



Spring 2024 Course Descriptions

Art of Crafting and Telling Jokes

Jack Day, Instructor

Tuesdays | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | Sunny Slope Conference Room

Whether you're a seasoned storyteller or just starting, this course will help you refine your skills in crafting and delivering jokes. If you want to tell a story and get people to open their mouths to laugh, hearts to feel, minds to think, and eyes to tears – this class is for you.

Jack Day taught the Art of Storytelling for OLLI at Auburn from 2008 to 2012 and later at the University of Alabama from 2014 to 2017. Beyond the classroom, he is a practicing storyteller and author of several books on the subject.

Art of Generalship

Toby Warren, Coordinator

Tuesdays | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | Pebble Hill & Zoom

Enhance your understanding of military leadership in this course, focusing on aligning learning with leaders to navigate, follow, and progress using best practices at key personal decision points. This course provides an opportunity for engaged participation in weekly discussions led by a distinguished lineup of Generals.

March 26:

- Dr. Clifford Jones, "I Am America"
- Lieutenant General Ron Burgess, "Our Nation's Character, Part I"

April 2:

- Major General Mike Diamond, "Leading Leaders"
- Brigadier General Robert Holmes, "The Practice of Humility"

April 9:

- Major General George Bowman, "I Am an American"
- Major General Paulette Risher, "The Power of Well-Being"

April 16:

- Major General Lou Hennies, "What it Takes to be a Leader"
- Lieutenant General Willie Williams, "Always A Servant"
- Admiral Clyde Marsh, "Honoring Our Dead"

April 23:

- Major General Mike Langston, "A Journey to Hope"
- Brigadier General Carl Fisher, "Where Warriors Walk"
- Major General Doug Carver, "Leadership & God"

April 30:

- Lieutenant General Ron Burgess, "Our Nation's Character, Part II"
- Will Webb, "Fated & Privileged"
- Special Session General Officer Q&A, Photos, Book Gifting, and Autographs

Art of Mending

Sheri Schumacher, Instructor

Thursday | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex

This course explores the practical aspects of repairing and creatively mending clothing, drawing inspiration from the Japanese philosophy of Wabi-Sabi. Participants will engage in hands-on exercises, learn ancient techniques, and gain insights from readings and visual presentations. Emphasizing the value of imperfections and the celebration of aging, the course encourages a thoughtful approach to clothing. By extending the life of garments through mindful repair, participants contribute to a more intentional relationship with their clothes and the world around them.

Required book: *The Art of Repair* by Molly Martin; ISBN: 978-1-78072-442-3

Required materials: Students must bring a natural fiber garment (cotton, linen, wool) that needs repair, along with a thread, needle, and scissors.

Sheri Schumacher is a textile designer and maker with years of experience teaching sustainable design and adaptive reuse.

Auburn: A History in Street Names

Sam Hendrix, Instructor

11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Mondays | Sunny Slope Annex

Explore the evolution of local churches, schools, military heroes, and businesses, unraveling the unique stories that have shaped the community over time. From the early days of Auburn's churches to the heroic narratives of war, the course culminates in an insightful exploration of the iconic Toomer's Corner.

James A. Hendrix (Sam) has been an Auburn resident since 1981. He has retired from Auburn University, where he had a career in higher education administration, holding a Master of Education degree. James is passionate about local history and has authored several works, including *Auburn Church of Christ*, a biography of C.A. Cary, and *Auburn: A History in Street Names*.

Birding Basics, Section A

Bill Deutsch, Instructor

Mondays | 8:30 am - 10:00 am | Sunny Slope Annex

This course is primarily for the beginning birder and will be field-oriented. Classroom time at Sunny Slope will be used to discuss the natural history of birds, bird identification by sight and ear, identification aids, attracting birds around the home, and local birding locations. Most class time will be spent birding in the Auburn area at local parks. Optional weekend field trips will be offered. The course will be split into two sections, and participants can choose one or both sections. Through this course, participants will enhance their birding skills and confidently identify 20 birds by both sight and sound. **Please enroll in either Section A or Section B of this course, as they will be almost identical.**

Required materials:

Binoculars (loaners available) and comfortable walking shoes. A smartphone with the Merlin App from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology is recommended.

Bill Deutsch is Retired from the AU School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences. Avocational birder. Previous instructor for OLLI Birding Basics courses.

Birding Basics, Section B

Hal Smith, Instructor

Tuesdays | 9:00 am - 10:30am | Sunny Slope Annex

This course is primarily for the beginning birder and will be field-oriented. Classroom time at Sunny Slope will be used to discuss the natural history of birds, bird identification by sight and ear, identification aids, attracting birds around the home, and local birding locations. Most class time will be spent birding in the Auburn area at local parks. Optional weekend field trips will be offered. The course will be split into two sections, and participants can choose one or both sections. Through this course, participants will enhance their birding skills and confidently identify 20 birds by both sight and sound. **Please enroll in either Section A or Section B of this course, as they will be almost identical.**

Required materials:

Binoculars (loaners available) and comfortable walking shoes. A smartphone with the Merlin App from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology is recommended.

Hal Smith owns Wild Birds Unlimited in Auburn and actively contributes to eBird.org and the Alabama Ornithological Society.

Chinese Brush Painting

Dong Shang, Instructor

Tuesdays | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm (5 sessions) | Sunny Slope Annex

This course is a hands-on introduction to Chinese brush painting and calligraphy. It focuses on capturing the essence of nature through suggestion and simplicity. The traditional subjects of flowers, animals, and landscapes express the sense of harmony inherent in Chinese culture. Students will learn fundamental brush strokes, composition, and spontaneous-style painting techniques.

Class Fee: The class fee is \$110, payable to the instructor. If you were enrolled in this winter term course, no additional fee is required.

Required Materials: Required materials should be purchased from Dong. Please get in touch with her by email at dongshang@hotmail.com for inquiries and purchases. Payment options include making checks payable to Dong Shang or utilizing Zelle payment at 229-347-6293. Dong will have the necessary supplies available at the first class meeting.

Dong Shang, a native of China with a degree in Art, is an art designer. She immigrated to the United States and has since built a successful career as a freelance artist and art teacher.

Clearing Chakras Through Sound

Susan Steele, Instructor

Mondays | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm | Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Experience an in-person sound immersion session specifically designed to help you relieve stress, reduce pain, and strengthen your mind-body connection. This hour-long relaxation and meditation practice will guide you through your body's natural energy centers, using intention-driven focus and acoustic sound therapy instruments such as quartz crystal bowls, chimes, gongs, and drums.

Required materials:

Yoga mat or something similar, blanket & pillow (optional) for comfort.

Susan Steele has been a sound practitioner for over 1.5 years and has conducted sound baths at Be Yoga Auburn. She has over 45 years of musical experience, including playing piano and clarinet, being a part of marching band and choir, and leading a choir.

Conversations with Auburn University Undergraduates in an Adult Development & Aging Course

Kyle Kostelecky, Instructor

Thursdays (4 sessions) 3/14, 21, 28 & 4/4 | 2:10 pm - 3:10 pm | Rane Culinary Center

Join Auburn University undergraduates studying Human Development & Family Science to explore adult development and aging. Engage in open discussions, share insights, and explore the interests of the students. Topics covered include the environmental context of older adults, changes in personality over the lifespan, lifelong relationships, work, retirement, leisure, and the concept of successful aging.

Kyle Kostelecky is a tenured Associate Professor at Auburn University in Human Development & Family Science with a focus on Lifespan Development and Gerontology. He has spent more than 30 years in academia.

Cut Flower Gardening & Design for Beginners: An Introduction to the Slow Flower Movement

Kathryn Jones & Lulie Radford, Instructors

Thursdays | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Annex

Explore the slow flower movement, aligned with the "slow food" ethos, advocating for clean, sustainable, locally-grown flowers. This contemporary approach offers a healthier cultivation, harvest, and enjoyment of flowers while fostering a reconnection with nature and timeless ideals. Tailored for beginners, the class combines short lectures, sharing sessions, and weekly hands-on floral activities, providing a holistic experience for those seeking a fresh perspective on cultivating and enjoying flowers.

Course Fee: \$85 to be paid to OLLI at the time of registration. This fee is non-refundable. All OLLI instructors are volunteers. Course fees are to reimburse instructors for plant materials and supplies used by students in the class.

Lulie Radford, an Auburn grad, cultivates "slow flowers" in Lee and Macon counties. Starting as a hobby and philanthropy when her children were young, Lulie now sells to local florists and designers. Her main passion is educating the community about the time-lost methods of using locally-grown blooms.

Kathryn Jones brings over 20 years of expertise in designing seasonal whimsical floral arrangements and embraced the slow flower movement in 2020. She believes in its appropriateness and benefits for various designs and occasions, introducing a more natural approach to using flowers. Jones is also the registrar for OLLI at Auburn.

Ekphrastic Poetry, Part 3

Wendy Cleveland & Charlotte Laroux, Instructors

Tuesdays | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art

Ekphrasis is the technique used when one artist responds to the work of another. Participants will discuss and write about the following art forms: sculptures, paintings, photographs, prints, and mixed media. The poetic response might be a description of the art, a narrative of what the observer sees, or a reflection of why the subject engages the writer. Each week, participants will share their poems. The guest speaker will be Atlanta-based photographer Jerry Siegel, best known for his visual representation of the Black Belt.

Wendy Cleveland retired after 30 years of teaching English and is the author of the poetry collection *Blue Ford*.

Charlotte Laroux is a retired high school art teacher and an award-winning artist who has exhibited her art across many venues in the U.S.

Engineering an Empire, Part III

Herb Shivers and Jim Barber, Instructors

Mondays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Annex and Zoom

Engineering an Empire is a documentary series that explores various civilizations' architectural and engineering accomplishments throughout history. Peter Weller hosts the show and pays tribute to the achievements of empires such as the Romans, Maya, Aztecs, and Ancient Egyptians. Although these empires eventually declined, their legacy lives on through their impressive architecture and the pages of history books.

Dr. Charles H. "Herb" Shivers has been an AU OLLI member since 2012. He is a retired UAB Professor who worked with NASA and the Senior Executive Service. In addition, he has worked with the Tennessee Valley Authority, the US Army, and the National Guard. Herb is a retired Licensed Professional Engineer in Alabama and holds degrees from Auburn University, Texas A&M University, and The University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Jim Barber holds a BCE degree from Auburn University with additional studies at Villanova University, University of Houston, and Sacramento State. He has 54 years of experience in construction, engineering design, project management, and international shipping/transportation and trade. Science and history are at both ends of his happiness rainbow.

Ethics in the Field of Medicine

Jay Jones (not the Sheriff), Instructor

Wednesdays | 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Main Classroom

Join us for a survey course exploring the ethical principles that shape the medical field. From Medical Ethics to *Doctors and Dollars: Chasing the Presidents* discusses key considerations faced by healthcare professionals. This course provides a comprehensive understanding of the ethical landscape in healthcare, covering overarching principles and contemporary challenges.

Jay Jones joined Right at Home in 2022, bringing almost 40 years of healthcare experience, including administration and business development roles for national organizations like HealthSouth, Hospital Corporation of America, Tenet Health, and Community Health Systems. Formerly the CEO/President of The Parallax Group and executive director of the Alabama Physical Therapy Association, Jay is also a writer for professional journals and a national speaker.

Exploring Artistic Expressions with John Willer

John Willer, Instructor

Thursdays | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex

Discover and experiment with different artistic mediums, including acrylic paint, oil paint, pencils, and pastels. Engage in hands-on activities and guided discussions to gain insights into various techniques. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned artist, you'll have the opportunity to find your unique artistic style while being part of a supportive community. **Please note that you must bring your own supplies.**

John Willer, a Memphis Academy of Art graduate with an MFA degree, has established a successful career in painting and drawing. His exceptional artwork is showcased in prestigious galleries and private collections, such as the Alice Walton Collection.

Exploring Mixed Media

Margee Bright-Raglan, Instructor

Tuesdays | 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex

This course delves into mixed media, exploring various creative techniques. Participants will investigate the realms of drawing, painting, and collage, allowing for a comprehensive and hands-on experience in combining these diverse art forms.

Required materials:

- Pencils (2B, 3B, 4B, 5B)

- Colored Pencils
- Pen and Ink
- Charcoal (Vine and Compressed)
- Erasers
- Metal Ruler
- Scissors
- Matte or Exacto Knife
- Acrylic Paint (White, Black, Blue, Red, and Yellow)
- Plastic Palette
- Gel Printing Plate (Students can wait to purchase after the first meeting)
- 140-pound Watercolor Paper (12" x 18")
- Acrylic Matte Medium
- Acrylic Gloss Medium
- Krylon or Liquitex Clear Acrylic Spray (Matte and Gloss)
- Spray Bottle for Water

Margee Bright-Ragland is an artist and educator with a B.F.A. from Auburn University (1970) and an MA in Visual Arts from Georgia State University (1974). As a professor at Georgia Perimeter College, she taught art appreciation, drawing, and watercolor. Her art has been exhibited in the United States, Europe, and Latin America, including her piece *Birds in Landscape* in Georgia's State Art Collection.

Free Tickets Around the Globe! Connecting World Heritages & Cultures, Part 2

Dr. Adeola Fayemi & Mariela Delgado, Instructors

Mondays | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Classroom

4/15, 22, 29 (3-week session)

Join Auburn international students for interactive discussions on their heritage and culture. Participants engage in relaxed conversations, comparing these aspects with their American experiences or cultural backgrounds. The experiential class includes displays of country-specific artifacts, sampling snacks, fostering intercultural dialogue, and one-on-one interaction with the presenters. Intergenerational and inclusive, the class also features Auburn staff, international scholars, and community members. Presented in collaboration with Auburn's International Cultural Center, this class provides a unique opportunity to explore global perspectives., and features sessions on South America, Asia, and Africa.

Adeola Fayemi, PhD, is the Director of Intercultural Education & Inclusion at the Office of International Programs. She has over 25 years of experience in higher education, training, and state and municipal government administration. In addition, she is a certified diversity and inclusion professional.

Mariela Delgado is the Education Coordinator for the Office of International Programs. She specializes in language acquisition and program administration and holds graduate degrees.

Gardening in East Alabama

Charles Mitchell, Instructor

Tuesdays | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Classroom

Navigate the challenges and opportunities of organic gardening in East Alabama's unique climate. This class addresses the impact of heat, humidity, and an extended growing season on organic cultivation. Learn strategic planning for the seasons, discover a diverse range of thriving vegetables, and explore low-maintenance fruits suitable for your backyard. Dive into eco-friendly landscaping by incorporating native trees and shrubs.

Charles Mitchell retired from Auburn University in 2016 after 36 years as Extension Agronomist-Soils. Holding degrees from Birmingham-Southern College (B.S.), Auburn University (M.S.), and the University of Florida (Ph.D.), he taught at

Clemson University before returning to Alabama. Charles and his wife, Peggy, have been instructors in the Master Gardener program since its inception. They live in a garden near Loachapoka.

Gentle Chair Yoga

Sara Anderson, Instructor

Thursdays | 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm | Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

This course offers a unique opportunity to embrace the gentle art of yoga while comfortably seated in a chair. With expert instruction, you'll learn a series of yoga postures and fundamental principles, enhancing your flexibility, balance, and overall well-being. The class also includes a simple self-massage technique for relaxation. No prior yoga experience is necessary, making it accessible to all.

Course Requirements:

- Comfortable clothing suitable for gentle movement.
- Participants should bring a small blanket for added comfort during the practice.

Sara Anderson is a dedicated and certified RYS 200-hour Yoga Alliance instructor, trained at the renowned Shiva Dancing School of Yoga in Asheville, North Carolina.

The Late Middle Ages

Joseph Kicklighter, Instructor

Tuesdays | 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm | Pebble Hill and Zoom

Explore the Late Middle Ages in this course, delving into the dramatic events that shaped the path to the Reformation in sixteenth and seventeenth-century Europe. Focused on the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the class covers key topics such as the Black Death, the Hundred Years War, the Crisis of the Church, the English Monarchy and Parliament, and the Decline of the Holy Roman Empire. Gain insights into this pivotal period, understanding the factors that paved the way for significant historical changes.

Dr. Joseph Kicklighter, a retired professor of Medieval History from Auburn University, has been teaching at the university since 1975 and still teaches there part-time. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of the South and obtained his Ph.D. from Emory University. Since 2015, he has also been teaching for OLLI.

Hinges and Twinges: Active Adult Exercises

Deborah Manasco, Instructor

Wednesdays | 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm | Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Join us for standing and chair exercises that enhance flexibility, strength, and balance, promoting functional fitness. Focus on building muscle memory, increasing mobility, and fall prevention through movements inspired by daily activities. A light cardio component adds motivation, encouraging safe motion awareness and confidence. Participants can proceed at their own pace.

Deborah Manasco is a retired law practitioner with the State of Alabama. She holds undergraduate studies in Health, PE, and recreation and is a certified therapeutic horsemanship instructor through PATH, Intl. Deborah has taught Active Older Adult exercise classes at various institutions and is an avid equestrian.

The History of History: Great Men to Michel Foucault and Back

Jay West, Instructor

Tuesdays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Zoom Only

This course examines the evolution of historical perspectives, shifting from traditional narratives focused on great individuals to the influential ideas of Michel Foucault. Analyze key historical theories and participate in discussions to unravel the layers of historical interpretation. Gain insights into diverse methodologies and perspectives, providing a straightforward examination of the transformation in the study of history.

James (Jay) West is a retired professor with a Ph.D. in Russian History from Princeton University. He taught for 39 years at Trinity College and Middlebury College before continuing to teach at OLLI NWU Chicago and European University. He is now a frequent instructor for OLLI at Auburn and the University of Vermont. He resides in Middlebury, Vermont.

The History of the US Navy, Part II

John Parr, Instructor

Tuesdays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Annex

Explore the United States maritime history in this Great Courses DVD-led course. From the American Revolution to present-day global missions, delve into the crucial role of the United States Navy in shaping the nation's growth and international standing. Gain insights into significant naval engagements, conflicts, and peacekeeping efforts, unraveling the intricate web of American history, democracy, and geopolitical influence. The course covers aircraft carrier battles, amphibious warfare, the Cold War era, nuclear advancements, Vietnam, naval reform, and contemporary challenges, providing essential perspectives on America's transformation into a global superpower.

John Parr served in the US Navy for 22 years, starting as a Seaman Recruit and retiring as a Lieutenant Commander. He now lives in Auburn with his wife and has been a member of OLLI since 2013. John holds a BS, MS, and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering.

Global Hunger - Causes, Consequences, and Solutions - Part II

Douglas C. Coutts, Instructor

Wednesdays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Annex

This is a continuation of the course from the Winter Term 2024. This course will continue to examine hunger as a complex issue of sustainable human development that affects all of us worldwide. Teaching will be primarily lecture with directed discussion and will include video/film resources.

Part II will briefly review the material covered in Winter Term and then proceed to explore in more detail some of the root causes, history and key issues from that term including topics such as war and poverty. We will also discuss links between hunger and conflict, health, and environmental issues; effects of corruption and transparency; and public policy issues and history relating to hunger in Alabama.

Douglas Casson Coutts, a retired United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) veteran, introduced and taught Auburn's inaugural undergraduate course on "World Hunger: Causes, Consequences, and Responses" during his sabbatical from 2008 to 2012. With 30 years of experience in the United Nations system, he now serves as a Distinguished Visiting Professor Emeritus in the AU Office of International Programs, where he occasionally shares his expertise as a guest lecturer and speaker.

An In-Depth Appreciation for Films & Television

Tim Arnold, Instructor

Mondays | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Pebble Hill (main lecture)

and

Thursdays | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm | Sunny Slope Main Classroom (optional screening)

This weekly discussion on filmmaking is open to anyone interested in learning about the craft. No prior experience is necessary, and everyone is welcome to join as part of the audience. Each week, participants can choose to attend full movie screenings and, on another day, engage in discussions based on shorter clips from the featured movie. The discussion will cover various topics, such as the history of cinema, screenwriting, cinematography, and the differences between television and film. This course is designed to provide an exploration of the key elements of filmmaking.

Tim Arnold graduated with an engineering degree from Auburn University in 1994 and later shifted to a 15-year career in Hollywood. He worked mainly as a video editor but also gained writing, directing, and producing skills. Tim has been

involved in the creation of many short films and independent features during his career.

Intermediate Hikes at Chewacla State Park

Harold Bruner & Maureen Donnan, Instructors

Tuesdays | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Meet at Chewacla State Park

Participants will need to pay the entrance fee of \$4.00 in person (People 62 and older are \$2.00)

Embark on a course tailored for those seeking longer distances and a faster pace than the shorter Monday hikes at Chewacla. Most hikes will span approximately 3-4 miles, offering an invigorating outdoor experience. A small day pack and water are suggested.

Required: At least one hiking pole is mandatory; two poles are preferred.

Harold Bruner has hiked extensively in the U.S. and Canada and, more recently, in northern England. He has led hikes for OLLI for the last six years. As a forestry graduate of Purdue, he worked in the forests of the Midwest for many years. Since moving to Auburn in 2014, he has enjoyed the biodiversity and many hiking opportunities in Alabama.

Maureen Donnan was a member of the first OLLI hiking group several years ago. She has served as the sweep (last hiker) for every hiking group. Maureen has extensive knowledge of the Chewacla trails.

The Instruments of Folk and Roots Music

Mike Reinke, Instructor

Tuesdays | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Zoom Only

This class explores the origins and evolution of American folk and roots music. African-American folk music is incorporated, and its commercial separation from Anglo-American folk music is discussed. Special attention is given to the folk music of Alabama. An overview of the structure and composition of traditional folk, roots, and blues music and the (mostly) stringed instruments used to play them is provided. The classification, meaning, and historical background of numerous 20th-century folk, roots, and blues songs are explored in a structured manner. The impact of various folk, roots, and blues musicians on contemporary music and culture is assessed. This is the course's ninth term, with new material each term. Hear a wide variety of music, including old favorites and lesser-known contemporary songs that you will find equally enjoyable. If you would like more information, please email mikereinke68@gmail.com.

Mike Reinke is a retired Auburn University faculty member who taught in the school (now College) of Pharmacy for 22 years, during which time he received several teaching awards. He received an undergraduate degree from Jamestown College in North Dakota, a Master of Science degree, and a Pharm.D. degree from the University of Michigan. He has been teaching in the OLLI@AU program since 2016.

The Journey of Aging in Place - What to Do, When to Do It, How to Do It

Leisa Askew, Instructor

Tuesdays | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex

Discuss topics such as organizing documents, understanding insurance, managing health, securing finances, and having open conversations. Explore end-of-life options, communicate effectively with medical teams, assess home safety, and consider community housing options. Learn about "The Binder," a valuable tool for organizing key information. Enroll to confidently navigate the aging process, ensuring a secure and well-prepared future.

Leisa Askew is a licensed social worker with 27 years of experience working with the aging population. She is also a certified Dementia Care Specialist and Aging Resource Specialist.

Learning Spanish, Level 3, Part 1

Sylvia Cooke, Instructor

Mondays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Classroom

For those who have completed the equivalent of a 2nd level Spanish course, this class provides an opportunity to practice what you've learned and venture into new territory. It's designed to prepare you for advanced conversations and boost your ability to express yourself on a wide range of topics in Spanish. Sylvia Cooke is your in-class guide as you explore the art of language acquisition.

Required Book: *Spanish Conversation, Premium Third Edition*, by Jean Yates, available for \$17 from Amazon.com. Students should provide their own book by the first class meeting.

Sylvia Cooke is retired after 32 years as a Spanish teacher; twenty were at Auburn High School. She taught all levels of Spanish, from beginning speakers through preparation for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations.

Learning Spanish, Level 1, Part 3

Sylvia Cooke, Instructor

Tuesdays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Classroom

This course, led by Instructor Sylvia Cook and utilizing the Great Courses DVD, offers a structured introduction to the basics of a first-semester college Spanish course. With guidance from Professor Bill Worden of the University of Alabama, participants will focus on language acquisition and communication skills. Professor Worden's approach, designed for adult learners, emphasizes systematic learning and includes practical strategies to enhance engagement and retention. Through a combination of curated content and expert instruction, the course aims to facilitate proficiency in Spanish within a supportive learning environment.

Required Book: *The Learning Spanish Workbook* is available during the first session for \$20 via credit card or check.

Sylvia Cooke is retired after 32 years as a Spanish teacher; twenty were at Auburn High School. She taught all levels of Spanish, from beginning speakers through preparation for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate examinations.

iPhone Photography On-The-Go: How to get pro-looking photos with your iPhone camera

Mike Akins, Instructor

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesdays | (4 Sessions) 3/27; 4/10, 17, 24. No class on 4/3 | 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex

This course is tailored for iPhone camera users of all levels, from beginners to advanced. Explore practical activities to enhance your iPhone photography skills, emphasizing capturing travel moments and creating personalized photo gifts. Learn best practices for shooting, editing, and sharing high-quality photos regardless of your iPhone model. The course covers Camera App settings and controls and offers hands-on photo activities and optional opportunities to create unique photo gifts. Engage in fun photo challenges between sessions to refine your skills further.

Mike Akins is the chair of the OLLI technology committee and has a background as an online learning producer, videographer, and personal tech trainer. He holds a Ph.D. and an M.S. in Educational Technology, which enables him to collaborate effectively with educators and creatives to enhance learning experiences.

Line Dancing: Beginners

Betsy Keown and Wanda Knight, Instructors

Tuesdays | 9:00 am – 9:45 am | Boykin Community Center Gym

400 Boykin St., Auburn

Join us for a 45-minute line dancing class where you'll learn basic steps and dances. We'll be moving to an eclectic mix of music ranging from Glenn Miller to Willie Nelson, Charlie Daniels, Little Big Town, and more. Line dancing is enjoyable and a fantastic way to get a workout for your body and mind. For comfort, please wear shoes without taps and bring a water bottle.

Betsy Keown has been line dancing twice weekly for sixteen years and teaching for the past ten. She loves the exercise and the joy of performing at nursing homes and other venues.

Wanda Knight has been line dancing for over nine years and has assisted Betsy Keown in several classes.

Line Dancing: Intermediate

Betsy Keown and Wanda Knight, Instructors

Tuesdays | 10:00 am – 10:45 am | Boykin Community Center Gym

This class is intended for individuals with some line dancing experience. We will dance to various music genres, ranging from Glenn Miller to Willie Nelson, Charlie Daniels, Little Big Town, and more. In addition to being enjoyable, this class is also an excellent workout for both the body and mind. Please wear comfortable shoes without taps and bring a water bottle.

Betsy Keown has been line dancing twice weekly for sixteen years and teaching for the past ten. She loves the exercise and the joy of performing at nursing homes and other venues.

Wanda Knight has been line dancing for over nine years and has assisted Betsy Keown in several classes.

Local Naturalists on Nature

Gary Wagoner, Coordinator

Mondays | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Sunny Slope Annex & Zoom

This course is taught by a team of six local naturalists who take a multi-disciplinary approach to exploring various subjects such as botany, ichthyology, ornithology, geology, and ecology. Their areas of expertise will be shared as they discuss the incredible natural diversity of our region that they have deeply studied and observed.

March 27

Katie Lawson: Alabama Natural Heritage Program

April 3

Dana Barker: Meteorology

April 10

Chris Lepczyk: Understanding linkages between species, people, and landscapes in order to promote the conservation and management of our ecosystems.

April 17

Jim Stoeckel: Mussels and crayfish

April 24

Mike Kensler: Earth Day and Auburn Sustainability

May 1

Wesley Anderson: Alabama Master Naturalists program

Looking At Photography with a Critical Eye

Curtis Shannon, Instructor

Wednesdays | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Main Classroom

In this course, participants will have the opportunity to learn about modern photography and how to interact with it. Through practical exercises, students will gain insights into observing and analyzing photographs with a critical eye. The course will also explore the nature of photographs, mapping them out and creating pictures of the South.

Course Fee: \$18.50 to be paid to OLLI at the time of registration. This fee will cover the cost of a field trip to the High Museum in Atlanta, Georgia, on Wednesday, May 1st, at 11 am. The field trip will include a 60-minute Highlights tour of the collection, which features the photo exhibition [Truth Told Slant: Contemporary Photography](#) and other works in the collection. During the tour, participants will have the opportunity to view 5-7 artworks up close. After the tour, there will be some free time to explore the museum. Participants will carpool from Sunny Slope at 9 am and return at 3 pm. **This fee is non-refundable. Please get in touch with olli@auburn.edu in advance if you choose not to participate in the field trip.**

Curtis Shannon has worked as a professional photographer and lens-based artist for over three decades.

Opelika Theatre Company presents Creative Aging Senior Theatre

Marty Moore, Instructor

Thursdays | 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm | Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Explore the remarkable benefits of Senior Theatre for older adults, such as improved memory and cognitive skills, self-discovery through character study and storytelling, the joys of camaraderie, enhanced social skills, goal attainment, and a deeper appreciation for the work of others. Discover how seniors involved in theatre improve their health, enhance Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), foster a more positive outlook on life, and enrich their overall quality of life based on evidence from similar programs nationwide.



Marty Moore, the owner of Opelika Theatre Company, brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the world of theater. With a rich background in the field, Marty has a passion for sharing the art of theater with others.

Practicing Public Deliberation

Mark Wilson, Facilitator

Wednesdays | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Pebble Hill

Deliberation can be defined as "the talk we use to teach ourselves before we act." This course offers an opportunity to discuss complex issues affecting our country, state, and local communities and current policy proposals. Through established guidelines, a neutral moderator, and a little luck, individuals from varying political viewpoints can work together to uncover commonalities despite their differences. The group will collectively determine which topics to address on the first day of class.

Mark Wilson is an experienced OLLI course instructor, having previously taught similar courses. He is also a skilled facilitator of public issues forums and is talented in leading complex discussions.

A Short History of Street Railways & Public Transportation (1886-Present)

Glen Bottoms, Instructor

Thursdays | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Main Classroom

The course will focus on the early history of the streetcar, highlighting its significant impact and exploring the reasons behind the decline in public transportation in the United States. Participants will also examine the revival of transit pre-pandemic and its current state, including post-pandemic struggles, and compare the transit landscape of the United States with other countries worldwide. The course will conclude with speculative insights into the future of transit.

Glen Bottoms has 30+ years of experience in public transportation, including work with the Federal Transit Administration and as the American Conservative Center for Public Transportation Executive Director. He is recognized for his contributions to the field, particularly in rail transit in the United States and Europe, with papers presented and published by the Transportation Research Board. He holds a bachelor's degree from Auburn University (1966) and a master's degree in International Affairs (1972) and Public Administration (1977) from George Washington University, Washington, DC.

Shorter Hikes at Chewacla State Park

Harold Bruner & Maureen Donnan, Instructors

Mondays | 8:30 am – 10:30 am | Meet at Chewacla State Park

Participants will need to pay the entrance fee of \$4.00 in person (People 62 and older are \$2.00)

Enrollment limit: 30

Enjoy a thorough introduction to nearby Chewacla State Park with shorter weekly hikes of 2-3 miles. We will visit Town Creek, Moore's Mill Creek, Chewacla Creek, and Hidden Falls and cover most of the trails in the park. A small day pack is suggested.

Required: At least one hiking pole is mandatory; two poles are preferred. A small day pack is suggested.

Harold Bruner is a retired forester who now hikes for fitness and pleasure. He has hiked extensively in many U.S. and several Canadian provinces. Having spent more than 60 years in Indiana and Florida, he now enjoys the biodiverse landscape of Alabama.

Silver Sneakers

David Tillman, Instructor

Mondays and Fridays | 11:30 am – 12:30 pm | Max Fitness Center (189 E. University Dr. Auburn)

All registration for this class is managed through Max Fitness.

Max will be offering Silver Sneakers classes to OLLI members twice a week. This workout includes fall prevention drills and exercises to improve strength and endurance. A chair and handheld weights or tubing are provided and recommended. You must either sign in as a gym or Silver Sneakers member to take advantage of those classes.

OLLI members will be offered a Max Fitness membership at a special discounted price. Check your insurance to determine if Silver Sneakers is covered at no cost. If not, you can join Max for \$25 monthly, provided you sign a 6-month contract. This OLLI-exclusive package gives full access to the gym, waives the \$49 enrollment fee, reduces the 18-month commitment to 6 months, and reduces the monthly fee by 17%.

David Tillman is a certified Silver Sneakers instructor.

Staged Reading of *Bear County*

Bill Brown, Playwright and Instructor

Dan LaRocque and Daydrie Hague, Directors

Wednesdays | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Participants will read and practice scenes from Brown's captivating play each week, culminating in an OLLI performance on Friday, May 3, from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Bill (William Blake) Brown spent his career in journalism. Since retiring, he has pursued his interests in writing and photography. He is a native of Louisiana and a graduate of LSU.

Dan LaRocque is an Emeritus Professor at Auburn University with expertise in theater. He has directed numerous productions and is a member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA.

Daydrie Hague, an Emeritus Professor at Auburn University, is passionate about performing arts. She has an extensive background in theater. She is a member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA.

Staying Active - Day Hiking

Harold Bruner, Instructor

Thursdays | 8:30 am – 4:00 pm | Meet at Sunny Slope by 8:45 am unless otherwise directed.

Enrollment limit: 25

This class is designed for more advanced hikers and may involve challenging terrain. To join, you should have a moderate fitness level and prior hiking experience at these distances. Hike locations will alternate between Chewacla State Park and the other sites we typically visit. The Chewacla hikes will begin at 8:30. For the out-of-town hikes, we will carpool and leave Sunny Slope at 8:30. The Chewacla hikes will be up to 10 miles with options to exit after 3-4 miles. The out-of-town hikes are often in the 5-10-mile range. Participants typically carpool from Sunny Slope to our out-of-town destinations. At the end of the term, you will be assessed \$5 for each time you ride with the carpool. The money will be distributed among the drivers to offset their expenses.

Required: Demonstration of your hiking proficiency before the first class.

Two hiking poles. A small day pack is suggested.

Harold Bruner has hiked extensively in the U.S. and Canada and, more recently, in northern England. He has led hikes for OLLI for the last six years. As a forestry graduate of Purdue, he worked in the forests of the Midwest for many years. Since moving to Auburn in 2014, he has enjoyed the biodiversity and many hiking opportunities in Alabama.

Spaceflight in the Twenty-First Century

Roger Launius, Instructor

Tuesdays | (5 Sessions – No Class 4/9; 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Pebble Hill

This course delves into space exploration's current state and future trajectory, spanning the years from 2000 to the close of the twenty-first century. The exploration journey will extend from the recent past into a future approximately 75 years distant.

Roger D. Launius, former NASA Chief Historian and Associate Director at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, is a renowned author with works like *The Smithsonian History of Space Exploration* (2018) and *Apollo's Legacy* (2019). Noteworthy for his roles in space exploration, including the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, Launius is honored with the NASA Exceptional Service Medal.

Spring Mysteries

Harold Bruner, Coordinator

Tuesdays | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | AUUF

Throughout this course, we will explore several mystery novels and participate in group discussions. A member of the class will lead each discussion. Titles discussed this term include:

A Share in Death by Deborah Crombie (March 26 & April 2 led by Donna Disclafani)

The Body in the Dales by J.R. Ellis (April 9 & 16 led by Elissa Jones)

Relic by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child (April 23 & 30 led by Sam Hurt)

Harold Bruner is a dedicated OLLI member who enjoys exploring a diverse range of books. He has led book discussions for OLLI for a few years and serves on the Executive Committee of the OLLI Advisory Council.

Walk This Way

Bob Banks, Instructor

Thursdays | 8:30 am – 9:30 am | Meet at Auburn Public Library

Enrollment limit: 30

Join us for this weekly program designed to assist you in developing a walking exercise program. Students will meet at Auburn Public Library each Thursday to learn about the benefits of walking. This course is open to novice and veteran walkers.

Bob Banks is an avid runner. He is a retired ALFA insurance professional.

Writing Our Lives

Terry Ley, Instructor

Mondays | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | Pebble Hill

Our lives are like patchwork quilts, writes Richard L. Morgan in *Saving Our Stories: A Legacy We Leave*, and as we age, we detect the patterns we have woven and seek to understand them. Explore your life's patterns and the stories they prompt. Revisit memories, reflect on them, write about them, and share your stories with an empathetic audience of peers.

Suggested Text: *Second Cup: Collected Columns*, Mary Adams Belk

ISBN-10: 0985340495; ISBN-13: 978-0985340490

Terry Ley taught high school English in Iowa before coming to Auburn University, where he was a professor of English education. He has taught Writing Our Lives for OLLI for sixteen years.

Special Interest Groups (SIG):

Any OLLI member, general or academic, may register for a SIG

Book Club (SIG)

Katherine Anderson, Facilitator

Thursdays | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | Sunny Slope Classroom

Join the Book Club SIG with no genre restrictions. Each week, participants present a book summary that has personally impacted them or brought joy. Explore related author works, historical context, and more.

Coffee & Conversation (SIG)

Wednesdays | 8:30 am - 9:00 am | Sunny Slope Kitchen

Join the Coffee & Conversation (SIG) group for lively discussions on various topics. This self-led, member-driven group offers a friendly, social environment for sharing thoughts, insights, and stories. Please note there is no facilitator.

Chess (SIG)

Steve Harrison, Facilitator

Wednesday | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Kitchen

Whether you're a seasoned player or a beginner, join us for friendly matches and strategic gameplay. Limited instruction for beginners is available, and the facilitator provides two chess sets with clocks. Feel free to bring your own set. This is a great opportunity to enhance your skills, challenge opponents, and connect with fellow enthusiasts.

Lunch Buddies (SIG) (Bring Your Own Lunch)

Thursdays | 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | Sunny Slope Kitchen

The Lunch Buddies Special Interest Group (SIG) is a casual and informal social gathering for OLLI members. You can enjoy your lunch, engage in interesting conversations, and socialize with your fellow OLLI members in a relaxed setting. This is a no-facilitator group where you can bring your own lunch, share your thoughts, and embrace the camaraderie of the OLLI community. It's an excellent opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and enjoy the company of others.

(Play) Mah Jongg (SIG)

Kim Scarborough, Facilitator

Tuesdays | 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Sunny Slope Kitchen

Enrollment Limit: 16

You must have had some previous experience playing. **Please note that there won't be any formal instructors available, as this is not a course for learning the game.** It's an opportunity to meet and play with other game enthusiasts. OLLI provides 12 cards and one set, but please bring your own cards and game sets if you have them.

Meditation (SIG)

Leslie Beard, Facilitator

Mondays | 5:00 pm – 6:15 pm | Sunny Slope Annex

The OLLI Meditation SIG meets weekly to meditate and build a supportive community for meditators of all levels and disciplines.

OLLI Presents: Brown Bag Series

BYOL (Bring your own lunch) & learn.

Free and Open to the Public. OLLI Membership is not required.

Wednesdays | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | Pebble Hill

| Date | Presenter | Title/Topic |
|-------------|--|---|
| 3/27/24 | OLLI Annual Meeting | Celebrating 34 Years of Learning & Community |
| 4/3/24 | The Mystic Order of East Alabama Fiction Writers | Mystic Memoirs |
| 4/10/24 | Larry Grinter | Piracy in the Caribbean: Blackbeard, Calico Jack, and Ann Bonny |
| 4/17/24 | Jerry Siegel | The South: People & Place, Photography by Jerry Siegel |
| 4/24/24 | Writing Our Lives course members | Writing Our Lives Showcase |
| 5/1/24 | Bob Stewart | White and Black and Rode All Over: Revelations and Rewards from a Journey into Family History |

****Register for OLLI at Auburn University Spring Courses****

Welcome to OLLI at Auburn University! We are thrilled to offer diverse, exciting, and enriching courses for the upcoming Spring semester. Whether you're looking to pursue a new interest or enhance your existing skills, OLLI has something for everyone.

Important Notes:

- **Registration Period:** Mark your calendar! Registration for the OLLI Winter Courses *begins on February 29, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. and concludes on March 15, 2024.*
- **Membership and Fees:**
 - OLLI Membership is a prerequisite for course enrollment each term, along with a Spring Academic Fee (\$80). If you haven't joined yet, sign up at any time. OLLI Annual Membership is \$50.
 - For Special Interest Groups (SIGS), only OLLI membership is required; no additional Academic Fee is necessary.
- **Membership Term:** Your OLLI Membership spans from August 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024.
- **Course Specifics:** Please review course descriptions for any specific requirements, such as additional materials or a course fee.
- **Registration Support:** If you have any registration inquiries or require assistance, contact the OLLI office at 334-844-3146 or olli@auburn.edu.

Convenient Registration:

Utilize the QR code below to access the registration page directly:



Thank you for choosing OLLI at Auburn University. We look forward to a wonderful Spring term filled with exciting learning opportunities and engaging experiences. Happy learning!