



Summer Classes 2016 in OLLI at ASU

Registration begins Monday, May 9, at 9 a.m.

- Register**
- Online with a credit card at our secure website: <http://lifelonglearning.asu.edu>
 - Fast, easy, secure, and no service fees
 - Immediate enrollment at all locations
 - Pay membership and all class fees at one time
 - Instant confirmation directly to you via email
 - By Phone at (602) 543-6440

- Cost**
- Classes start at only \$10
 - OLLI at ASU semester membership fee is \$15
If you paid a Spring 2016 membership, it will cover Summer semester, too!

Locations

ASU West campus

4701 W. Thunderbird Rd., Phoenix 85069

ASU Downtown Phoenix campus

502 E. Monroe St., Phoenix 85004

Tempe Connections, Tempe Public Library

3500 S. Rural Rd., Tempe, 85282

Friendship Village Tempe

2645 E. Southern Ave., Tempe 85282

Maravilla Scottsdale

7325 E. Princess Blvd., Scottsdale 85255



About Us

The mission of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at ASU is to provide university-quality learning experiences for adults ages 50 and over through diverse short courses and lectures, campus-based learning opportunities, and civic engagement initiatives.

We are a community of engaged learners discovering the joy of lifelong learning at its best . . . no tests, grades, or educational requirements! OLLI at ASU members have the opportunity to grow and learn inside and outside the classroom.

ASU west campus

monday

Famous Forensic Flops

Instructor: Kim Koboжек

Cost \$35

4 sessions: Mondays, June 6, 13, 20, 27

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 135

Did they get it right or wrong? Who flopped? This course will explore and discuss the scientific and not-so-scientific reasons behind some of history's famous "fails" in the forensic sciences.

tuesday

The Olympic Games

Instructor: Dr. Ralph Vernacchia

Cost \$35

4 sessions: Tuesdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 103

The Olympic Games are coming this August! This class will highlight Olympism – the educational philosophy of the Olympic Movement and Games – and will present a historical overview of the games. We will explore the individual contributions to the Olympic Movement by Pierre de Coubertin, who was instrumental in the rebirth of the modern Olympic Games in 1896, and the current problems facing the Olympic Movement and Games. Documentary films and performances by great Olympians including Jesse Owens, Gertrude Ederle, Michael Phelps, Nadia Comaneci, Jim Thorpe, Mildred "Babe" Didrikson, Paavo Nurmi, Larisa Latynina, Al Oerter, Franz Gabl, Carl Lewis, Bjorn Daehlie, Sonja Henie, Eric Heiden, and others will be presented throughout the course.

Pseudoscience

Instructor: Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson

Cost \$10

1 session: Tuesday, June 7

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 103

The age of the Internet has changed the way we access and process information: the challenge isn't finding enough information about topics of curiosity, it is sorting the good information from the bad. While there are many excellent sources on the web, there is also a great deal of misinformation, both intentional and not. In such an environment, pseudoscience thrives. What are some of the most common scientific misconceptions propagated by modern media? What aspects of human psychology make us so prone to believe pseudoscience? Finally, how can we sort scientific reality from conspiracy theory and snake oil? Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson will address all these issues in her trademark style: always relevant, often irreverent, and a whole lot of fun.

Silent Partners

Instructor: Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson

Cost \$10

1 session: Tuesday, June 14

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 103

James Watson and Francis Crick described the double helix structure of DNA, winning the 1962 Nobel in Physiology or Medicine. Joshua Lederberg won the same prize in 1958 for pioneering a technique for easy transfer of bacterial colonies between Petri dishes (the Lederberg method), and Otto Hahn won for splitting the atom in 1944. In every case, though, a female silent partner – such as Rosalind Franklin, Esther Lederberg, and Lise Meitner – either played an equal role in the discovery or actually made it. In this lecture, Dr. Hendrickson will bring these overlooked geniuses into the light and describe their groundbreaking work in accessible terms so we can properly appreciate ALL scientists and their contributions.

Hole in the Rock

Instructor: Dr. Lou-ellen Finter

Cost \$20

2 sessions: Tuesdays, June 21, 28

12:30 – 2:00 p.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 103

In 1879, a group of 236 Mormon pioneers from 16 different southwestern Utah villages began the now famous Hole in the Rock expedition in San Juan, a region of southeastern Utah that at the time was one of the most isolated parts of the United States. The rough and broken country is characterized by sheer-walled cliffs, mesas, hills, washes, slickrock, cedar forests, and sand. Faced with a daunting and challenging 65 mile journey, the necessity to build a road on rough terrain, and a hostile relationship with Native Americans, those who answered the call for the colonizing mission to San Juan demonstrated remarkable faith and courage. Join Dr. Finter as she shares this remarkable piece of history.

wednesday

How to Change the World: Using Sustainability to Improve Your Life and the World Around You

Instructor: Colin Tetreault

Cost \$20

2 sessions: Wednesdays, June 22, 29

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 103

Join us for a very practical, “what you can do to change the world” look at sustainability. We will discuss myths and facts, how to use sustainability to improve your life and the world around you, and explore key concepts and applications – in reality – of the field of sustainability. Our topics will cover food, water, waste, energy, community, design, and beyond!

Feline Behavior and Keeping Your Cat Happy

Instructor: Liz Truitt, Arizona Humane Society

Cost \$10

1 session: Wednesday, June 22

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Sands Bldg., Room 103

Join Liz Truitt, Feline Welfare Specialist for the Arizona Humane Society, as she talks about cat behavior, cat environments, and how to keep your cat happy. Learn how cats communicate with people and each other, and what you can do to create a happy and fulfilling home for your cat. Topics will include home layout, introductions to new pets (and people), travel with your cat, and what to do if you have problems with your cat.

ASU downtown phoenix campus

thursday

Cultural Treasures Hidden in Plain Sight

Instructor: Dr. Vincent Waldron

Cost \$10

1 session: Thursday, June 2

10:15 – 11:45 a.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

Our valley is rich in artifacts left behind by the Hohokam, an agricultural culture which thrived in the Phoenix basin for more 1,000 years before practically disappearing. The Hohokam inscribed complicated and mysterious rock art on boulders, built impressive dwellings, and carved canals through the desert landscape. This presentation will help you locate publicly-available archaeological sites, interpret what you find, and connect with educational programs and institutions. We will also view designs commonly encountered in Phoenix-area rock art and review guidelines for responsible visiting of archaeological sites.

Evidence for Evolution

Instructor: Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson

Cost \$10

1 session: Thursday, June 2

12:15 – 1:45 p.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

How can we be sure humans evolved from a branch of the great apes if we weren't there to document it? If we evolved from apes, why are there still apes? Is evolution still happening, and what does that mean for us? Most importantly, what does it mean to refer to "the theory of evolution by natural selection," and just how sure are scientists about this whole "theory" anyway? In this class, Dr. Hendrickson will take a hard empirical look at the evidence scientists use to understand our evolutionary roots and those of other species. We will look specifically at the path of human evolution and its place within the context of the planet.

Live a Legacy: Your Talent is a Treasure

Instructor: Francesca van der Feltz

Free

1 session: Thursday, June 9

10:15 – 11:45 a.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

At some point we all find ourselves looking for meaningful ways to use our talents to make a difference, but wanting to go deeper than stuffing envelopes. Come learn how to match your passion, skills and experiences with nonprofit organizations tackling our most pressing social issues. You will learn about the revolutionary movement of "encore" talent changing the face of volunteer engagement, and how nonprofits are creating compelling new opportunities specifically for experienced adults.

The Most Powerful Woman in America: Eleanor Roosevelt's Life and Legacy

Instructor: Dr. Pamela Stewart

Cost \$20

2 sessions: Thursdays, June 9, 16

12:15 – 1:45 p.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

For over 30 years, Americans have deemed Eleanor Roosevelt the most powerful woman in America. Voted "most admired woman in the world" 11 times in a row, her lifetime (1884-1962) saw tremendous change for the U.S., the world, and women. As she noted, "There was a time when no one asked: 'What will women think about this?' Now that question comes up often." Come discover how much this Roosevelt affected countless pieces of legislation, fought fascism and racism, and helped determine the basic definitions of human rights.

Re-Imagining the Parthenon in Greece

Instructor: Carrie Tovar

Cost \$10

1 session: Thursday, June 16

10:15 – 11:45 a.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

The Parthenon on the Acropolis in Athens is the most recognized building from classical Greece and its decorative sculptures are considered some of the best examples of classical Greek art. The building has endured for 2500 years because of its subsequent conversion into a church, then a mosque, and its iconic status as a symbol of Athenian democracy and perfection in architecture. This class will look at the current state of the Parthenon, its history, its place on the Acropolis, the decorative sculpture, and its meaning in antiquity.

friday

Advanced Travel Writing

Instructor: Dan Fellner

Cost \$20

2 sessions: Fridays, June 3, 10

10:15 – 11:45 a.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

This is a newly added sequel to our popular "Introduction to Travel Writing" class taught by experienced travel writer Dan Fellner. We will cover such topics as principles of sound writing, history of travel writing, legal issues affecting travel writers, and explore various publishing opportunities. While not required, it is suggested that participants have already taken the "Introduction to Travel Writing" class or have significant writing experience.

Literary Abstractions/Landscapes: The Art of Writing about Art

Instructor: Dr. Rosemarie Dombrowski

Cost \$30

3 sessions: Fridays, June 3, 10*, 17

***June 10 session will be at the Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, 85004**

12:15 – 1:45 p.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

On June 3, we will read poetic and prose selections that engage with art as both subject matter and inspiration, writing that is commonly termed ekphrastic. On June 10, we will then visit the Heard Museum to engage with pieces that speak to us, draw us into the life of the artist, lure us into the imaginary landscape, and extricate us from the material world. Lastly, on June 17, we will take our interactive experience with a work of art to the next level by crafting a short work of prose or poetry in the Mercado building. **June 10, we will meet in front of the main entrance of the Heard Museum. Museum admission fee is covered in the class cost. Students are responsible for their own transportation.**

Living in a Dry Heat

Instructor: Dr. Ken Sweat

Cost \$10

1 session: Friday, June 17

10:15 – 11:45 a.m. – Mercado, Bldg. C, Room 131

Temperatures can soar above 120 degrees in the shade in the Sonoran desert. For the life that calls this place home, adaptations to this extreme heat are essential. This class will explore the different strategies employed by local desert animals and a few other organisms from behavior to biochemistry that allow them to survive and even thrive in a dry heat that to us feels not unlike a blow torch.

tempe connections in the tempe public library

monday

Masterworks of the Choral Repertory: Three Great Requiems

Instructor: Dr. David Schildkret

Cost \$30

3 sessions: Mondays, June 6, 13, 20

10:30 a.m. – noon – Connections Program Room

Dr. David Schildkret, the director of choral activities at ASU, explores three of the monuments of western music: the “Mozart Requiem,” “A German Requiem” by Brahms, and the Verdi “Requiem.” Each composer approaches the subject of death in a powerful and moving way, and each is entirely unique. The three classes will explore the background, content, and attitudes of these great works from Schildkret's various perspectives: scholar, singer, and conductor.

20th Century American Drama

Instructor: Heather Ackerman

Cost \$35

4 sessions: Mondays, June 6, 13, 20, 27

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Connections Program Room

American drama had a slow evolution, but it flourished in the 20th century as it experimented with a mélange of styles. The plays of this period stage intense conflicts that still resonate with modern audiences: familial pressures juxtaposed with personal desires, cultural displacement, xenophobic fears, questions of accountability, and coming to terms with the past. They also respond to specific events and dilemmas, helping us recover our history and recognize artistic interventions into social and political problems. In this course, we will discuss four masterpieces of American drama: “Long Day’s Journey into Night,” “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,” “A View from the Bridge,” and “The Piano Lesson.” Our conversations will cover the interpretation of each text, historical context, and the development of distinctly American dramatic genres.

tuesday

Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton: Competing Visions for the American Republic

Instructor: Dr. Brian Blanchard

Cost \$35

4 sessions: Tuesdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Connections Program Room

What is the proper relationship between the United States political system and the United States economic system? Alexander Hamilton envisioned a “commercial republic” with an industrial economy and a strong central government to support industrial development. Jefferson favored an “agrarian republic” with an agricultural economy and a decentralized government. This course will examine the debate between Hamilton and Jefferson and consider how politics and economics are inextricably linked. We will consider the outlook of both thinkers in detail and consider the ways in which their disagreement still impacts our current understanding of American politics and economics.

The Image of Lilith, Melusine, and the Xtabay: The Supernatural Female

Instructor: Sharonah Fredrick

Cost \$30

3 sessions: Tuesdays, June 14, 21, 28

10:30 a.m. – noon – Connections Program Room

Throughout history, world literature has often portrayed the female principle in terms of the other-worldly. Women are described as having access to other-worldly knowledge that men are denied. Anthropologists such as Claude Levi Strauss and Mercedes de la Graza have sought after the deeper symbolism, and the possible political meanings, that are underlying in these traditional constructs. In this course, we will focus on three unique cases: Melusine, the double-tailed dragon-mermaid of French/Celtic origin; Lilith, Adam's scorned first wife, the creation of Spanish-Jewish cabbalists modeled on older Babylonian prototypes; the Xtabay, the Mayan vision of the beautiful siren who is simultaneously an arbiter of social justice. Each image will be analyzed in terms of its moral message and its perception of female (real and imagined) power.

thursday

Science in Shakespeare

Instructor: Dr. Kirstin Hendrickson

Cost: \$10

1 session: Thursday, June 2

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Connections Program Room

Shakespeare lived during the scientific revolution, a time of incredible evolution and advancement of scientific understanding. For the first time, academics were writing in English vernacular rather than the traditional Latin, which made these revolutionary discoveries available to the average educated individual rather than solely the university elite. Shakespeare was among those who took advantage of this. From praise for Galileo hidden in Cymbeline to the possibility that one of his plays is written entirely as an allegory for the move from a Ptolemaic to a Copernican understanding of the cosmos, Shakespeare's writing is full of evidence of his scientific awareness. This course is designed for both lovers of literature and aficionados of science alike, and one thing is certain: you will never look at Hamlet the same way again!

A Peek into Religious Literacy

Instructor: Dr. Keith Crudup

Cost: \$45

5 sessions: Thursdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – Connections Program Room

Monks burning themselves alive? Young people joining ISIS? Is God dead after the Holocaust? Sacred cows and a very sacred river? Millions waiting for the rapture? Islamophobia and who speaks for Islam? Politics, and especially religion, are the taboo topics in social gatherings. Nevertheless, not gaining a working knowledge of what billions of people hold to be ultimate in their beliefs and practices can prove problematic for us all. This

course will provide students with a working knowledge of what's called The Big 5: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Such a knowledge base will make you the life of any party and social gathering.

“Are You Talkin’ to Me?” The People of the 10th Amendment

Instructor: Robert McWhirter

Cost: \$10

1 session: Thursday, June 9

10:30 a.m. – noon – Connections Program Room

“We the People” are the first words of the Constitution of the United States of America; the 10th Amendment of the Bill of Rights establishes the rights of “the people” of America. However, determining who “the people” are can be tricky: African Americans, Native Americans, women, Catholics, and people from lower socioeconomic conditions were not included as part of that group in 1789. The presentation traces American slavery, hypocrisy, Federalism, and the struggle for freedom to show how the people of America fought for the right to be “the people” of the Constitution.

Three Great Indie Films from the Late 1990s

Instructor: Dr. Kevin Sandler

Cost: \$30

3 sessions: Thursdays, June 16, 23, 30

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. – Connections Program Room

This class examines three contemporary films from three different countries by three accomplished directors in the late 1990s. “Flirting with Disaster” (David O. Russell, 1998, USA) presents a modern spin on the classic screwball comedy. “The Sweet Hereafter” (Atom Egoyan, 1997, Canada) presents a heartbreaking tale of the aftermath of a bus accident in British Columbia. The film “The Celebration” (Thomas Vinterberg, 1998, Denmark) explores the tale of a family gathering gone sour when a son confronts his father about child abuse. All of these films are available on DVD or through streaming services. Students should watch them before class meetings.

friendship village tempe

tuesday

The Cosmology and Spirituality of Four Corners Belief: Evolution Under the Shadow of European Colonialism

Instructor: Dr. Sharonah Fredrick

Cost \$10

1 session: Tuesday, June 7

10:30 a.m. – noon – Recreation “Rec” Center main room

The land of the Four Corners, the American Southwest, is a region rich in philosophy and the cosmic significance of the “Four Quarters,” that holds the sacred spaces in which, according to Navajo, Hopi, and Apache thought, the forces of the Universe and the Corn Mother first danced the world into being. In this very Arizona-based session of great medieval oral literature, we will share heroic epics of the ancient Hopi, focusing on the Universal Hero twins and their earthly role as divine Koshare clowns, Navajo parables of the spirits of the ancestors and their teachings for different universes that are simultaneously inhabited, and Apache tales of heroism, the vision quest, conflict and sacrifice, and star-crossed love.

Bird Watching Around the World

Instructor: Dr. David Pearson

Cost \$10

1 session: Tuesday, June 14

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Village Center, Private Dining Room

Where are the most exciting sites on each of the seven continents to be an ecotourist and look for birds and other wildlife? How do you choose the best tour companies and guides to suit your interests? We will share our experiences visiting every continent in the world and provide some advice and suggestions for making your next trip the most exciting and enjoyable possible. If you are not planning to travel, you can enjoy the experience vicariously.

Ikebana, the Art of Japanese Flower Arranging

Instructors: Carol Brecker and Susan Allen

1 session: Tuesday, June 21

10:30 a.m. – noon – Recreation “Rec” Center main room

Cost \$10

Explore and experience Ikebana through its 1,500 year history in East Asia to present-day practice. Learn how Ikebana evolved into an important art form in Japan and spread throughout the world. Master Sogetsu Ikebana teacher Carol Brecker and her student, the current president of Ikebana of Arizona, Susan Allen, co-teach this inspiring class. Through live demonstration, you will learn technique, art principles, and styles of Ikebana as you watch traditional and contemporary designs unfold. Creating Ikebana in the desert follows Sogetsu School founder Sofu Teshigahara’s declaration in 1927 “anyone can do ikebana anywhere with any materials.”

wednesday

Memoir Writing Workshop

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth McNeil

6 sessions: Wednesdays, May 25, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Recreation “Rec” Center classroom

Cost \$60

This class is for participants at any level of writing experience. Through readings, exercises, and in-class workshops, participants will enjoy delving into their wealth of memory to learn and practice the craft of memoir writing. Instruction is provided in various memoir genres, though you are always welcome to write in any genre of your choice. Participants must have an email account and access to a computer and printer. Feel free to bring food and drinks. Please contact Elizabeth with questions at mcneil@asu.edu. Limited to 15 students.

thursday

Constructing Your Memoir Collection

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth McNeil

6 sessions: Thursdays, May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Recreation “Rec” Center classroom

Cost \$60

This class is for memoir writers who feel ready to begin to construct a collection of memoirs from the individual stories they have produced thus far. We will look at and work with various organizational strategies; participants will then organize and print copies of their collection for all classmates to workshop. Participants must have an email account and access to a computer and printer. Feel free to bring food and drinks. Please contact Elizabeth with questions at mcneil@asu.edu. Limited to 15 students.

friday

Writing about Family Members, Events, and Places

Instructor: Dr. Duane Roen

1 session: Friday, June 3

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. – Village Center, Private Dining Room

Cost \$10

Duane Roen will identify and discuss family experiences that offer rich material for writing. He will share strategies for beginning to write about family, including a hands-on exercise in which participants will write about a memorable family member, place, or event. **Please bring paper and pen, tablet, or laptop.** After recording these details, participants will be invited to share their writing with the group. In turn, the group will be encouraged to offer constructive feedback to help students develop their writing further. This class will be especially valuable for those interested in genealogy, recording family history, memoir, or simply improving their writing skills.

maravilla scottsdale

monday

Ganbatte (“Do Your Best”): Stories of the Japanese American Experience in Arizona

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Nakagawa

Cost \$10

1 session: Monday, June 6

10:30 a.m. – noon – The Lodge

Did you know that Arizona Public Service (APS) was started by a Japanese American, or that along Baseline Road and the foot of South Mountain there were blooming flower fields each spring? Join Dr. Nakagawa, a native Arizonan and third generation Japanese American, to learn more about the history of Japanese Americans in Arizona, including a discussion of the two Japanese American incarceration camps that were established in Arizona during WWII. Using oral histories and her own family’s stories she will share how the Japanese immigrants and their families “did their best” to overcome injustices and establish roots in Arizona.

tuesday

Woman Who Changed the World

Instructor: Sherry Koopot, Phoenix Art Museum docent

Cost \$10

1 session: Tuesday, June 7

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – The Lodge

From the beginning of time, women have made an impact wherever they were found. They might not have “set out” to change the world, but as they went through life, they made decisions and movements that did indeed, change their world and sometimes ours too! Their paths to influence were alternately accidental, forced-upon, willful, dramatic, calm or often mixture of all of those things. They were leaders, wives, mothers, artists, and writers, athletes, inventors, scientists, frightening adversaries, or feminine ideals. Join us and see how their lives are revealed through paintings, sculptures, and photographs.

Celebrating Marilyn!

Instructor: Dr. Diane Gruber

Cost \$10

1 session: Tuesday, June 14

10:30 a.m. – noon – The Lodge

Marilyn Monroe would have been 90 this year! Come celebrate her birthday month and her talent as we trace her professional career from her earliest small roles in films like “All About Eve” to her later star turns in “Some Like it Hot” and “Gentlemen Prefer Blondes.” A talented comic and dramatic actress, from the start Monroe exuded the screen presence that would make her a cultural icon.

wednesday

Over the Edge: Fred Harvey at the Grand Canyon and in the Great Southwest

Instructors: Dr. Kathy Howard and Diana Pardue

Cost \$10

1 session: Wednesday, June 15

10:30 – 11:45 a.m. – The Lodge

Drawing on a rich resource of American Indian art and ephemera that features the Fred Harvey and Santa Fe Railway company's activities at the Grand Canyon and other key focal points in the great southwest, this talk will explain how Fred Harvey and the Santa Fe used American Indian imagery and that of the Grand Canyon to promote travel through the southwest on the way to California.

thursday

George W. P. Hunt of Arizona: First Governor and Battling Crusader

Instructor: Dr. David Berman

Cost \$10

1 session: Thursday, June 2

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – The Lodge

A drifter from Missouri, George W.P. Hunt managed to win seven terms as governor of Arizona, including the first one starting in 1912. This highly colorful politician led the progressive efforts to open the political system to the people, reign in large corporations, protect labor, and bring about penal reform (including abolishing capital punishment). He also led the battle to protect Arizona's water from California. This discussion focuses on his life, times, causes, and legacy. Hunt's tomb stands on a hilltop In Phoenix's Papago Park, now on the National Register of Historic Places.

Amazing Arizona

Instructor: Sherry Koopot, Phoenix Art Museum Docent

Cost \$ 10

1 session: Thursday, June 2

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. – The Lodge

2012 marked the Centennial of our great state and gave us the opportunity to think again about its history and unique heritage. Many artists have recorded the beauty of our state, from the canyons to the deserts, and from the mining towns to the booming metropolises of its major cities. Join Sherry Koopot, Phoenix Art Museum docent, as she takes you on a virtual journey through our amazing state. Meet the people and the customs, the places and the particulars that fascinated artists and continue to fascinate us.

The Creation of the American Southwest, 1750 to 1950

Instructor: Dr. Brian Gratton

Cost \$20

2 sessions: Thursdays, June 9, 16

10:30 a.m. – noon – The Lodge

Professor Gratton links his unique census data on the migration, settlement, and communities of indigenous persons, Hispanic groups, native-born Americans, and immigrants to the American southwest after the Mexican American War. Part 1: beginning with 1750, he uses sources to reveal a thinly populated area dominated by Indian nations, ravaged by war and slavery. He then surveys the rapid growth of population from 1848-1900 in places like Arizona, through U.S. migration and immigration from Europe and Asia. Part 2: from 1900-1930, mass immigration from Mexico leads to the first widely dispersed Mexican American communities in the southwest. By 1950, the southwest had taken on its current character of a highly diverse, ethnically mixed region.

get to know our summer faculty and lecturers

Ackerman, Heather

Heather Ackerman is a research fellow and PhD candidate at ASU where she studies the intersection of economic theory and idolatry in the English Renaissance. From Shakespeare to Disneyana, she has taught a diverse slate of classes devoted to literature and cultural theory, including various topics on literature for OLLI.

Allen, Susan

Susan Allen is president of Ikebana of Arizona. She has studied Ikebana under Carol Brecker for five years and has completed the advanced fourth book of study (Ikkyu) in the Sogetsu School of Ikebana. Susan has exhibited arrangements at the Phoenix Art Museum and the Japanese Friendship Garden in Phoenix. A teacher, author, and master gardener, she has lived in Arizona over 50 years and loves using desert material in her arrangements.

Berman, David – Emeritus College at ASU

David Berman, PhD, is a senior research fellow with the Morrison Institute for Public Policy and a professor emeritus of political science at ASU. He has written several books on state and local government, politics, and public policy, and he is widely published in papers, book chapters, and articles.

Blanchard, Brian

Brian Blanchard, PhD, is an instructor of political science at Glendale Community College. He received his doctoral degree in political science from ASU where he studied the history of political thought. He has taught courses on world politics, American government, and a variety of courses on the history of political philosophy from ancient Greece to modern America.

Brecker, Carol

Carol Brecker, trained and certified by the Sogetsu School in Tokyo, Japan, has studied Ikebana for 15 years and taught for eight years. A master gardener, she teaches regular classes in her home studio and extensive gardens. Carol Brecker, an active Ikebana teacher, exhibitor, demonstrator, and workshop leader, has won multiple awards at The Phoenix Art Museum's Annual "Arts and Flowers" event. She directs annual exhibits at Phoenix Art Museum's Asian Gallery and the Phoenix Japanese Friendship Garden.

Crudup, Keith

Keith Crudup, PhD, is full-time faculty for the philosophy and religious studies department at Mesa Community College. Dr. Crudup teaches topics including world religions, myth, symbol and ritual, religion in the modern world, African American religion, and religions of Asia. He is a member of the American Academy of Religion.

Dombrowski, Rosemarie

Rosemarie Dombrowski, PhD, has a doctorate in American Literature from ASU where she is currently a lecturer of English. She is the co-founder and host of the "Phoenix Poetry Series," the editor-in-chief of the undergraduate writing journal "Write On, Downtown," and a poetry editor for the Phoenix-based literary magazine "Four Chambers." She has recently published her first chapbook of poetry, "The Book of Emergencies."

Fellner, Dan

Dan Fellner has visited over 115 countries and had more than 70 travel articles published in newspapers and magazines around the world; his work has been seen by millions of readers. He has written about such diverse destinations as Greenland, Dubai, Swaziland, Ecuador, Ukraine, Vietnam and Kosovo. Since 1998, he has been a faculty associate at ASU, where he teaches courses in English and Communications. Dan is a three-time Fulbright Scholar to Eastern Europe; he has taught courses in journalism and communications at universities in Latvia, Moldova, and Bulgaria.

Finter, Lou-ellen – Emeritus College at ASU

Lou-ellen Finter, PhD, is a former professor of music with an avocation in southwest prehistory and history. She has been involved in education for over 40 years and has worked in schools and universities as well as the New York State Department of Education. Dr. Finter is an active member of the Emeritus College at ASU where she presents lectures.

Fredrick, Sharonah

Sharonah Fredrick, PhD, is the assistant director of the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (ACMRS) at ASU. She earned her doctorate in Hispanic Literature at Stony Brook University, MA in renaissance and medieval history from Tel Aviv University, BA in Latin American anthropology from SUNY Buffalo, and an English teaching certificate from the International TEFL Teacher's Consortium in Guadalajara, Mexico. Her research focuses on the early modern period in Latin America and the effects of Spanish and Portuguese conquests on Native American peoples and Africans in the New World. She is interested in the manifestations of Pre-Columbian religion in epics authored in Latin America (16th-18th centuries), issues of cultural survival and religious syncretism, exploring the world of Celtic pre-Christian myth, and the medieval literature of Sephardic Jewish culture.

Gratton, Brian

Brian Gratton, PhD, is a scholar of immigration and ethnicity in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. He retired from a professorship in history from ASU in 2014. His publications include two books and numerous articles. He worked on immigration and ethnicity while he was a Fulbright Fellow in Spain and in Ecuador, and as a Fellow at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York. Dr. Gratton taught immigration history at ASU for 20 years, developing a highly popular course that attracted students from diverse backgrounds.

Gruber, Diane

Diane Gruber, PhD, is a senior lecturer in communication and a member of faculty in Barrett, the Honors College at ASU. She teaches courses in film history, mass media, argumentation, and rhetorical theory. Her previous film courses for OLLI at ASU include "Women Filmmakers," "American Film Genres," and "Silent No More: Appreciating the Era of Silent Film." She served as the director of the ASU Lifelong Learning programs and OLLI at ASU from 2006 to 2009.

Hendrickson, Kirstin

Kirstin Hendrickson, PhD, is a senior lecturer in the department of chemistry and biochemistry at ASU. In addition to a PhD in chemistry, she also holds degrees in zoology and psychology. She has published articles in scholarly journals, and written about science, society, and evidence-based decision making for popular media sources, including "Scientific American."

Howard, Kathleen

Kathleen L. Howard, PhD, is a research associate at the Heard Museum in Phoenix. She earned a MA and PhD in history from Arizona State University. Her research interests include the history of the American Southwest and its Native cultures. Her publications include "Inventing the Southwest: The Fred Harvey Company and Native American Art" co-authored with Diana Pardue (1996), "Photographing Mesa Verde: Nordenskiöld and Now" with William G. Howard and Douglas J. Hamilton (2006), plus numerous journal articles. For Kathy, the Grand Canyon has always been a mythical and magnetic place. Splendid sunny days and star-filled nights spent backpacking in dusty boots on inner canyon trails, and day hiking and running the canyon rim-to-rim-to-rim have left indelible memories.

Koboжек, Kimberly

Kimberly Koboжек received her bachelor's in biology from ASU in 1993 and her master's in biology from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. After a short career in cytogenetics at a private lab in Chandler, Kimberly began her career as a Forensic Scientist, or "Criminalist," with the City of Phoenix Police Department Crime Laboratory. While there, Kimberly worked in the units of controlled substances, toxicology, and forensic biology. Kimberly has testified as an expert witness or was involved in a number of ground-breaking or high-profile criminal cases in Maricopa County including the "Baseline Killer" case, the case of Ray Krone, and the case dubbed the "AM Rapist." Kimberly is currently a program director in forensic science and clinical associate professor in ASU's New College of Interdisciplinary Art and Sciences.

Koopot, Sherry

Sherry Koopot is a docent for the Phoenix Art Museum and has served as a docent since 1986. She was raised in Chicago and moved to Arizona in 1973. Her professional background is in nursing.

McNeil, Elizabeth

Elizabeth McNeil, MFA, PhD, teaches in the College of Letters and Sciences at ASU's downtown Phoenix campus. She received a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing and PhD in American ethnic and women's literature from ASU, where she has taught since 1989. In addition to a scholarly monograph and two edited volumes, she has two poetry collections, "Why We Need to Come Home" and "Ms. X's Ocean."

McWhirter, Robert

Robert McWhirter is a certified specialist in criminal law with the ASU Alumni Law Group. He is an internationally known speaker and author on trial advocacy, immigration law, and the history of the Bill of Rights. In 2014, the American Bar Association published his book "Bills, Quills, and Stills: The History of the Bill of Rights." He has taught extensively in Latin and South America, has been named Southwest Super Lawyer – rare for a public defender –, and has been the recipient of the Phoenix St. Thomas More Award.

Nakagawa, Kathryn

Kathy Nakagawa, PhD, is an associate professor in Asian Pacific American studies and culture, society, and education and serves as Associate Director for undergraduate studies in the School of Social Transformation at ASU. She is a native Arizonan and received her PhD from Northwestern University. Her research focuses on the social context of education and how family-school relationships may serve to promote equity in educational outcomes. She currently serves on the board for a number of community organizations, including the Japanese American Citizens League - Arizona Chapter, the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum - Arizona Chapter, the Japanese Friendship Garden of Phoenix and Asian Pacific Community in Action.

Pardue, Diana

Diana Pardue is curator of collections at the Heard Museum, where her work has included historic and contemporary Native American arts. She received the 2009 Curatorial Excellence Award from the Apple Valley Foundation in California for the exhibit "Mothers & Daughters: Stories in Clay." Her publications include "Native American Bolo Ties: Vintage and Contemporary Artistry" (with Norman Sandfield, 2011), "Shared Images: The Innovative Jewelry of Yazzie Johnson and Gail Bird" (2007), "Contemporary Southwestern Jewelry" (2007), "Inventing the Southwest: The Fred Harvey Company and Native American Art" (with Kathleen Howard, 1996), exhibit catalogues, and journal articles. After moving to Arizona, hiking and camping became a favorite pastime with one memorable 1987 hike down the Kaibab Trail to Phantom Ranch.

Pearson, David

David Pearson's research is focused on using the interaction of ecology, conservation, ecotourism and education to develop methods that promote sustainable use of biodiversity. He has worked on a breadth of organisms from crabs to insects, and Paramecium to birds. He has also studied a range of habitat types including coral atolls and desert grasslands. Dr. Pearson's current research concentrates on a small group of insects – tiger beetles, in tropical lowland rain forests around the world. He also works on international environmental education exchanges for graduate students and elementary teachers and students that promote critical thinking skills and appreciation of cultural diversity. He has taught nearly 35,000 students in 13 countries. Dr. Pearson is a research professor at the ASU School of Life Sciences.

Roен, Duane

Duane Roen, PhD, received his PhD from the University of Minnesota, is a professor of English, a dean at ASU, and also serves as vice provost on the Polytechnic campus. Since his teenage years, Dr. Roen has been interested in family history.

In researching his roots, he has developed a database with more than 32,000 family members and he estimates that he has an additional 10,000 names to add. Since 1978, Duane and his wife, Maureen, have kept daily journals on their two children, Nick and Hanna. Together they have written more than 16,000 pages of journal entries. Dr. Roen has worked with others to establish the Project for Writing Family History and develop a set of degree tracks, including one in writing and recording family history.

Sandler, Kevin

Kevin Sandler, PhD is an associate professor and the director of internships in the Film and Media Studies Program in the Department of English at ASU. He specializes in the contemporary U.S. media business, with a particular focus on censorship, convergence and animation.

Schildkret, David

David Schildkret is a professor of choral music and the director of choral activities at the School of Music in ASU's Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts. Educated at Rutgers University and Indiana University, he taught at the University of Rochester in New York, Centre College in Kentucky, and was dean of the School of Music at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, before he came to ASU in 2002. He conducts the ASU Chamber Singers, Choral Union, and Barrett Choir, which he founded in 2011. His teaching ranges from courses in the humanities and music appreciation to advanced instruction for aspiring conductors. He is a member of the AZ Speaks roster for Arizona Humanities and is a frequent lecturer around the state.

Stewart, Pamela

Pamela Stewart, PhD, is a historian and senior lecturer in the College of Letters and Sciences at ASU. She received a doctorate in modern European and comparative women's history. Her research currently focuses on women athletes in United States history, such as Ina E. Gittings, a multi-faceted pioneer and the first university director of women's physical education in Arizona (1920-1952). Dr. Stewart is also researching another book project on women-headed households in Arizona, 1870-1940. She has been the recipient of research, teaching and service awards, including ASU's Centennial Professorship, and she is also a docent at Phoenix Art Museum.

Sweat, Ken

Ken Sweat, PhD, is a senior lecturer in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at ASU. He received a bachelor's degree in biology and mathematics from Claremont McKenna College, and his master's and doctorate from ASU. Dr. Sweat joined the faculty at ASU in the fall of 2000 and has taught a diversity of courses in general biology, botany, natural history, statistics for biologists, and the philosophy of science. Dr. Sweat has worked extensively in the environmental consulting field, conducting endangered species surveys and writing and editing documents that ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other relevant laws and regulations.

Tetreault, Colin

Colin Tetreault serves as faculty associate and manager at ASU's School of Sustainability and Global Institute of Sustainability. He holds a bachelor's in marketing from W.P. Carey School of Business and a master's from the School of Sustainability, both from ASU. Mr. Tetreault has served as the senior policy advisor of sustainability to Mayor Stanton of Phoenix and spoken at numerous business conventions, professional conferences, and community engagement meetings, both domestically and internationally. He focuses on creating robust and resilient economic opportunities, protecting and expanding environmental and natural systems while looking to them for use-inspired solutions, and fostering a beautiful, vibrant, pluralistic, and socially just culture.

Tovar, Carrie

Carrie Tovar is curator of art in ASU's College of Public Service & Community Solutions where she manages a community arts program. She has a BA in Art History from ASU and an MA from the University of Notre Dame. She worked as a curatorial assistant in the Antiquities Department at the J. Paul Getty Museum for 8 years before deciding to move to Phoenix. She has excavated in Cyprus and Greece. Her research interests are varied with her thesis focusing on representations of the goddess Nike on the Parthenon to a more current focus on art of the Roman Provinces.

Truitt, Liz

Liz Truitt is a certified feline training and behavior specialist, and serves as the Arizona Humane Society's feline welfare specialist. After spending almost 10 years as an emergency animal medical technician, working to save cats in the field, she now focuses on improving the lives of cats within AHS, by adjusting their environments to better suit their psychological and physiological needs. She also works with individual cats at the shelter to reduce their stress and get them ready for adoption, and counsels foster parents and adopters on cat behavior issues. Liz's approach with cats focuses on providing options and allowing them to make their own decisions.

van der Feltz, Francesca

Francesca van der Feltz works as an engagement advisor with Experience Matters, a nonprofit that connects experienced adults with nonprofits in need of their time and expertise to build stronger communities. She is a graduate of the Cronkite School of Journalism at ASU and the Thunderbird School of Global Management where she earned her master's in global

management. She serves in multiple roles in our community, showing a commitment to inspiring organizations and individuals to have a positive social impact.

Vernacchia, Ralph – Emeritus College at ASU

Ralph Vernacchia, PhD, is professor emeritus at Western Washington University, Bellingham where he directed the undergraduate and graduate programs in sport psychology, as well as WWU's Center for Performance Excellence. He has presented extensively on a variety of sport psychology topics throughout the nation and authored four sport psychology textbooks, including "Coaching Mental Excellence and Inner Strength." He has traveled internationally as a performance consultant with several USA international track and field teams, including the 2000 USA Olympic Track and Field Team that competed in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Vernacchia retired from Western Washington University in 2011 after 38 years of service.

Waldron, Vincent

Vincent Waldron, PhD, is a professor of communication studies in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at ASU where he studies challenging forms of communication in personal and work relationships. He has authored or co-authored four books. Dr. Waldron is co-director of the Family Communication Consortium, an interdisciplinary group of ASU faculty and students committed to improving family communication through research, teaching, and community partnerships. He is a longtime member of the Arizona Archaeological Society.

"We had a wonderful arts/cultural experience this winter season. Osher's part in this enjoyment was most appreciated. We look forward to next season with Osher and the arts."

--OLLI members, Denise & Marv

"Thanks for all you do to make the educational experience so diverse, rewarding and fun!! It's such a pleasure being part of the experience. I look forward to many more semesters of wonderful learning and broadening horizons with a great group of folks."

--OLLI member, Susanne

Watch for our Fall 2016 Class Schedule coming in August!



Registration opens in mid-August.

Classes start in September.