



**SPRING 2024**  
**SEMESTER**

**BE CURIOUS. STAY INFORMED. HAVE FUN.**

[www.shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning](http://www.shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning)

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## TO REGISTER FOR COURSES

Download the registration form from the Lifelong Learning website: [www.Shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning](http://www.Shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning)



# Dear Lifelong Learners,



Thank you for the warm welcome and support as I've joined the Lifelong Learning community. I want to send out a big thank you to Karen Rice and all of the Lifelong Learning volunteers and advisors for setting us up for an exciting spring semester! I am grateful to be able to step into this role and help this wonderful program continue to thrive.

A wise Lifelong Learning volunteer told me when I first started that "we're about connection, not perfection," which are words I have come to greatly appreciate in my first month as director. Our zoom tech and wifi are not always perfect, but we continue to offer in-person classes with zoom option because creating that opportunity for connection continues to be valuable for our community. Thank you to the instructors and class assistants who make the zoom option possible.

I recently learned that Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI) are celebrating two decades of service to people 50 years old and above. "OLLI was founded by San Francisco's legendary businessman and philanthropist Bernard Osher, who was looking for an answer to an important question: How can seniors make the most of the longer lives made possible by advances in medicine, science, and public health? Osher knew at least one answer to that question: lifelong learning. He saw how lifelong learning benefitted many of his friends, not just during their work lives but also when they retired. Eager to see more people benefit from their example, he and his foundation offered a \$100,000 grant to an organization able to develop a program that allowed large numbers of people who are 50+ to learn as they aged." (Richmond Review/Sunset Beacon, 10/12/23). Today, there are OLLI programs across the country and non-OLLI programs such as the Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program. We're fortunate to have a strong Lifelong Learning program in our small (but vibrant!) town, so join our lively community, kick your brain into a higher gear, and register today for Lifelong Learning classes, lectures, and trips! Download the registration form at: [www.shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning](http://www.shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning).

We have a stimulating lineup of courses and lectures this semester with new and returning instructors. New instructors this spring include:

Linda Tate, Ph.D., teaching Charles Dickens: David Copperfield; Eric Thompson, Ph.D., exploring Unmasking the Adversary: A Historical Exploration of Satan; Bob Smiles giving lessons on Spanish Made Simple: Easy Conversational Spanish; and Ellen Smith facilitating a book discussion on Alzheimer's.

Having a hard time deciding which spring semester classes to choose? Please join us at 5 p.m. on February 27 in the Byrd Center Auditorium for the 2024 Course Preview with your favorite instructors as well as some new leaders to give you a highlight of what is to come in their classes this semester.

Be an active participant in the Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program and become a member! Sign up for classes, lectures and volunteer to serve as a class assistant. Want to teach a class in the future? Have ideas for future lectures, events, or trips? Interested in volunteer opportunities? Please reach out! Email me at [Lpowers@shepherd.edu](mailto:Lpowers@shepherd.edu), call me at 304-876-5135, or stop by my office in the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, room 182.

**Get involved today! Above all, stay healthy and stay connected.**

Lucinda "Cindy" Powers  
Director of Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning

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## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Marcy Bartlett  
Roger Bernstein  
Jim Broomall, Ed.D.  
Richard Casuccio, M.D.  
Sandy Cavalier  
Heidi Dobish, Ph.D.  
Laraine Jimenez  
Mark Kohut  
Frank McCluskey, Ph.D.  
Maylene Reisbig  
Bob Smiles

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## COVER PHOTO

Artwork provided  
by Susan Loonsk

**MISSION:**

The Lifelong Learning Program at Shepherd University is a volunteer, member-driven program dedicated to offering stimulating academic courses and activities to the community.

**MEMBERSHIPS*****Gold Member: Annual Fee is \$340***

All-inclusive membership for one year. Includes all enrollment fees, all lectures, discounts on tours, free parking decal for lots on East and West Campus with access to shuttle bus, and invitations to special events. Spouses and domestic partners are eligible to join for an additional \$185.

***Silver Member: Annual Fee is \$90***

Includes the Brown Bag Luncheon Lectures and discounts on tours. Enrollment fees apply.

***One-Time Trial Offer***

All new participants who have not taken any lifelong learning courses are eligible to take classes for \$99 per course for the first semester without paying the membership fee. This introductory offer is not available to former students.

***Scholarships***

The Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program is pleased to provide a limited number of scholarships to participants who would not otherwise be able to attend a course. The scholarship is good for one course (except FASTEnER Lab courses) and unlimited brown bag lectures per semester. Inquire about a scholarship by contacting Lucinda Powers at 304-876-5135.

Classes and lectures are free to Shepherd University faculty, staff, and students.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Some of the courses require students to obtain books or material essential to the class. Four Seasons Books is offering our students a 15% discount on books. Mention the Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program to receive a discount. (Does not apply to texts needed for Great Decisions courses.)

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

Lifelong Learning classes will be canceled if the University is closed. Should an extreme weather emergency, power or water failure or executive order from the Governor warrant the closing of offices and/or canceling or altering the schedule of classes and events, public notification will be made via Shepherd Web, switchboard, Rave text-messaging system, and area radio and television stations.

Announcements of emergency plans will also be available by calling 304-876-5000 or online at [www.shepherd.edu](http://www.shepherd.edu).

**BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR*****Do you miss teaching? Share your passion here!***

Inspire others to learn and explore. Interact and engage with peers and community members. The Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program is looking for course instructors. The program is an academic cooperative that provides mature adults with opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation, and social interaction. Shepherd's Lifelong Learning program is centered on classes developed and taught by volunteers who share their time and knowledge. To show our appreciation, we are offering a free course to instructors. Help develop innovative, interesting, and compelling learning experiences. Join a national movement of adult learners in West Virginia. To become an instructor, please contact Lucinda Powers, Director of Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning at (304) 876-5135 or [lpowers@shepherd.edu](mailto:lpowers@shepherd.edu).

**BECOME A CLASSROOM ASSISTANT**

The Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program is looking for volunteers to be class assistants, who help the instructors to ensure that announcements are made, attendance is taken, and hand-outs are distributed. Class assistants are essential to the smooth functioning of the Lifelong Learning Program and enjoy the benefit of becoming better acquainted with both instructors and fellow class participants. If you would like to volunteer to be a class assistant in one or more of your classes, please contact Lucinda Powers at 304-876-5135 or [lpowers@shepherd.edu](mailto:lpowers@shepherd.edu). Thank you for volunteering!

## Courses are hybrid unless otherwise stated

### MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION: STRATEGIES FOR LIVING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

MONDAYS, MARCH 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8, 15

**INSTRUCTOR:** Michael Kemp

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 9–10:30 a.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member



This class will be in an interactive format in which we can explore ways of coping with today's issues and crises, be they personal, familial, or global within the context of Mindfulness and

Meditation. Knowledge or practice of either is not required, while a certain amount of history and background on both will be provided. The approach is one of secular Vipassana Buddhism known as Mindfulness or Insight Meditation in the West, and spiritual in nature rather than religious, free of the dependence on nationality, sect, school, branch and/or attendant dogma. There will be a 20–30 minute presentation on that week's topic of discussion followed by a meditation of 20–30 minutes also based upon that topic. Afterward, a discussion/Q&A period will be held where class members may share their experience of the meditation if they care to do so and talk or ask questions about related phenomena. Sample topics to be discussed include, “Mindfulness: Caring for the Soul”, “Re-Enchantment with the Natural World”, and “Learning to Control the Monkey Mind during Meditation.” I have a 45 year background in Mindfulness and Meditation study, research, and practice. Owning a metaphysical bookstore back in the late 1980's and early 90's provided me a vast library of books from which I could draw for an insatiable desire for knowledge on world history, religions, and philosophies as well as being able to meet and work with many of the “New Age” authors and practitioners of new and exciting modalities being developed and rediscovered at the time. I began a study of Vipassana Buddhist Mindfulness and Meditation under Jack Kornfield at his Spirit Rock Meditation Center in Marin County, California, in 1993, where I was blessed to do workshops with Thich Nhat Hanh, Pema Chodron, Jack himself, and others, and I have been active in practice and study ever since.

### CHAMBER MUSIC WITH THE APPALACHIAN CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

MONDAYS, MARCH 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8, 15

**INSTRUCTOR:** David Rampy

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

Symphonies of Beethoven, Operas of Mozart and Verdi, Oratorios of Handel. Most of us are familiar with these large types of music. But what about Chamber Music? What is it, do I like it, would I know it if I heard it? Join me and musicians from the Appalachian Chamber Music Festival in listening to and exploring the world of chamber music: Small rooms–big music. We will follow chamber music from the beginnings in the sonata trios of Corelli, Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi to the development of the classical string quartets of Haydn and Mozart, the romantic music of Beethoven and Schubert to the newer sounds of Bartok, Shostakovich, Smetana, Philip Glass and others. We will have lectures and demonstrations by Katie Tertell, the founding artistic director of ACMF, as well as some Festival musicians from around the country who will be joining us on Zoom. Join us for six exciting sessions for some of the world's greatest chamber music –you might like it!

### CATF IN CONTEXT: INTRODUCTION TO THEATER AND THE NEW PLAY PROCESS

MONDAYS, MARCH 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8, 15

**INSTRUCTOR:** Peggy McKowen

**LOCATION:** Center for Contemporary Arts, Room 230

**TIME:** 1–2:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

Interested in expanding your cultural horizons and learning what it takes to make a play? Join CATF Artistic Director Peggy McKowen for a six-week course that will introduce you to the vocabulary and world of the American theater. Learn more about the various artists involved in creating a play and how a play becomes a production viewed by an audience. Using play scripts from the recently produced 2023 season, you will walk through the process of writing, directing, designing, and much more as you begin to embrace the world of theater.

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## THE CHURCH DURING THE REFORMATION

MONDAYS, MARCH 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8, 15

**INSTRUCTOR:** Terry Culler

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 1–2:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

Western civilization cannot be well understood without reference to the impact of Christianity on our social structures and our ways of thought. The 16th century particularly has shaped our religious views, our political views, our economic systems and our cultural practices. The 16th century saw the rise of five related but still distinct reformations: Lutheran, Reformed, Radical, English, and Roman Catholic. This class will explore all five movements seeking to understand how they continue to affect not only religious thought in the modern world, but all aspects of culture.

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## CHARLES DICKENS: DAVID COPPERFIELD

MONDAYS, MARCH 11, 18, 25, APRIL 1, 8, 15

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Linda Tate

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 3–4:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Any unabridged edition of Charles Dickens's *David Copperfield* (1850)

Barbara Kingsolver's *Demon Copperhead* is taking the American literary world by storm. The 2022 book – billed as the great Appalachian novel – was inspired by Charles Dickens's semi-autobiographical 1850 novel, *David Copperfield*. In this six-week course, we will read the unabridged version of *David Copperfield* and explore the social issues of Victorian England that Dickens exposed in his novel. Foremost among these issues are institutionalized poverty and the abuse and exploitation of children. Part two of this course will be offered in fall 2024, when we will read and discuss Kingsolver's retelling of the Dickens classic. It is not necessary to take both courses or to read both novels. Each course will stand on its own, but participants who take both courses will have a particularly enriching experience. Please be aware that *David Copperfield* is about 650 pages long (depending on your edition). We will read the novel together as the course goes along. Our first class meeting will offer an introduction to Victorian England and Charles Dickens, and in each of the subsequent weeks, we will read and discuss about 125 pages of the novel.

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## WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

TUESDAYS, MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 16

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jim Surkamp

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 3–4:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

Jefferson County endured about 130 war events and 1,300 days of strife. We follow six families through their letters, starting in the mid-1850s, during the war and afterwards. We will tell in detail the dramatic Greenback Raid of Confederate Col. John S. Mosby in 1864, which occurred very near the Black Dog Store. Local soldiers from both sides, “black and white,” along with well-resourced local war events will be portrayed. Perhaps the most powerful story: “Jasper Thompsons’ Destiny Day Sept 6, 1906,” following an enslaved man who farmed for the Washington family here, became a sergeant in the 23rd U.S. Colored Troops up to his fateful day in 1906. (One of the six classes repeats the story of the burning of two homes that was previously shown as a brown bag event last fall.)

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## GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP

TUESDAYS, MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**INSTRUCTOR:** Grant Smith

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Great Decisions 2024 briefing book from [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org)

Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions is the largest national civic-discussion program on global affairs. Published annually by FPA, the Great Decisions briefing book highlights nine of the most thought-provoking foreign policy challenges facing Americans today. The topics include: Mideast Realignment, Climate technology and competition, Science across borders, U.S.-China Trade Rivalry, NATO's Future, Understanding Indonesia, High Seas Treaty, and Pandemic Preparedness. The Great Decisions briefing book serves as the focal text for discussion groups by providing background information, expert analysis, and suggest discussion questions for each foreign policy issue.



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## CAFÉ SOCIETY DISCUSSION GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY EXCEPT HOLIDAYS

**FACILITATOR:** Daniel Bennett

**LOCATION:** On Zoom

**TIME:** 8:30–10 a.m.

**COST:** Free to public

Designed to foster a more robust civil society, more cohesive and interactive communities, greater media literacy, and a more informed and engaged public through “coffee shop” conversations about contemporary social and political issues. By engaging in a meaningful exchange of ideas and perspectives, these conversations can enliven the core of democracy and empower communities and individuals.

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## EARTH AND SOUL: RECONNECTING AMID CLIMATE CHAOS

TUESDAYS, MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 16

**INSTRUCTOR:** Leah Rampy, Ph.D.

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**SUGGESTED TEXT:** *Earth and Soul: Reconnecting amid Climate Chaos* by Leah Rampy

The summer of 2023 offered a stark example of what the vast majority of climate scientists have been telling us: we are living in a dramatically changing world. Loss of ecosystems and species compounds the challenge for all of us as we face the sixth mass extinction. The choices we make now may help reduce future impact, but we cannot return to the world as we have known it. So what do we do? Can we witness what is, face into the loss and grief, and still claim the wonder and beauty of our home planet? Through reading and conversation, as well as practices you may do on your own, we’ll explore the wisdom of our kin and the importance and urgency of learning from the natural world. We’ll examine tenets of modernity that have placed humans at the center of knowledge, positioned Earth as a consumable resource, and ignored limits to growth. We’ll reimagine how we might collaborate to create stepping stones toward a diverse and vibrant world of mutual flourishing.

The class will be based on the book *Earth and Soul: Reconnecting amid Climate Chaos* by Leah Rampy to be released in early 2024. Reading the book will be helpful but is not required.

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## TALES FROM THE GALAXY... PART DEUX

TUESDAYS, MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 16

**INSTRUCTOR:** Wil Laska

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 1–2:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

This will not be your typical astronomy 101 course but one that will give you a better understanding of the night sky and our place in the universe. Six discussions will venture into some introductory astronomy, telescopes/binoculars, the solar system, science fiction, and where things are with future space endeavors. Each class will begin with a brief presentation followed by discussions and guidance on locating current astronomical objects you will be able to observe in the night sky on your own. This will include planets, comets, bright stars, nebulae, and a galaxy or two. Wearing aluminum hats is optional.

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## HELP! THE BEATLES CREATE THE ‘60S

TUESDAYS, MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9, 16

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Kohut and Frank McCluskey, Ph.D.

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 3–4:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

Where were YOU when you heard your first Beatles song? Doc and Bob Dylan remember. How did the four lads meet? How did the band form? What song did Paul ask John if he knew at their first meeting? Was that song written in the basement of a Pittsburgh hotel? Did any of them take music lessons? Could any of them even read music? How did they make such music out of nothing? When did they become a Rock & Roll Band and where? How did Liverpool, England, produce four musicians who made great, lasting, now classical music? Can genius be explained? Who was your favorite? This class will show that the sixties became “the 60’s” because the Beatles were the 60’s. “I Want to Hold Your Hand.” Using mini-bios and anecdotes, Mark and Doc will choose the best and most famous songs from every album and spin the music for you, for us, to dance – in our heads – and discuss. The words, the music, all of it. And the class will have two surprise endings. What we won’t do is tell you why they broke up. What we suggest is you take this class before Mark & Doc break up because friction and fraying is real. “Let it Be, Doc,” OK?

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## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, BARBIE?

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 17

**INSTRUCTOR:** Pam Lilly

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 10–11:30 a.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

The movie, “Barbie,” reigned as summer’s hot hit of 2023. Whether you were besotted or befuddled about it, the storyline and issues underpinning the movie thrummed a communal chord. Want to figure out why? In this class, we will watch a little of the film each day, and I’ll share my insights and research. But mostly we’ll discuss it together. Whether you see the film as a postmodernist, psycho/sociological treatise on contemporary culture or just a ripping good yarn with state-of-the-art cinematography, you’ll want to get in on the action.

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## THE DEVIL MAY CARE: THE ORIGIN OF SATAN, DEMONS, WITCHES, AND THEIR CONTINUING PRESENCE IN CULTURE WARS

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 17

**INSTRUCTOR:** Eric Thompson, Ph.D.

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 1:45–3:15 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:** *Sourcery: The History of Satan with Fresh Readings of Primary Sources* by Eric M Thompson

Societies have justified violent oppression of disfavored groups of people throughout history by propounding mythic narratives of organized, sinister, secretive baby-killing, naked, orgiastic rituals performed in the woods at night. Historical targets of such “Satanic” conspiracy myths include Jews and Christians by the Roman Empire, Jews by Christians, and Witches in many cultures, targeting women mostly. This six-week class will trace the history of Satan and the demonization of groups of people through history to the present. It will focus on three historical developments in succession. First, we will trace the evolutionary development of Satan as a literary character from the Torah to Milton. Second, we will track the concepts of demons and witches in world context, and the culmination of such ideas in the witch-hunts of early modern European cultures and beyond. Third, we will examine witch-hunts in contemporary culture in the U.S., both in literal and metaphorical manifestations, and evaluate how the phrase “Witch-hunt” is used in political discourse.

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## IMPROV/ACTING

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 17

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lois Spreen

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center–Auditorium

**TIME:** 1:30–3:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:** *30 Ten-Minute Plays for 2 Actors* (from Actors Theatre of Louisville) edited by Michael Bigelow Dixon

This workshop provides an opportunity to explore your creativity and just have fun. During our time together, each participant will perform in improv exercises, short scenes, and monologues. No experience is required. This is your chance to play!

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## SPANISH MADE SIMPLE: EASY CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 27, APRIL 3, 10, 17, 24

**INSTRUCTOR:** Bob Smiles

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 3:30–5 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

This course is ideal for those who plan to travel or who want a basic understanding of this popular language. Emphasis will be on vocabulary and conversation.

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## CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES DISCUSSION GROUP

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 18

**FACILITATOR:** Fred Turco

**LOCATION:** On Zoom

**TIME:** 9–10:30 a.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

The discussion group will cover current events around the world. Participants are expected to provide their understanding of the current discussion subjects. Materials will be sent for extra reading, however more information is welcomed.



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## COMMERCE, CONVERTS, AND CONFLICT: THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN EAST ASIA

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 17

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jerry Collins

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 3:30–5:00 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

The course will trace the history of America's interactions with the countries of East Asia, especially Japan and China, but also Korea, Vietnam, and the Philippines. Over the last two centuries, America has established commercial ties, formed alliances, sent missionaries, exchanged ideas, and fought wars in East Asia. After the introductory lecture on early contacts between Europe and the East, we will turn to the "isms" – colonialism, imperialism, nationalism, and communism (and democracy!) that characterized the relationship between western and Asian societies in the 19th and 20th centuries. We will consider them in conjunction with the traditional East Asian "isms" of Confucianism, Buddhism and Daoism. Rather than concentrating on a straightforward political history of the last two centuries, some attention will be paid to East Asian attitudes towards nature and change as exemplified in its art, poetry, and literary themes.

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## THE JFK ASSASSINATION 60 YEARS LATER: EVOLUTION OF THE TRUTH

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 18

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kent Shaffer

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**SUGGESTED TEXT:** *JFK and the Unspeakable: Why He Died and Why It Matters* by James W. Douglass

A review of the assassination events and coverage, the evolution of evidence and its credibility from the Warren Report to the release and interpretation of more than 50,000 declassified assassination-related government documents by a worldwide group of dedicated researchers and forensic experts will be discussed in class. We will see how all of the events and circumstances of 1961–63, including JFK's dynamic relations with foreign leaders and the national security establishment (NSE), coalesced in November 1963 to change history during a presidential motorcade in Dallas. We will also explore the actual assassination issues in depth – e.g. Oswald's role, eyewitness accounts, Jack Ruby's role, the autopsy, and related topics of interest.

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## DRACULA: DEATH AND IMMORTALITY

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 18

**INSTRUCTOR:** Frank McCluskey, Ph.D.

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 9–10:30 a.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**REQUIRED TEXT:** *Dracula* by Bram Stoker

We will do a close reading of Bram Stoker's 1897 novel, *Dracula* which will touch on themes of women's suffrage, addiction, empire, madness, medicine, genetics, and inheritance.

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## TRANSITIONS – GETTING A GRIP ON UPHEAVAL AND CHANGE

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 18

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dianne Roman

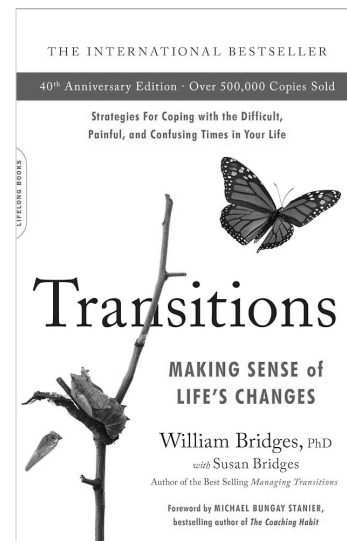
**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 12:30–2 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**REQUIRED TEXT:** *Transitions: Making Sense of Life's Changes* By William Bridges

You hit a brick wall. You have lost a loved one, received an unexpected diagnosis, realized it is time to downsize, or won the lottery. Good or bad, change is not always a welcome or easy transition, yet it is a part of life. Join me and others as we read and discuss William Bridges' *Transitions: Making Sense of Life's Changes*, now in its 40th edition, and develop a personal strategy for successfully dealing with the varied changes that come our way. Bridges distinguishes between change and transition and has divided the transition process into three stages: Endings, Neutral Zone, and New Beginnings. *Transitions* offers step-by-step guidance throughout each stage providing insightful ways to navigate change in a hopeful direction. This is a discussion group. Be prepared to read ahead the suggested chapters, be open to discussing them, and share your experiences and ways of dealing (those that have worked and those that have not worked) with the group.



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## THE END OF ALZHEIMER'S PROGRAMME: THE PRACTICAL PLAN TO PREVENT AND REVERSE COGNITIVE DECLINE AT ANY AGE

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 18

**INSTRUCTOR:** Ellen Smith

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

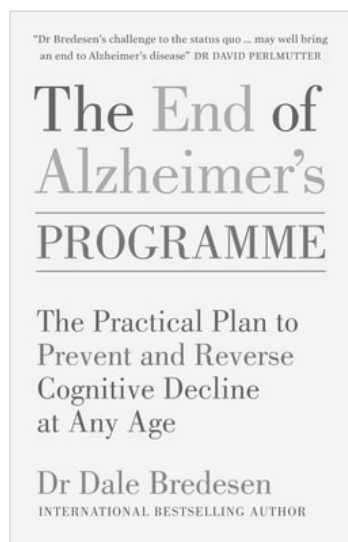
**TIME:** 3–4:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

**REQUIRED TEXT:** *The End of Alzheimer's Programme: The Practical Plan to Prevent and Reverse Cognitive Decline at Any Age* by Dr. Dale Bredeesen

Dale Bredeesen, M.D. has spent the last 35 years studying the mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's. Based on years of research and clinical practice, this is an unprecedented hands-on guide to reversing Alzheimer's and achieving complete brain health at any age. He has set out in detail the program he uses with his own patients to reverse cognitive decline, making this accessible to all. He sheds a light on diet, sleep, targeted supplementation, exercise, brain training and medical tests. The intention of this course is to read some of the chapters and discuss their

application. Much of what he recommends we are able to implement right now, in our daily lives. While some of this requires medical tests, much of it is a matter of lifestyle changes. As we each reach a certain age and notice changes in our abilities, there are things we can do. Some of this can be scary and challenging. This class aims at being a support group as well as a reading group. We may also share some recipes and/or snacks as we try out some of the ideas in the program.



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## ADVANCED OPEN LAB

JANUARY 16–APRIL 26

**INSTRUCTOR:** Kay Dartt and Mike Mendez

**TIME:** Open FASTEnER Lab Hours

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for all others  
\$200 Lab Fee

This course is for returning students who have already taken a class in the FASTEnER Lab and are looking to continue learning a process through a self-directed project over the course of the semester. Instructors Kay Dartt and Mike Mendez will provide instruction and advisement in areas of casting, digital fabrication, woodworking, and metalworking. Students may use the lab during open hours and receive training from instructors during scheduled lab times. Lab fees go toward a variety of consumables and maintenance costs for a student to use the lab for the entire semester. Depending on the depth and duration of the project, a student may be asked to purchase additional consumables for the lab.

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## ACTIONS FOR HAPPINESS & CONSCIOUS LIVING

FRIDAYS, MARCH 15, 22, 29, APRIL 5, 12, 19

**INSTRUCTOR:** Carol Richmond, Ph.D.

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Room 164

**TIME:** 9–10:30 a.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

People who are happy are more fulfilled, relaxed, and energetic, earn more income over the course of their lifetimes, and live longer, healthier lives. Based on Marci Shimoff's *Happy for No Reason: 7 Steps to Being Happy from the Inside Out* and *Actions for Happiness Organization's* keys to happiness, in this dynamic course, you will:

- Identify what is most important in your life
- Quickly raise your physical, emotional, and mental energy.
- Learn the research-based habits that support the biochemistry of happiness.
- Discover a natural state of peace and joy—no matter what is going on in your life.
- Explore how to grow your level of hope and live your life purpose.
- Understand the most important ways to enhance all of your relationships.
- Explore increasing prosperity and abundance in your life.

This course will be facilitated by experienced and certified life and leadership coach and certified happiness facilitator, Carol Richmond, Ph.D. It will meet in person for the first and last classes and on Zoom for the other four classes.

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## EXPLORATION OF POETRY SPEAKS TO OUR LIVES

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 18

**INSTRUCTOR:** Roger Bernstein

**LOCATION:** On Zoom

**TIME:** 3–4:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

In this class, we will embrace accessible poems that reproduce an emotion. Reading selected poems aloud brings additional power that strikes its roots in the heart. I am partial to poems that are distilled narratives for everyone. Varied impressions come alive in discussions. Poets and poems are successful if they communicate the writers' feelings and more importantly, confront ours as well. We encounter the poetry of song writers, as we follow John Prine's lyrics and performance. We include poems that open doors to the silent world of paintings with a focus on Edward Hopper. His work evokes anecdotes from images of solitude. Poets include Sharon Olds, Dana Gioia, Billy Collins, Ray Carver, Linda Pastan, and Ted Koser.

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## WARDING OFF THE ZOMBIES: WHAT WE CAN DO TO SALVAGE DEMOCRACY IN 2024

FRIDAYS, MARCH 15, 22, 29, APRIL 5, 12, 19, 26, MAY 3

**INSTRUCTOR:** Daryl Glenney and Mike Pieper

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

A real-time exploration of the 2024 election campaign environment—tracking the party primaries, defusing the impact of AI messaging, assessing reforms that could rebuild trust in our electoral systems, and how to combat civic ignorance with civil conversation.

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## OPERAS OF GIACOMO PUCCINI

THURSDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4, 11, 18

**INSTRUCTOR:** David Rampy

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 1–2:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free for Gold member; \$63 for Silver member

Mozart, Verdi, Wagner, Donizetti, Rossini, Bellini: Masters in the world of Opera. But wait, there's more. Where in the world is Puccini? He's everywhere. Some of the most popular operas are by Giacomo Puccini. *La Bohème*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Tosca*, and *Turandot* are staples in the repertory of opera companies around the world. Join me in watching and exploring the exotic world of the Puccini opera.

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## RETIREMENT PLANNING TODAY

Session 1: THURSDAYS, APRIL 11 & 18

Session 2: SATURDAYS, APRIL 13 & 20

**INSTRUCTOR:** Matthew Kradel

**LOCATION:** White Hall, Room 203

**TIME:** Session I: Thursdays, 6–9 p.m.;

Session II: Saturdays, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

**COST:** \$49

Learn how to: manage investment risks, use new tax laws to your advantage, make informed decisions about your company retirement plan, and adjust your estate plan to function properly under the new laws. Money is only one aspect of retirement planning. This course blends financial education with life planning to help you build wealth, align your money with your values, and achieve your retirement lifestyle goals. The goal is to provide high-quality, generic education without any mention of specific financial products or services. Couples may attend together for a single registration fee. Class sizes are limited so register today.

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## WILD WRITERS RETREAT AT CAPON SPRINGS & FARMS

May 19 – 22, 2024

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lee Doty

**LOCATION:** Capon Springs & Farms

**COST:** \$425 for members; \$475 for non-members

The retreat offers a getaway for writers at all levels interested in developing their craft and expanding their writing community. The program includes workshops led by award-winning authors, critique sessions for those interested in giving and receiving feedback on their work, and most of all time to write in a Brigadoon-like environment. The low-key mountain resort is the perfect location not only for serious writing but also serious hiking, swimming, golfing, star-gazing, fishing, and eating. Don't forget the enjoyable cocktail hour on the writers' porch where lively discussions prevail and close friendships begin. Please contact Lee Doty at [rtdlwd@outlook.com](mailto:rtdlwd@outlook.com) on or after March 15, 2024, for a detailed schedule of the retreat. You can reach me in the meantime at [rtdlwd@outlook.com](mailto:rtdlwd@outlook.com).



## BEAUTY IS TRUTH, TRUTH BEAUTY: KNOWING JOHN KEATS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

**INSTRUCTOR:** Stephen Altman

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

John Keats (1795–1821) is that rare poet who is loved as much for his story as for his work. As a young man he gave up everything in pursuit of poetry. He wrote gorgeous poems—“Bright Star,” “Ode to a Nightingale,” and others—that touch hearts and minds to this day. Keats died in Rome at age 25, battered by the critics and still unknown to the public. He said, “I think I shall be among the English Poets after my death.” As Matthew Arnold later wrote, “He is—he is with Shakespeare.”

## FOLLOW A DRUID THROUGH THE STONES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

**INSTRUCTOR:** Michelle Casuccio

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

Explore fascinating ancient Irish culture, music, and history before Christ, Rome, and English conquest. Special attention will be given to the Irish wire strung harp and its role in establishing and protecting Irish identity as that small island assimilated and adapted to centuries of invasions by multiple people.

## VANISHING POINTS: REVISITING AMERICA'S INDIGENOUS LANDSCAPE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

**INSTRUCTOR:** Michael Sherwin

**LOCATION:** On Zoom

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

In 2011, I discovered that our local shopping center had been built on an 800-year-old sacred Indigenous American burial ground and village site. I was compelled to photograph the scene and the resulting image sparked a decade-long research project that took me across the country and deep into America's past. This presentation will explore the personal motivation behind the Vanishing Points project and reflect on important historical events associated with Indigenous land rights.

## BOB DYLAN'S DESOLATION ROW

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Kohut

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

In Bob Dylan's glorious year of creativity in the middle of the 60s, another masterpiece showed up on the same album where “Like a Rolling Stone” appeared. Twice the length of “Like a Rolling Stone,” which had already doubled the boundaries of normal radio play, a long strange, surreal, ballad puzzled all of us. It was Bob's usual cast of circus characters but also much more. It still puzzles us and maybe has not been so relevant in recent years as it was in 1965. Attention has been paid, and we think we know a lot of slants of possible meanings. This talk will explore the kaleidoscopic vision that is “Desolation Row” - Bob Dylan's wasteland. The New Oxford Dictionary of Music says that “Desolation Row” achieves a “high level of poetical lyricism.” We are in for a ride through desolation to the heights of songwriting poetry.

## BATTLE OF BLAIR MOUNTAIN – WEST VIRGINIA MINE WARS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lloyd Tomlinson

**LOCATION:** On Zoom

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

In 1921, an army of 15,000 miners fought against the forces of oppressive coal operators at Blair Mountain to fight for their civil rights. Lloyd Tomlinson, education coordinator for the West Virginia Mine Wars Museum, will discuss the living and working conditions that led miners to form unions and the events that escalated the conflict into the largest domestic uprising in the United States since the Civil War. The talk will also explore the treason trials that occurred in Charles Town after the Battle of Blair Mountain, in the very same courthouse where John Brown was tried.

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## CONFUSED ABOUT MEDICARE?

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

**INSTRUCTOR:** Judie Marshall

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free and open to the public

Come learn the Medicare alphabet of parts A, B, C, and D. Detailed descriptions will be discussed for each part, eligibility, and how it applies to you or someone in your family. Handouts will also be available.

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## A PAST LIFE REGRESSION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jonathan Locust, Ph.D.

**LOCATION:** On Zoom

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

Returning for a follow-up session, Dr. Locust will delve further into topics such as past life regressions, the experiences in between lives, chakras/energy centers, and provide insights into the questions outlined in the survey.

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## TEA AND LAUGHTER

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

**INSTRUCTOR:** Judy Larkin

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

Did you know that tasseography, or tea-leaf reading, started in China and traveled with the spread of tea drinking and the migrations of the Gypsies or Romanies? The Tea Lady, in gypsy garb, will show how to interpret the leaves, describe old superstitions, and provide plenty of laughs along the way. It is all in good fun, but there is one prerequisite: imagination and a sense of humor are required. Prepare to be entertained!

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## FIT FOR DUTY: THE VETERAN RESERVE CORPS IN THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

**INSTRUCTOR:** Stephen A. Goldman, M.D.

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, Multipurpose Room

**TIME:** 12–1:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$15; Free to members

Described by the Indiana Adjutant General “as unusual a fighting force as the United States ever armed and equipped for action,” the dreadfully-named, preposterously uniformed Invalid Corps came into existence in April 1863, and within a year became the Veteran Reserve Corps (VRC). Despite general derision from able-bodied field unit comrades, the VRC provided valuable garrison, guard, and other types of off-line duty, and enabled superb soldiers to continue serving their country during the Civil War and after.

Dr. Stephen A. Goldman will discuss the VRC’s formation, organization, responsibilities, and under-recognized contribution to the successful July 1864 defense of Washington, D.C. He will then explain how VRC soldiers played a major role in one of Reconstruction’s most vital organizations, the Freedmen’s Bureau.

## PRESIDENT’S LECTURE SERIES

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### MASS SHOOTINGS: NO END, NO WONDER

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

**SPEAKER:** David Cariens

**LOCATION:** Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education auditorium

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free and open to the public

David Cariens, a retired CIA political analyst, has been writing and analyzing mass shootings for over 20 years. He has written three books on the subject and is working on a fourth. His talk will examine the epidemic of mass shootings in this country, centering on his work dealing with shooting rampages in Virginia. He served over two years on the Governor’s Commission to Investigate the May 31, 2019 Virginia Beach Mass Shooting. His comments on that Commission’s failure are central to his thoughts about why nothing significant has been done to prevent mass shootings.

## Day Tours



### HARPERS FERRY WALKING TOUR

THURSDAY, MAY 9

**TIME:** 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

**COST:** \$99 members; \$119 non-members

Includes transportation, tour, and lunch

Join local historian Dennis Frye as we explore significant historic locations that tell stories of our natural, geographical, social, and industrial history. Learn about the John Brown Raid, the Civil War, Storer College, the Niagara Movement, and the important role this region has played in transportation, waterpower, and industry.

Frye is retired from the National Park Service, where he served as a chief historian for 20 years. He is the author of eleven books and many articles on a variety of Civil War topics. Dennis is considered one of the founding fathers of the modern Civil War battlefield preservation movement.

## National and International Tours

### ALASKA: CALL OF THE WILD

JULY 18 – 24, 2024

**COST:** \$5,699 per person based on double occupancy; \$7,024 per person based on single occupancy with booking discount.

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Anorage
- 2 nights in Denali
- 3 nights in Seward
- Domed rail journey
- Denali National Park
- Tundra wilderness tour
- Mt. McKinley
- Kenai Fjords National Park
- Glacier & wildlife cruise

#### INCLUSIONS:

- Roundtrip airfare - IAD
- 6 nights first class hotel
- 10 meals: 6 breakfasts; 2 lunch; 2 dinners
- Professional tour director
- Deluxe motorcoach
- Transportation
- Domed rail journey– Anchorage to Denali
- Sightseeing & admissions per itinerary

### UTAH'S MIGHTY NATIONAL PARKS

SEPTEMBER 22-28, 2024

**COST:** \$3,525 per person based on double occupancy; \$4,675 per person based on single occupancy with booking discount

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Arches National Park
- Capitol Reef National Park
- Canyonlands National Park
- Dead Horse Point State Park
- Canyonlands by night cruise
- Grand Junction, CO
- Scenic Byway 128
- Colorado National Monument
- Monument Valley with scenic drive tour
- Colorado wine tasting

#### INCLUSIONS:

- Roundtrip airfare – IAD
- 6 nights first class hotels
- 10 meals: 6 breakfasts; 1 lunch; 3 dinners
- Lunch at Goulding's Lodge
- Goulding's Museum & Trading Post
- Professional tour director
- Motorcoach transportation
- Admissions per itinerary
- comprehensive sightseeing
- Baggage handling at hotels

Dates and times are subject to change. For current information, please visit [www.shepherd.edu/lifelong-learning/](http://www.shepherd.edu/lifelong-learning/)



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## VENICE & THE ITALIAN LAKES

OCTOBER 9 – 19, 2024

**COST:** \$4,875 per person based on double occupancy;  
\$5,870 per person based on single occupancy with  
booking discount.

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### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Milan walking tour
- DaVinci's Last Supper
- La Scala Museum
- Lake Iseo, Maggiore & Orta
- Monte Isola
- Stresa & Baveno
- Lugano Switzerland
- Venice walking tour
- Entrance into the Doges Palace
- Gondola ride along the Venice canals
- Murano glass blowing demonstration
- Visit to colorful burano

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### INCLUSIONS:

- Roundtrip airfare – IAD
- 9 nights first class hotel
- 15 meals: 9 breakfasts; 2 lunches; 4 dinners
- Professional tour director
- Motorcoach transportation
- Admissions & sightseeing per itinerary
- Baggage handling at hotels
- Hotel transfers

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DOURO WITH SPAIN

OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 5, 2024

**COST:** Starting at \$5,095 per person based on double occupancy; Starting at \$6,695 per person based on single occupancy with booking discount.

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### HIGHLIGHTS:

- 6 included excursions
- Porto City tour & wine tasting
- Porto by night
- Lamego tour
- Guimaraes tour
- Vila Real & the Mateus Palace tour
- Salamanca, Spain full-day excursion with tour, lunch & leisure time
- Onboard entertainment including Fado, Flamenco & Folklore
- Optional wine trails of Porto excursion

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### INCLUSIONS:

- Roundtrip airfare – IAD
- 7 night cruise – outside cabin aboard the MS Amalia Rodrigues
- 20 meals: 7 breakfasts; 6 lunches; 7 dinners
- Open bar onboard – wine, beer, spirits, soft drinks, mineral
- water, coffee & tea
- Wi-Fi onboard
- Tour director & ship staff
- Welcome & farewell dinners
- International air taxes/fuel/ port charges
- Baggage handling at ship
- Roundtrip ship transfers

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## GREECE ISLAND HOPPER

APRIL 24 – MAY 4, 2025

**COST:** \$4,999 per person based on double occupancy;  
\$6,299 per person based on single occupancy with booking discount.

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### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Athens
- Taverna Dinner Show
- Acropolis
- The Parthenon
- Mykonos Old Town
- Santorini Island
- Oia Village
- Ancient Akrotiri
- Wine tasting
- Optional excursions to Ano Mera, Isle of Delos, Island Hopping, and sunset cruise

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### INCLUSIONS:

- Roundtrip airfare – IAD
- Inter-flights from Santorini Thira Is.
- 14 meals: 9 breakfasts; 1 lunch; 4 dinners
- Air taxes & fees/surcharges
- Hotel transfers

**PLEASE NOTE:** Shepherd University travel insurance required for all national and international tours. Premier World Discovery travel protection plan is also available.

**To access the full tour brochures and registration forms,** please go to the “Tours” section of our website: <https://www.shepherd.edu/lifelonglearning/lifelong-learning-tours>

Interest groups are an integral part of lifelong learning programs, providing opportunities to learn and socialize outside the classroom. Types of groups could include hiking, reading, sewing, dancing, photography, to name a few. We would like to incorporate additional interest groups in the Shepherd University Lifelong Learning Program. If you would like to volunteer to facilitate an interest group, please contact Lucinda Powers at 304-876-5135 or [lpowers@shepherd.edu](mailto:lpowers@shepherd.edu).

## GUITAR INTEREST GROUP

**CONTACT:** Marty Amerikaner | [amerikan@marshall.edu](mailto:amerikan@marshall.edu)

This is a group for guitarists of any level who simply enjoy (or think you might enjoy) getting together with others as we strum our way through favorite tunes. We meet every couple of weeks in a simple format: everyone is invited to bring copies of a few songs (lyrics and chords) and we play through them. Most any genre (pop, folk, classic rock, etc.) is acceptable; just nothing too hard. Bring your acoustic guitar and join in the fun.

## MINDFUL MEDITATION PRACTICE GROUP

**CONTACT:** Michael P Kemp at [jmk369k@gmail.com](mailto:jmk369k@gmail.com)

In this group, we explore strategies for coping in uncertain times, both personal and global, within the context of mindfulness and meditation. Join us for a 20 to 30-minute talk on issues of personal and collective spiritual growth followed by a guided meditation and then a short discussion period. Knowledge or practice of mindfulness and meditation are not required. These practices are spiritual in nature rather than religious, and free of dependence on nationality, sect, school, branch and/or attendant dogma. This group is led by Michael Kemp who has a 45-year background in mindfulness and meditation study, research, and practice. This group meets every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm at the Shepherd University Student Center (210 N. King Street) in the Blue/Grey Room (2nd floor next to the GameZone) with a zoom option. Free and open to the public.

## OPERA INTEREST GROUP

**CONTACT:** Frank McCluskey  
[frankmccluskey11@gmail.com](mailto:frankmccluskey11@gmail.com)

Do you enjoy listening to the Metropolitan Opera? Have you ever wanted to try just a taste of live opera? Would you like to see opera live in HD without traveling to New York City or even Washington, D.C? Join this opera interest group for matinee MET opera performances in HD at Westview Stadium 16 in Frederick, Md. This group facilitates carpools to Frederick and back for these fabulous performances. Dress is casual and great seats are easily available. Tickets are \$24 for seniors.

### THE 2023 SEASON STARTS BACK WITH:

- Lohengrin on March 18 at noon
- Falstaff on April 1 at 12:30 p.m.
- Der Rosenkavalier on April 15 at noon
- Champion on April 29 at 12:55 p.m.
- Don Giovanni on May 20 at 12:55 p.m.
- Die Zauberflöte on June 3 at 12:55 p.m.

## PHILIP ROTH INTEREST GROUP

**CONTACT:** Mark Kohut | [mark.kohut@gmail.com](mailto:mark.kohut@gmail.com)

Since the pandemic, when a group wanted to read Philip Roth's polio novel *Nemesis*, a group has been steadily reading Philip Roth, one of the most important American writers of our time. Every Monday morning at 9 a.m., about 50 pages a week. Join anytime, leave anytime, come back anytime.

## PHOTOGRAPHY INTEREST GROUP

**CONTACT:** David Ehrlich | Visit online at [da716.wixsite.com/finephotoworks/shepherdlifelong](https://da716.wixsite.com/finephotoworks/shepherdlifelong)

Do you have an interest in photography and think you might enjoy meeting other photographers where we can chat and practice together? The group is open to all experience levels. No advanced equipment is required - a cell phone camera can do wonders. We all have something to share and learn - so let's shoot together! Select events may include lessons, while others will be collaborative shoots or just shooting together. The above link has a list of the many themes we can explore together and a survey where you can express your interest in joining.

## SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY

**CONTACT:** Frank McCluskey  
[frankmccluskey11@gmail.com](mailto:frankmccluskey11@gmail.com)

Around the world, the hundreds of Holmes societies have been beloved for their mix of scholarship with tongue-firmly-in-cheek (as Dorothy Sayers said of her Holmes associations). We hope to meet four times a year for a spirited discussion of Holmes, Victorian literature, and all things London of 1895. We will toast, have a short presentation, and good fellowship.

## TRAVEL

**CONTACT:** Sheila Vertino at [sheilavertino@yahoo.com](mailto:sheilavertino@yahoo.com)

For people who love to travel. We can explore things like destinations, tour companies, packing tips, and any other aspects of travel. Contact Sheila Vertino and we can decide on the best time and place to meet.

For over a decade, the Shepherdstown Film Society has brought exceptional cinema to our local community, providing free admission to a thoughtfully curated collection of films. Our selections have encompassed hidden gems, timeless classics, and compelling narratives—movies that whisked you away to different eras and locales and left a lasting imprint on your thoughts. In addition, our spirited post-screening discussions have further enriched these cinematic experiences.

## FOR THE SHEPHERDSTOWN FILM SOCIETY TO CONTINUE, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Licensing fees have increased threefold over the past few years, and our longstanding sponsor, the Scarborough Society, has regrettably had to discontinue its support. This has placed Shepherdstown Film Society at a critical juncture without vital funding.

To keep the reels rolling, we are thrilled to introduce a new avenue of support—the Cinephile Circle of Friends of Shepherdstown Film Society. This presents a unique opportunity for you to become an inaugural-season supporter. You can select the level of commitment that works best for you!

### CINEPHILE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS OF SHEPHERDSTOWN FILM SOCIETY

**Directors:** \$500/season  
**Producers:** \$250/season  
**Show Runners:** \$100/season  
**Rising Stars:** \$25/season

It's easy to join the Cinephile Circle of Friends. Just check the box on the Lifelong Learning registration form in the catalog and add your donation to your total Lifelong Learning class and tour fees.

On behalf of the Shepherdstown Film Society, we give you a big round of applause for ensuring the continuity of this cultural treasure. Take a bow and thank you for your support!

- Marellen Aherne
- Marty Amerikaner
- Marcy Bartlett
- Steve Bartlett
- Winnie Bernat
- Lisa Welsh (*founding member*)
- Roger Bernstein
- Elliot Kirschbaum
- Rachel Krantz
- Sheila Vertino
- Howard Wachtel

### MOVIE SCHEDULE

- JANUARY 19** **"Rams"** (2020; PG-13) by Jeremy Sims; 118 min.  
Discussion led by Dr. Rachel Krantz
- FEBRUARY 16** **"Minari"** (2020; PG-13) by Lee Isaac Chung; 115 min.  
Followed by discussion.
- MARCH 1** **"Can You Ever Forgive Me?"** (2018; R) by Marielle Heller; 107 min.  
Followed by discussion.
- MARCH 7-10** **American Conservation Film Festival** (various films at various locations)  
MORE INFO: [www.conservationfilmfest.org](http://www.conservationfilmfest.org)
- APRIL 5** **"In the Bedroom"** (2001; R) by Todd Field; 131 min.  
Discussion led by Shannon Holliday



# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 FEBRUARY	2
5	6 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	7	8	9
12	13 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	14	15	16
19	20 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	21	22	23
26	27 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	28	29	1 MARCH
4	5	6	7	8
11 9 a.m. Mindfulness 11 a.m. Chamber Music 1 p.m. CATF in Context 1 p.m. Church In Reformation 3 p.m. Charles Dickens	12 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Earth and Soul 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group 1 p.m. Tales from the Galaxy 3 p.m. Civil War in our County 3 p.m. Help! The Beatles	13 10 a.m. What's It All About, Barbie? Noon Brown Bag Lecture 1:30 p.m. Improv/Acting 1:45 p.m. The Devil May Care 3:30 p.m. Commerce, Converts, and Conflict	14 9 a.m. Current International Issues 9 a.m. Dracula 11 a.m. JFK Assassination 60 Years 12:30 p.m. Transitions 1 p.m. Operas of Giacomo Puccini 3 p.m. End of Alzheimer's 3 p.m. Exploration of Poetry	15 9 a.m. Actions for Happiness 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
18 9 a.m. Mindfulness 11 a.m. Chamber Music 1 p.m. CATF in Context 1 p.m. Church In Reformation 3 p.m. Charles Dickens	19 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Earth and Soul 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group 1 p.m. Tales from the Galaxy 3 p.m. Civil War in our County 3 p.m. Help! The Beatles	20 10 a.m. What's It All About, Barbie? Noon Brown Bag Lecture 1:30 p.m. Improv/Acting 1:45 p.m. The Devil May Care 3:30 p.m. Commerce, Converts, and Conflict	21 9 a.m. Current International Issues 9 a.m. Dracula 11 a.m. JFK Assassination 60 Years 12:30 p.m. Transitions 1 p.m. Operas of Giacomo Puccini 3 p.m. End of Alzheimer's 3 p.m. Exploration of Poetry	22 9 a.m. Actions for Happiness 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
25 9 a.m. Mindfulness 11 a.m. Chamber Music 1 p.m. CATF in Context 1 p.m. Church In Reformation 3 p.m. Charles Dickens	26 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Earth and Soul 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group 1 p.m. Tales from the Galaxy 3 p.m. Civil War in our County 3 p.m. Help! The Beatles 6:30 p.m. President's Lecture Series	27 10 a.m. What's It All About, Barbie? Noon Brown Bag Lecture 1:30 p.m. Improv/Acting 1:45 p.m. The Devil May Care 3:30 p.m. Spanish Made Simple 3:30 p.m. Commerce, Converts, and Conflict	28 9 a.m. Current International Issues 9 a.m. Dracula 11 a.m. JFK Assassination 60 Years 12:30 p.m. Transitions 1 p.m. Operas of Giacomo Puccini 3 p.m. End of Alzheimer's 3 p.m. Exploration of Poetry	29 9 a.m. Actions for Happiness 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
1 APRIL 9 a.m. Mindfulness 11 a.m. Chamber Music 1 p.m. CATF in Context 1 p.m. Church In Reformation 3 p.m. Charles Dickens	2 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Earth and Soul 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group 1 p.m. Tales from the Galaxy 3 p.m. Civil War in our County 3 p.m. Help! The Beatles	3 10 a.m. What's It All About, Barbie? Noon Brown Bag Lecture 1:30 p.m. Improv/Acting 1:45 p.m. The Devil May Care 3:30 p.m. Spanish Made Simple 3:30 p.m. Commerce, Converts, and Conflict	4 9 a.m. Current International Issues 9 a.m. Dracula 11 a.m. JFK Assassination 60 Years 12:30 p.m. Transitions 1 p.m. Operas of Giacomo Puccini 3 p.m. End of Alzheimer's 3 p.m. Exploration of Poetry	5 9 a.m. Actions for Happiness 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
8 9 a.m. Mindfulness 11 a.m. Chamber Music 1 p.m. CATF in Context 1 p.m. Church In Reformation 3 p.m. Charles Dickens	9 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Earth and Soul 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group 1 p.m. Tales from the Galaxy 3 p.m. Civil War in our County 3 p.m. Help! The Beatles	10 10 a.m. What's It All About, Barbie? Noon Brown Bag Lecture 1:30 p.m. Improv/Acting 1:45 p.m. The Devil May Care 3:30 p.m. Spanish Made Simple 3:30 p.m. Commerce, Converts, and Conflict	11 9 a.m. Current International Issues 9 a.m. Dracula 12:30 p.m. Transitions 1 p.m. Operas of Giacomo Puccini 3 p.m. End of Alzheimer's 3 p.m. Exploration of Poetry 6 p.m. Retirement Planning: Session I	12 9 a.m. Actions for Happiness 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
15 9 a.m. Mindfulness 11 a.m. Chamber Music 1 p.m. CATF in Context 1 p.m. Church In Reformation 3 p.m. Charles Dickens	16 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Earth and Soul 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group 1 p.m. Tales from the Galaxy 3 p.m. Civil War in our County 3 p.m. Help! The Beatles	17 10 a.m. What's It All About, Barbie? Noon Brown Bag Lecture 1:30 p.m. Improv/Acting 1:45 p.m. The Devil May Care 3:30 p.m. Spanish Made Simple 3:30 p.m. Commerce, Converts, and Conflict	18 9 a.m. Current International Issues 9 a.m. Dracula 11 a.m. JFK Assassination 60 Years 12:30 p.m. Transitions 1 p.m. Operas of Giacomo Puccini 3 p.m. End of Alzheimer's 3 p.m. Exploration of Poetry 6 p.m. Retirement Planning: Session I	19 <b>Retreat:</b> Wild Writers 9 a.m. Actions for Happiness 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
22	23 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group	24 Noon Brown Bag Lecture 3:30 p.m. Spanish Made Simple	25	26 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
29	30 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group 10:30 a.m. Great Decisions Group	1 MAY Noon Brown Bag Lecture	2	3 11 a.m. Salvage Democracy
6	7 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	8 Noon Brown Bag Lecture	9 <b>Day Tour:</b> Harpers Ferry Walking Tour	10
13	14 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	15	16	17
20	21 8:30 a.m. Café Society Group	22	23	24

SATURDAY	SUNDAY
3	4
10	11
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13 9 a.m. Retirement Planning: Session II	14
20 9 a.m. Retirement Planning: Session II	21
27	28
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# THANKS

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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 // 5-7:30 P.M.**

Robert C. Byrd Center For Congressional  
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