No Grades. No Tests. Learning...for the Joy of It!
Dear OLLI Community,

As many of you know, OLLI at SSU is part of a vast network of Osher institutes on college and university campuses around the county, now numbering 124. We were the second to be established, and like to think we helped start a national movement. We look forward to representing our program at the Osher National Conference, as we send both a staff member and volunteer to convene with our colleagues from across the nation and share ideas and tactics in a dynamic setting of panels, discussion groups and lectures. This spring, we are delighted to send Kirsten Tellez, our team member from SSU Advancement, and Dr. Phil Harriman, chair of our Curriculum Committee and founder of our Science Club. I can’t think of a more dynamic team to represent us as we get ready to celebrate our milestone 20th year.

Here on the home front, we’ll be exploring an exciting array of diverse worlds this spring, including Ancient Mystery Cults, Our Changing Oceans, Country Rock and the Foreign Service. We’ll be sharing in the experience of this important election year and are pleased to feature SSU Political Science professor Dr. David McCuan as our keynote speaker for the annual Ed Stolman Memorial Lecture on May 1. There is no doubt our world is changing, and the OLLI community of active citizens and continuing learners will seek to understand these changes and how best to respond to them as we shape our collective future.

Carin Jacobs
Director
COURSE PREVIEWS

Come meet our instructors and learn all about OLLI at the Spring Course Previews.

Main Campus
Person Theatre

Monday, March 16, 2020
9:30 a.m.

FREE
Breakfast Included
$5 parking fee

Features courses taught at the SSU Campus only

Glaser Center

Friday, March 20, 2020
9:30 a.m.

FREE
Breakfast Included
Parking $0.50/hour (first hour free)

Features courses taught at the Glaser Center only
Exploring Opera: Intensive “Traviata”
A multi-week series on one opera may seem like a lot, but this series has left past participants wanting more as they explore one of Verdi’s masterpieces – La Traviata. We will discuss the lyrics, explore the complex characters, and consider how Verdi paints both so richly through glorious vocal and orchestral music. Then, we will compare and contrast performance interpretations with video clips of vastly different productions with different casts, and understand many of the dramatic and musical details that make this one of the world’s most admired operas. Whether you are a newcomer or longtime fan, explore the depth of one of the world’s most popular and most accessible operas. Knowledge of Italian language or prior exposure to opera not necessary. Openness to beautiful music required!

James Sokol, M.A. worked in the opera world for years, having begun under Beverly Sills at NYC Opera. He has worked and lectured for San Francisco Opera, the Fromm Institute at USF, Santa Rosa Junior College, College of Marin, and OLLI programs at Dominican and Sonoma State Universities. He is the Director of Adult & Senior Programs at the Osher Marin JCC.

Mondays, April 13 – May 18 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

50 Years of Country-Rock, 1965-present
Creating a New American Musical Genre
This class will cover the historically significant country-rock movement in American music, which started with the Byrds in Los Angeles in 1965 and spread across the country, changing the musical landscape of popular music. We will explore how two roots-oriented genres—country music and rock and roll—borrowed from each other and merged to create a new genre which has since spawned many sub-genres, each with its own unique approach to country-rock. Because albums, rather than just singles, became the prevalent form of delivering music in the 1970s to the consumer/listener, we will look at several artists and their key albums, as well as trends in instruments, arrangements and lyric-writing that made up the songs.

Pete Elman, B.A. is a musician, producer, and teacher, and is a sportswriter and the author of an acclaimed children’s book. He has taught in public school and has taught several popular classes for OLLI programs around the Bay Area including: A Rock n’ Roll Road Trip, Fab Four and Stones, Country Music, Country-Rock, Folk, Motown, Bruce Springsteen, Memphis Soul, Songwriters and Great Voices.
Tuesdays, April 14 – May 19 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Our Changing Oceans*

*This class is generously sponsored by Jean McNeill

Oceans cover 70 percent of the earth’s surface and play an important role in climate regulation and biodiversity. Marine systems are facing many human induced challenges and are changing as a result, yet many people are unaware of these changes. In this class we will learn about the importance of the oceans for climate regulation and as a source of food and biodiversity. We will discuss shifts in the oceans that are already occurring and largely hidden from our view. We will learn about shifting ocean currents, rising sea-levels, disappearing underwater forests and spreading diseases and how scientists are trying to understand these changes that are occurring faster than predicted. We will also discuss ongoing efforts to slow and reverse these changes to protect functioning ecosystems.

Renate Eberl, Ph.D. earned advanced degrees in biology and ecology and has published multiple articles about her research in peer-reviewed scientific journals. She has been teaching biology at various institutions of higher learning for the past 10 years. She is passionate about the oceans and marine life and enjoys increasing the public’s interest in and awareness of the marine environment.

Tuesdays, April 14 – May 19 • 1 – 3:45 p.m.*

Hollywood Stories: Movies about Making Movies

Audiences have always been curious about what goes on behind the scenes of filmmaking, and there have been many movies that paint a picture of Hollywood as either an industry or the creator of dreams. Hollywood stories appear in many genres, including musicals (SINGIN’ IN THE RAIN), film noir (SUNSET BLVD.), dramas (A STAR IS BORN: 1937), and comedies (THE PLAYER). We’ll view these films and others in class to look beyond the illusion of reality to discover how they reinforce myths of the very subject they’re exposing – whether it’s the star system, artistic battles or cinematic techniques. We’re sure to learn much about how these films manipulate our perception of the “truth” about a primary medium of entertainment.

Barbara Spear, M.A. holds a degree in Cinema Studies from San Francisco State University, and has watched and loved movies all her life. She has taught courses for Sonoma State’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute that concentrate on classic Hollywood cinema, as well as general film courses at Sonoma State University and Napa Valley College.

*Note: This class runs an extra hour due to film screening
Wednesdays, April 15 – May 20 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Ancient Mystery Cults: Winding Paths through Inexpressible Darkness

This course explores mysteries of the Mediterranean world, namely, the secretive rituals associated with the Great Mother Cybele, Demeter, Dionysus, Orpheus, Isis, Mithras, and Jesus Christ. We will travel vertically from plumbing the deep caves of Gaia to straining at the furthest reaches of our sky-seeking fear-shaken imagination. Though they hid from us what they were up to (“mystery” root word, mu, means to keep your mouth shut), we will try to get a sense of what deep meaning women and men found there, bathed in blood, gripped by terror, dying to be reborn.

Douglas Kenning, Ph.D. was raised in Virginia, and has lived and taught at universities in Tunisia, Japan, and Italy. He has been a biologist, actor, army officer, Manhattan taxi driver, academic administrator, and professor of history and literature. He divides each year between the Bay Area, lecturing on the histories and cultures of the Mediterranean basin, and Sicily, where he runs Sicily Tour, a small tour-guiding business.

Wednesdays, April 15 – May 20 • 1 – 3 p.m.

Civil War Profiles: Key Players in ‘The Great Rebellion’

Americans are still struggling with the legacy of our great national epic, the Civil War. Scarcely a month goes by without another newspaper article, television show, reenactment, or new book commemorating the crucial events in the agonizing four-year bloodletting which gave our country a “new birth of freedom.” The protagonists of 1861–65 remain a spectral presence in American life; they will never vanish from our memory, as long as the United States survives. To better understand “what they did here,” as Lincoln put it at Gettysburg, we will examine the lives of six central figures from our most critical moment as a people: Stephen Douglas, Roger Taney, John Brown, William Seward, Clement Vallandigham, and Frederick Douglass.

Mick Chantler, M.A. has been a student and instructor of early American studies for over forty years. He currently teaches at several Bay Area Lifelong Learning Programs, including Sonoma State University, Dominican University, U.C. Berkeley, and Santa Clara University. His primary interests include the Revolutionary and Civil War eras. He belongs to several scholarly organizations, including the Society for American Baseball Research.
Thursdays, April 16 – May 21 • 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Inside the Foreign Service

This course will explore what it’s like to be in the U.S. Foreign Service. We will look at living and working conditions, personal hardships, and the good things the Foreign Service does for America. Our story will be told via dozens of gripping first-person tales from diplomats around the world. Come and hear how diplomats respond to a plane crash and expose human rights abuses such as Argentina’s dirty war. Hear what happened when a young FSO was called upon to interpret for President Nixon in China. See what it’s like to issue hundreds of visas a day, live through an embassy bombing, and hear a firsthand account from one of our Embassy hostages in Iran.

Marie T. Huhtala, M.A. holds advanced degrees in political science and linguistics, along with a B.A. in French. For 33 years she served in the U.S. Foreign Service, rising through the ranks while assigned to six countries in Europe, Asia and Canada, as well as in Washington, DC. From 2001 to 2004, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia.

Thursdays, April 16 – May 21 • 1 – 3 p.m.

Solving the World’s Problems

Do you ever feel like everything is running amok, whether it be locally, domestically and/or internationally? Do you wish you had greater agency to consider how to solve the world’s problems? Well, here is your chance. Every week, we will get together and address at least two major issues of our times. Factual scenarios will be presented, options will be considered, votes will be taken, and then together we will go deep, discussing best potential solutions on matters of significance – even of existential importance.

At SSU OLLI, we have tremendous, collective experience and brain power. Let’s come together and think creatively for the betterment of our world.

Eric Sinrod, J.D. is Of Counsel to Duane Morris LLP and is an Adjunct Professor at Sonoma State and Dominican. He has tried the many large cases and has appeared before the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Sinrod has taught a wide variety of courses at the university level and at SSU and other OLLI programs. He creates a weekly blog and podcast.
Climate Disruption: The Historical Perspective

Throughout history, the earth has experienced changes in climate. Human societies have been impacted and civilizations have emerged and adapted. For instance, between the 10th and the 15th centuries C.E., the earth experienced an increase in surface temperature that impacted climate on a global basis. Some scholars also suggest that a “Little Ice Age” emerged in the 14th century. What makes the recent climate disruption beginning in the late 20th century different from these earlier experiences? What choices will humanity have to make in the 21st century to survive and prosper?

Tyra Benoit, Ph.D. is a retired community college history instructor and college administrator. During her long career, she taught at both Butte College and Santa Rosa Junior College. A Tubbs Fire Survivor and former resident of Paradise, California before moving to Sonoma County, she was recently trained as a Climate Reality Leader and is on the Speaker’s Bureau for 350BayArea.

Friday, April 17

The Complex World of Domestic Work: Illustrations from the Film “Roma”

This class will explore the world of domestic work through the lens of the acclaimed Oscar award-winning film Roma. This film, directed by Alfonso Cuarón, deals with a highly controversial and seldom treated theme – the plight of the poor and immigrant domestic workers. Domestic workers in the United States carry out their duties behind closed doors in private homes. These workers labor as nannies to whom we entrust the care of our children, the house cleaners who bring sanity to our homes, and the caregivers who care for our elderly parents. Despite their important roles, they are among the most exploited and abused workers in the United States. Roma shows how the lens of artistic production and the wider media can render domestic workers’ individual and collective struggles ever more visible.

Daniel Melero Malpica, Ph.D. is a Professor of Chicano and Latino Studies at Sonoma State University. His research and teaching focuses on international migration, race and ethnicity, Latinos in the United States, and inequality and poverty. His work has been published in many academic journals and several book chapters. Dr. Malpica was the recipient of The Excellence in Teaching Award from Sonoma State University in 2010 and currently serves as the Director of the McNair Scholars Program.

Friday, April 24
**Friday, May 1**

**Shaping Taste, Tasting Shape**

Discover your sense of taste in a whole new way through science and art. Colorful and compelling photomicrographs of molecules illuminate this lecture on what shapes our taste. Learn how to enhance your sensory pleasure of wine and food and improve the taste of any wine. Delving into the language of taste, we consider whether the words we use are rooted in our instinctual knowledge or our imagination. We will even enjoy an imaginary glass of wine. This lecture brings to light the knowledge hidden in our senses, molecules, wine and taste.

*Sondra Barrett, Ph.D. is a biochemist, photographer and author of Wine’s Hidden Beauty. She was bitten by the wine bug in 1984 when she was artist-in-residence for Sterling Vineyards and has been exploring the hidden world of wine ever since. Teaching global mind-body health and sensory education, she also delivers unique visual wine tasting events for wineries. Her award-winning photomicrographs make the invisible visible.*

**Friday, May 8**

**Climate Change and the North Bay Area***

*This class is generously sponsored by Connie Codding*

The North Bay Area has been a leader in climate change mitigation and is now faced with the challenges of adaptation. We will look at the efforts by North Bay organizations that address climate issues and demonstrate how they link with global issues. To make these links, you will develop the vocabulary and concepts used by policy-makers and researchers to describe the physical and social aspects of our climate challenges. You’ll conclude by examining the types of influence you can exert on the technical, social, and political systems that shape our local and global climate.

*Daniel Soto, Ph.D. teaches classes on energy and efficiency in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Planning at Sonoma State University. He earned his doctoral degree in Applied Physics and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University, and an M.S. in Physics from San Francisco State University. His research focuses on improving energy access in the developing world.*
When Worlds Collide: What Happens When Technologies Redefine Societies

Did you know that riding on a train can drive you insane? That was actually a widespread belief in Victorian England, and there were many cases of “train madness” to support that belief. Mechanically-propelled transportation was completely new then, but the technologies (transportation, communications, manufacturing military, etc.) on the near horizon would dwarf the social effects of steam trains. This lecture illuminates the collision of novel inventions with the cultures that embrace them, including current and future technologies that completely separate the emerging “created social environment” from the biological and psychological creatures we inherited from Darwinian evolution.

Nelson “Buzz” Kellogg, Ph.D. has taught both in the sciences and humanities for 30 years. He has held fellowships at Princeton University and Johns Hopkins University, as well as with the Smithsonian Institution (National Museum of American History), and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He has published work on the intersection of technology and society, among other specialties.

Friday, May 15

Mexican Lovers: American Expatriates in Mexico in the 1920s–1930s

As a result of the Mexican Revolution of 1910 and a cultural renaissance in the 1920s, American writers, artists, photographers, anthropologists and historians flocked to Mexico and made major contributions to the host culture. In the 1920s Mexico was a hotbed of political reform and cultural fermentation which attracted Americans and also had a major impact on artistic and intellectual life in the United States. Featured characters include Katherine Anne Porter, Alma Reed, Anita Brenner, Pablo O’Higgins, Carleton Beals, Hart Crane, William Spratling, Tina Modotti, Edward Weston, Ernest Gruening, Bertram Wolfe, Robert Redfield, Hubert Herring, Marion and Grace Greenwood, Ione Robinson and many others. Learn how these Americans immersed themselves in Mexico and enriched their artistic expression as a result.

Tony White, Ph.D. is a Professor Emeritus in History from SSU who specialized in Latin America and U.S. relations with that region. Besides teaching numerous courses for Dominican and Sonoma State Universities, he led six educational tours to Cuba and wrote Siqueiros, Biography of a Revolutionary Artist, a study of the life and work of Mexican muralist Siqueiros.
HOW TO FIND US!

Here are directions to our campuses:

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

Hwy. 101 to Rohnert Park Expressway exit. Turn east onto Rohnert Park Expressway and follow to its end at Petaluma Hill Road. Right on Petaluma Hill Road to the stoplight at East Cotati Avenue. Right on East Cotati Avenue to Main Entrance of the campus on your right. Information Booth is straight ahead (purchase parking passes). Classes are located in the Cooperage. Closest parking to Cooperage is Lot J ($5 daily fee).

GLASER CENTER

547 Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Hwy. 101 to College Avenue exit. Follow College Avenue to Mendocino Avenue. Glaser Center is between 7th and 10th Streets, one block south of College Avenue.

Ample public parking is available at the Seventh Street Parking Garage (521 7th Street), adjoining the building ($0.50 per hour; first hour free)
SAVE THE DATE

Annual Stolman Memorial Lecture
Featuring Dr. David McCuan, Chair, Political Science, SSU
Date: May 1, 3:30 – 5 p.m.
Location: SSU Student Center, Ballrooms

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in volunteering for OLLI, please contact Carin Jacobs at carin.jacobs@sonoma.edu. Volunteers support:

**Advisory Board** – Quarterly meetings to strategize about future planning for the program. Topics of discussion often center on financials, university updates, growth, special events, donor recognition and community partnerships.

**Curriculum Committee** – Conducts an annual review of course proposals for the following academic year. Other functions include hosting faculty lunches, reviewing instructor evaluations and brainstorming new course topics.

**Outreach Committee** – Identifies and implements marketing initiatives to recruit students and works to strengthen our ties in the community.

**Classroom Ambassadors** – Handle classroom logistics including course rosters, weekly handouts and new student orientation.
SPRING 2020 REGISTRATION FORM
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Sonoma State University

OLLI ORIGINAL, University Campus, Cooperage
April 13 – May 21, 2020 (six weeks)

- #4297 Exploring Opera: Intensive “Traviata”......... Monday AM
- #4298 50 Years of Country Rock.......................... Monday PM
- #4303 Our Changing Oceans ................................ Tuesday AM
- #4300 Hollywood Stories: Movies About Making Movies .... Tuesday PM
- #4301 Ancient Mystery Cults ............................. Wednesday AM
- #4302 Civil War Profiles ..................................... Wednesday PM
- #4299 Inside the Foreign Service ......................... Thursday AM
- #4304 Solving the World’s Problems ................... Thursday PM

Registration Fees

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<th>#4331 – 1 COURSE</th>
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<td>#4334 – 4 OR MORE COURSES</td>
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#4335 non-refundable membership fee (required each term) $15

New students receive $20 off one 6-week course. Also, 10% discount for dues paying members of the SSU Alumni Association. Discounts NOT available online – Please call 707.664.2691 to register or send form through USPS to OLLI @ SSU, 1012 Stevenson Hall, 1801 E. Cotati Ave, Rohnert Park, CA 94928. To register online, go to www.sonoma.edu/exed/olli.

Disability Services for Students provides complete access to the University for students with disabilities.
Information: 707.664.2677. SSU is an AA-EEO Institution.
OLLI À LA CARTE, Glaser Center, (single session, two hours)
Fridays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION FEES: $25 per course

☐ #4305 Climate Disruption: The Historical Perspective ...........................................Friday, April 7
☐ #4306 Complex World of Domestic Work: Illustrations
   from the Film “Roma” ..................................................................................................Friday, April 24
☐ #4307 Shaping Taste, Tasting Shape ...........................................................................Friday, May 1
☐ #4308 Climate Change in the Bay Area .........................................................................Friday, May 8
☐ #4309 When Worlds Collide: When Technologies Redefine Societies ...........Friday, May 15
☐ #4310 Mexican Lovers: American Expatriates in Mexico, 1920s –1930s ....Friday, May 22

OLLI at SSU, University Campus
COURSE FEES + $15 MEMBERSHIP FEE = AMOUNT DUE: $___________

OLLI À LA CARTE, Glaser Center
$25.00 X # OF COURSES: ________ = AMOUNT DUE: $___________

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES: $___________

Donation
*I would like to make a donation to OLLI in the amount of $___________________________
*Tax deductible

Personal Information
☐ RETURNING STUDENT  ☐ NEW STUDENT
NAME_________________________________________ EMAIL____________________________________
ADDRESS_________________________ CITY/STATE/ZIP_________________________
PHONE_________________________ BIRTHDATE_____________ MALE____ FEMALE____
   Month, Day, Year Required

If paying by credit card: ☐ VISA  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ Amer.Exp.  ☐ Discover
Credit Card #_________________________________________ Exp. Date___________ CVC____
Cardholder’s Name________________________________________________________________________
Signature ____________________________________________________________

www.sonoma.edu/exed/olli | 707.664.2691
Scholarships are Available!

A Scholarship Application Form must be filled out each session and accompany your registration form.

To apply for a scholarship, or if you have any questions, please contact:
Chris Alexander | alexachr@sonoma.edu | 707.664.2691

Join our OLLI community on Facebook!

Visit www.facebook.com/OLLIatSSU and ‘Like’ our page to get OLLI updates, see what’s happening with our clubs and connect with your fellow OLLI students.