives in subtle yet powerful ways. In this nontechnical course, we will explore six case studies that reveal how AI systems work, the ethics behind machine decision-making, and the impact of these technologies on our world. We will gain a deeper understanding of AI's current influence—and the possibilities ahead.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Eliot Bethke is a Ph.D. candidate in computational bioengineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He previously worked in research and development at several Midwest startups, focusing on product design and manufacturing. After running a summer internship program, he shifted his focus to education and now shares his expertise in hardware and software development with future engineers.

John James Audubon and the Birds of America

Thursdays, January 22–February 26

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Eric Simon

In the 1820s, John James Audubon set out to document every bird species in the US, resulting in *The Birds of America*, a landmark collection of 435 hand-painted prints. This course explores Audubon's life, artistic methods, and legacy, highlighting how his work bridges art and science. We will examine selected prints and consider his lasting impact on American natural history.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Eric Simon is a professor of biology at New England College and earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Harvard University. An avid traveler and award-winning nature photographer, he leads educational trips to destinations such as Belize, the Galapagos, Tanzania, Cuba, the Amazon River and Patagonia. Simon is also the author of a bestselling series of college biology textbooks—used in more than 40 countries—with more than 2 million copies in print.



Did you know? Course fees only cover *some* of our operating expenses.



Donate online at
vanderbilt.edu/olli/ways-to-give

Gifts to OLLI's Annual Fund support organizational operations and other areas of need. Your donation is 100% tax deductible and your contribution is truly appreciated.

Judaism, Christianity and Islam: A Comparative Exploration

Thursdays, January 29 – March 5

Time: 12–1:30 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location:  Osher Online

Instructor: Jeremy Fackenthal

Explore the rituals, beliefs and writings of Judaism, Christianity and Islam through a comparative lens. This course examines where these Abrahamic religions overlap and diverge, offering insights into their shared monotheistic roots and unique traditions. We will read key texts from each faith and gain a deeper

understanding of how these religions shape meaning, practice and identity. Enrollment is limited to 13 participants. This class is not recorded.

Jeremy Fackenthal is an independent filmmaker and nonprofit director and earned a Ph.D. in philosophy of religion and theology from Claremont Graduate University. He led the Common Good International Film Festival from 2019 to 2023. His work uses film to explore philosophical questions, including a short documentary on spoken word poetry and an upcoming feature-length film. He sees film as art, expression and entertainment.

OLLI Steel Drum Band – Beginner

Fridays, January 9 – February 20

Time: 9:30–10:45 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$100

Location: 🌺 W.O. Smith Music School, 1125 8th Ave. S.

Instructor: Jordan Morrison

This seven-week class will allow participants to dive into the music of the Caribbean. In this hands-on experience, participants will play as a member in the steel band, explore the rich history of the instrument, develop proper playing technique, learn a song, study a bit about music notation and more. The culture and steelpan art form will be a focal point and will require some short and simple “homework” assignments like watching videos, listening to specific music, etc. Regular attendance is key to the success of the steel band and the individual. Everyone in the band plays an important role. Please make every effort to attend each class. This will be a fun, informative and laid-back musical experience that should leave participants excited to learn and play more! Recommendations for enrollment: no musical experience needed but helpful; able to stand for 60–75 minutes; reasonable mobility of fingers, wrists and arms; willingness to practice before class recommended if needed. There may be a concert component with this course.

Enrollment is limited to 19 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Jordan Morrison has a deep passion for music education, percussion and composition. He has focused his efforts on helping to propel the steelpan art form forward. His recent pan-centric work has resulted in his appointment to the National Society of Steelband Educators Education Committee, having a professional article published in *The Steel Times*, having steel band compositions highlighted at national conferences, steelpan/steel band compositions being selected for inclusion on the Prescribed Music List, and publishing more than 100 works for steelpan/steel band through multiple publishers. He serves as the music education director at W.O. Smith Music School in Nashville, where he directs the school’s steel bands, mentors teachers and wears many other hats. Learn more at jordanmorrisonmusic.com.

OLLI Steel Drum Band – Intermediate

Fridays, January 9 – February 20

Time: 11 A.M.–12:15 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$100

Location: 🌺 W.O. Smith Music School, 1125 8th Ave. S.

Instructor: Jordan Morrison

For those who left Steel Drum Band Beginner wanting to learn and play more, this band will take the challenge up a notch. In this course, participants will refine their technique, work on slightly more advanced music, dive further into some music notation, explore more about the culture surrounding these instruments and more. Regular attendance is key to the success of the steel band and the individual. Everyone in the band plays an important role. Please make every effort to attend each class. This will be a fun, informative and laid-back musical experience that should provide the outlet needed for those who want more after the basics! Recommendations for enrollment: prerequisite of the beginner level is required unless instructor permission is granted through invitation or a short audition; reading music is helpful but not essential; able to stand for 60–75 minutes; reasonable mobility of fingers, wrists and arms; willingness to practice before class recommended if needed. There may be a concert component with this course.

Enrollment is limited to 19 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Jordan Morrison has a deep passion for music education, percussion and composition. He has focused his efforts on helping to propel the steelpan art form forward. His recent pan-centric work has resulted in his appointment to the National Society of Steelband Educators Education Committee, having a professional article published in *The Steel Times*, having steel band compositions highlighted at national conferences, steelpan/steel band compositions being selected for inclusion on the Prescribed Music List, and publishing more than 100 works for steelpan/steel band through multiple publishers. He serves as the music education director at W.O. Smith Music School in Nashville, where he directs the school’s steel bands, mentors teachers and wears many other hats. Learn more at jordanmorrisonmusic.com.

OLLI Steel Drum Band – Advanced

Fridays, January 9 – February 20

Time: 12:30–1:45 P.M. CT | **Cost:** \$100

Location: 🏠 W.O. Smith Music
School, 1125 8th Ave. S.

Instructor: Jordan Morrison

For those who have made their way through the Beginner and Intermediate courses, this band will seek to challenge participants to whatever level they aspire to. We will dive into more difficult music, more music notation, more advanced terminology, deeper understanding of the culture of pan, more advanced playing techniques, etc. Regular attendance is key to the success of the steel band and the individual. Everyone in the band plays an important role. Please make every effort to attend each class. This will be a fun, informative and challenging musical experience that should provide the outlet needed for those who want to push themselves on their pans! Recommendations for enrollment: prerequisite of the beginner and intermediate level is required unless instructor permission is granted through invitation or a short audition; reading music is helpful but not essential; able to stand for 60–75 minutes; reasonable mobility of fingers, wrists and arms; willingness to practice before class recommended if needed. There may be a concert component with this course.

Enrollment is limited to 19 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Jordan Morrison has a deep passion for music education, percussion and composition. He has focused his efforts on helping to propel the steelpan art form forward. His recent pan-centric work has resulted in his appointment to the National Society of Steelband Educators Education Committee, having a professional article published in *The Steel Times*, having steel band compositions highlighted at national conferences, steelpan/steel band compositions being selected for inclusion on the Prescribed Music List, and publishing more than 100 works for steelpan/steel band through multiple publishers. He serves as the music education director at W.O. Smith Music School in Nashville, where he directs the school's steel bands, mentors teachers and wears many other hats. Learn more at jordanmorrisonmusic.com.



How the U.S. Immigration System (Usually) Works

Fridays, January 16 – February 20

Time: 10–11:30 A.M. CT | **Cost:** \$75

Location: 🖥️ Osher Online

Instructor: Michele Waslin

Immigration has always been a complex and emotional issue in U.S. history. This course explores how the immigration system has evolved and how it works today. We will examine key questions about identity, belonging and national responsibility while engaging in thoughtful, constructive conversations about the future of immigration policy in the United States.

Enrollment is limited to 13 participants.
This class is not recorded.

Michele Waslin earned a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame and is assistant director of the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. She develops research initiatives, educational resources and public programs focused on global migration, race and ethnicity. Waslin brings extensive experience in immigration policy and public scholarship, helping connect academic research with broader conversations on migration in the United States and beyond.

Winter 2026 Registration Form

FOR MAIL ONLY

Online Registration is fast and the best way to ensure your spot in class. Registration deadline is January 4, 2026. Form and payment must be received by this date.

**OLLI at Vanderbilt
PMB 407760
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37240**

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ ☐ Home ☐ Cell

It is important that you provide us with an email address to receive course updates.

Email address _____

☐ Returning Member ☐ New Member: If new member, referred by _____

☛ Select the courses you'd like to register for in the left column.

Register	Course	Cost
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beginning Digital Photography	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legendary Foods of Southern and Western Europe	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Civil War Hospitals of Nashville	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	History of Sicily	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post-Impressionism and the Birth of Abstraction	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beyond the Genius: Nobel Stories of Passion and Controversy in Science	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLLI Chorale	\$70
<input type="checkbox"/>	Navigating the Turbulent Waters: Pirates of the Slave Trade	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	More than Parks: A History of American Conservation	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Japanese History Through the Lens of Shōgun	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Let's Mahjong! A Six-Week Beginner Course	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mahjong 102: Playing with Strategy and Confidence	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Einstein Without Tears: His Theories Explained Without Math and in Everyday Language	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	I Speak Therefore I Am: Poetry as Natural Intelligence	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Telling Your Story: A Deep Dive into Memoir Writing	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Working Virtues: Essential Moral Skills for a Good Life	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tai Chi for Health, Balance and Relaxation	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heroes of the Holocaust: Lights in the Darkness	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Country Line Dancing	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Magic Behind Film Scores: Exploring the Role of Music in Great Movies	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Using Google Workspace Tools with Confidence	\$75

Continued on the next page.

Register	Course	Cost
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beginner Ukulele	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	From Triangles to Circles: The Hidden Stories Behind Everyday Math	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate Ukulele	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gentle Yoga	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improv Theater	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intro to Landscape Painting and Creating Illusionistic Space	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Invisible Intelligence: The Unseen Algorithms Reshaping Your Daily Life	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	John James Audubon and the Birds of America	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Judaism, Christianity and Islam: A Comparative Exploration	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLLI Steel Drum Band – Beginner	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLLI Steel Drum Band – Intermediate	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	OLLI Steel Drum Band – Advanced	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	How the U.S. Immigration System (Usually) Works	\$75

TOTAL: \$ _____



Winter 2026 Registration

Beyond the Classroom

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

Looking for new ways to engage with your OLLI peers? Consider joining one of our Shared Interest Groups! Visit vanderbilt.edu/olli/shared-interest-groups to learn how.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Looking for exciting events around town to enjoy with OLLI peers? Please make sure you are receiving our monthly newsletter and pay close to attention to our website and emails. Visit vanderbilt.edu/olli to subscribe

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

Stay connected! Want the latest news and opportunities from OLLI at Vanderbilt delivered straight to your inbox? Subscribe at vanderbilt.edu/olli.

Policies and Procedures

CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY

On rare occasions, we are forced to cancel classes for unforeseen circumstances. Should this occur, we will post a notice on our website and Facebook page, and emails will be sent to enrolled members. For this reason, it is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** for all students to provide us with an up-to-date email address and to check your email on a regular basis.

OLLI programs are canceled when Davidson County Public Schools are closed to students because of adverse weather. Davidson County Public Schools' delays in opening do not affect OLLI's schedule. If Davidson County schools close early due to impending weather, we typically do not cancel classes, but please look for an email from our office under those circumstances. Zoom courses/lectures may be able to continue despite adverse weather, and decisions on Zoom courses/lectures will be made on a case-by-case basis; look for an email from the OLLI office on the day of the lecture/class.

NAME BADGES – NEW

A permanent name badge is now made available to all members who are enrolled for in-person activities, including courses, SIGs, special events, etc. We ask that you wear your name badge at ALL OLLI events. We will provide the first name badge for free. If you lose or misplace your name badge, you can receive a new one for a donation of \$25. Wearing your name badge is required, and classroom assistants, SIG leaders and other volunteers will be checking for them. Please make sure your name badge is visible when entering class or joining an activity.

PHOTO WAIVER

By registering for an OLLI program either online, over the phone or in person, participants give permission to Vanderbilt University to take and publish photographs, video, audio or other impressions of their image or voice (collectively “photographs”). Participants will not be compensated for any photographs or other likeness that may be used in this capacity. To opt out of accepting the photo waiver, email OsherVU@vanderbilt.edu.

COST STRUCTURE

Courses are individually priced. Costs are listed in the course descriptions and on the registration page of this catalog. They will also be listed online as you register for courses. There will be no discounts, gift cards or scholarships for Osher Online courses.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Give the gift of learning! Gift certificates make great presents for birthdays, holidays or other special events. Email OsherVU@vanderbilt.edu for more information.

REFUND POLICY

Due to the low cost at which these courses are offered and the additional cost it would take to process a refund, no refunds are given to those who wish to withdraw. Members can transfer into another course (in the same term, in the same price tier) on a space-available basis or receive credit to apply to the cost of a future course.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

OLLI is pleased to provide financial assistance for members who may be otherwise unable to take part in our OLLI community.

CODE OF CONDUCT

OLLI at Vanderbilt's goal is to create environments that maximize the learning experience for all members. Many of our programs offer a forum for the lively and sometimes passionate exchange of views.

To that end, our learning community follows principles of courtesy and mutual respect that promote reasoned discourse and intellectual honesty. Opposing viewpoints are honored and appreciated to preserve the dignity of others.

Violations may include, but are not limited to, denigrating others' views or opinions, threatening behaviors, offensive or abusive language, disruptive classroom conduct, sexual harassment or discrimination, and monopolizing discussions. Personal attacks will not be tolerated.

Members who do not or cannot adhere to these principles may be removed from class and/or activities and denied the privilege of future participation.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

By registering for a course, lecture, study trip or event, participants agree to hold Vanderbilt University and its employees harmless in the event of personal injuries, accidents, property damage, delays, and losses of any kind.

OLLI is a unit of Vanderbilt University's Division of Government and Community Relations. The information shared and/or opinions expressed in courses and lectures are those of the individual presenters. The ultimate responsibility for any decision made or actions taken based on the information provided rests with the member.



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