

OLLI

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

25 years

Lifelong Learning Since 1994

JULY 2020

Special Edition



OLLI Online Registration is OPEN | SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS

WHAT IS OLLI ONLINE?

OLLI is an acronym for The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Bradley University, an organization of nearly 1,200 Peoria area residents who are at least 50 years old and who want to stay vital and active as they reach and enjoy retirement. One of the best ways to do that is to keep learning, and OLLI offers many options to do so.

OLLI Online provides many virtual learning experiences delivered via Zoom, a free and easy to use video conferencing software. Meeting “live” via Zoom allows learning to continue from the comfort and safety of our own homes until we can meet in person again. Please review our current program options so you can pick what best fits your learning preferences and interests:

- **Introduction to Zoom** sessions help our members learn how to use the software on their computers, tablets, or smart phones. Led by a volunteer OLLI instructor and offered free of charge to all, our goal is to help you feel comfortable with the technology so you’ll enjoy your experience with OLLI Online.
- **OLLI Virtual Classes** are lecture-based courses during which the instructor delivers the learning material with the opportunity for participants to ask questions either during or after the presentation. OLLI Virtual Classes have been offered the first four Wednesdays of May, June, and will continue in July, August, September, and October. OLLI Virtual Classes meet at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. for one hour.

- **OLLI Virtual Study Groups** are participation-based; the facilitator delivers core learning material, but all participants learn by sharing. OLLI Virtual Study Groups usually have an expectation of reading, watching a video, or other independent study outside of each session. Each group starts at various times throughout each month, and usually meet for 1.5 hours to 2 hours for four to six weeks. Seats are usually limited to 15 to 25 participants so that everyone has an opportunity to actively participate.
- **OLLI Virtual Learning Trips** to restaurants and area attractions are opportunities to get behind-the-scenes looks at local businesses. Some include a curbside meal pick-up, followed by a virtual presentation by the chef / owner the next day.
- **OLLI Virtual Conversations** are exclusive talks with local leaders and businesses from the community and beyond. These one-hour sessions are a great way to keep informed about specific topics, governmental updates, or business organizations.
- **OLLI Virtual Happy Hour** is a free social time hosted by an OLLI volunteer twice a month. Each happy hour has a theme, but it’s not necessary to share – just pop in and enjoy!

REGISTER TODAY

OLLI Online is open for registration now – visit our website to sign up for our July programs:

Bradley.edu/olli

Once you’ve registered we’ll send you a confirmation email and direct links to each program prior to its start date.

If you need assistance, please email staff at olli@bradley.edu or call (309) 677-3900 and leave a voicemail. We’ll be happy to assist you.



A LETTER FROM YOUR OLLI PRESIDENT

“I never imagined ...” is how many of us describe what the past few months have been like.

For OLLI at Bradley, the past few months have been all about our pivot from 100% face-to-face programming to 100% virtual programming through Zoom – a pivot that took less than four weeks.

In this first virtual brochure for our July 2020 programs, you’ll find descriptions for some intriguing programs bound to capture your attention in the hot days of summer.

Besides virtual classes, study groups, trips, and originals, we’re pleased to offer free Zoom training and happy hours so we can continue to socialize as a community.

Since we last met, the Continuing Education staff closed out OLLI’s 2019-2020 fundraising year, and the results are simply incredible. We raised \$86,000 last year, far surpassing our goal of \$55,000. There’s even more good news! Our overall donor rate reached 43%, meaning more than 500 people gave to our learning community in the past year.

We simply can’t thank you enough for your support. Whether you give a little or you give a lot, the fact that you support our OLLI means the world to all of us.

We’ve got big plans for our 2020-2021 fundraising year, and we will have lots more information for you in this space next month.

Finally, this summer wraps up OLLI’s 25th anniversary year. It is an honor for me to help launch OLLI into our next quarter century. Until we can be together again, please have a safe and healthy July!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Amdall". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

John Amdall,
johnamdall@mtco.com
OLLI President

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OLLI Online will feature new programs each month. Registrations will be accepted for most of our programs up to 24 hours before the start time. We’ll produce an online brochure at the end of July, August, and September. You can find the brochure on our website, Bradley.edu/olli, and we’ll also include links in our twice-weekly email newsletter.



OLLI members discuss the issues in Anni Reinking's "Evicted" study group.

VIRTUAL CLASSES

You can sign up for one, two, three, or all four OLLI Virtual Classes. Each class is one hour long and meets the first four Wednesdays of the month. Registration closes on Monday, June 29 at 4:00 p.m.

1. Ian Fleming: The Man Behind James Bond 9:00 a.m.

We will study the personal and professional life of Ian Fleming, the author who created super spy James Bond. Participants will learn about Fleming's wealthy upbringing, his destructive lifestyle, his military career in MI-6, and his literary creation of one of the most recognizable names in pop culture, James Bond.

\$20 per person – Class instructor is Chuck Collins, member of the Ian Fleming Foundation.

2. Planck, Einstein, and Bohr: Leading Up to Quantum Mechanics 11:00 a.m.

Between 1800 and 1925, scientists such as Planck, Einstein, and Bohr discovered problems with light and atoms that could not be explained with classical physics (think Newton and the apple). Solutions to these problems would later be discovered through the development of quantum mechanics. You don't need to be a physicist to enjoy this class!

\$20 per person – Class instructor is Walter Urbaniak, retired computer networking engineer with an interest in quantum mechanics.

3. 21st Century Policing: Community Engagement with Law Enforcement 1:00 p.m.

This class will introduce you to contemporary policing and will demonstrate principles of engaging with your local law enforcement officials. Exposure to leadership principles adopted by these officials will allow insight into how local, state, and federal agencies interact effectively with their communities.

\$20 per person – Class instructor is Supervisory Special Agent Chris Anglin, an instructor for the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Quantico.

4. Organize and Downsize 3:00 p.m.

Are you tired of dealing with clutter? Now that you are quarantined with some extra time on your hands, let's use it to downsize! This class, back by popular demand, covers organizing and downsizing basics, including why letting go is so hard, how to manage paper, and strategies to reach your home organizing goals. Participants can immediately apply these techniques as "homework," and class discussions will provide opportunities to make progress and learn from one another.

\$20 per person – Class instructor is Kate Varness, owner of Green Light Organizing and Coaching.



Carol Morrissey and Phyllis Baylor enjoy a moment of social time together before class.

VIRTUAL OLLI ORIGINALS

Virtual OLLI Originals are one hour learning experiences featuring a wide range of topics presented by community leaders, authors, and guest speakers outside of the Peoria area. These events have a modest cost, thanks in part to donations by OLLI members.

1. John Morris, President and CEO, Peoria Riverfront Museum

Friday, July 10, 3:30 p.m.

\$10 per person

John Morris will discuss how COVID-19 has impacted the operations of the Peoria Riverfront Museum, and talk about his plan for programming in 2020.

2. State of the OLLI

Thursday, July 16, 1:00 p.m.

FREE

Sign up for this insider's look at the short- and long-term plans for OLLI at Bradley University. Continuing Education staff and OLLI President John Amdall will provide this update and let you know what you can look forward to in 2020 and beyond.

3. Tom Bride, Peoria County Election Commission

Friday, July 17, 2:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Tom Bride, Executive Director of the Peoria County Election Commission, will discuss how the new commission, formed as a result of a county-wide referendum, keeps elections secure.

4. Haunting Paris author Mamta Chaudhry

Tuesday, July 21, 1:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Chaudhry's busy career has taken her from television and radio stints to published fiction, poetry, and feature writing. With the release of her debut book, *Haunting Paris*, she adds the label of "novelist" to her achievements. She'll discuss how her novel portrays how a place can hold so much beauty and tragedy at the same time. Learn more at MamtaChaudhry.com

Randy Hubbard, facilitator of OLLI's Leonardo da Vinci study group explores the exhibit at the Peoria Riverfront Museum.

5. Sheila Simon, former Lieutenant Governor of Illinois

Thursday, July 23, 9:30 a.m.

\$10 per person

Simon, now a professor of law at Southern Illinois University, will discuss her background of public service and Governor Pritzker's stay-at-home order.

6. Don Johnson, Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois

Friday, July 24, 3:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Johnson, President of Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, will provide insight on how COVID-19 has impacted its donation and distribution process. He'll also discuss some of Goodwill's other services, including the General Wayne A. Downing Home for Veterans, youth mentoring, and job search assistance.

7. Judge Joe Billy McDade, Senior District Judge United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois

Wednesday, July 29, 3:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Judge McDade is a Bradley alumnus who was appointed to the federal bench by President George H. W. Bush. He will discuss his four decades of judicial experience and his enduring commitment to civil rights and education.

8. Greg Birkland, KDB Group

Friday, July 31, 3:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Birkland, President of the KDB Group, will discuss the company's recent investments in the Peoria area, including the new Betty Jayne Brimmer Center for the Performing Arts, Scottish Rite Cathedral, Al Fresco Park, and Sankoty Lakes Resort and Retreat.



VIRTUAL STUDY GROUPS

Study Groups offer an opportunity to investigate a topic in depth. Most study groups typically meet once a week for four to six weeks.

1. Beyond Google Search: A Look at the Other Google Products You Cannot Live Without Mondays, July 6 – 27, 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Everyone knows about Google. In fact, “google” is now a verb, meaning “search the internet.” Searching via Google is free, and is one of many tools Google offers to simplify, manage, and share information. John Amdall will share what he has learned about Google products and how to use them for specific applications. A PC or tablet will help participants explore these tools during the study group. Links to documents (virtual handouts) will be provided. \$25 – Facilitated by John Amdall, OLLI President and frequent class instructor and study group facilitator.

2. Kevin Barry Short Story Redux Tuesdays, July 7 – 28, 9:30 – 11:30 am

In this study group, we will examine several of the short stories in Irish author Kevin Barry’s award-winning book, *There Are Many Kingdoms*. Through group discussion, we’ll learn the various ways the author uses characters, plot, and detail to connect with the readers’ senses. Barry is inspired by what he refers to as the “perfectly tuned comic sentence,” and, as we will discover, applies it frequently to the conflicts, resolutions, and epiphanies in each of his stories. Participants should be willing to obtain a copy of the book (available at local and online retailers and libraries), reflectively read two short stories each week, and be tolerant of Barry’s sometimes ribald language. \$25 – Facilitated by Greg Peine, Caterpillar retiree, OLLI volunteer, and frequent study group facilitator.

3. The Body: A Guide for Occupants Fridays, July 17 – August 2, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Bill Bryson, the prize-winning author of *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, has done it again. His newest book, *The Body: A Guide for Occupants*, is an irreverent tour of the human body, full of extraordinary facts and astonishing stories. For those of us who haven’t had a biology class in ages, Bryson gives an excellent overview of what is known about all our different body parts and bodily functions. Participants should obtain and read the book, available at local and online retailers and libraries. We will discuss the insights and questions it raises, deepening our understanding of the human body, how it functions, and its remarkable ability to heal itself. \$25 – Facilitated by Tom Pilat, retired dean and biology professor at Illinois Central College.

4. Beautiful Losers

Tuesdays, July 28 – September 1, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

OLLI is inviting you to the Oscars and we’re going to cause trouble! Randy Wilson and Gary Nelson have selected six films which they believe should have won the Best Picture Oscar but did not. They will ask each participant to watch the selected movie during the week (all are available at the library, DVD rental stores, or streaming via Amazon, YouTube movies, iTunes and Redbox for \$3.99 or less) and then engage in a discussion about the movie and its back story AND to discuss whether the selected film was deserving of the Best Picture Oscar, whether the picture that won was correctly honored, or whether there was another film from that year which should have been awarded the Oscar. This promises to bring back memories and stories from our own lives as we drift through the times when we first saw these movies and how they affected us. Please join us on this journey for a fun and spirited discussion.

July 28 - *2001: A Space Odyssey* over *Oliver!* (1968)

August 4 - *All The President’s Men* over *Rocky* (1976)

August 11 - *The Last Picture Show* over *The French Connection* (1971)

August 18 - *Breaking Away* over *Kramer v. Kramer* (1979)

August 25 – *Dr. Zhivago* over *The Sound Of Music* (1965)

September 1- *Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid* over *Midnight Cowboy* (1969)

\$25 – Facilitated by Randy Wilson and Gary Nelson, frequent OLLI study group facilitators and film aficionados.



Charity Monroe speaks to an OLLI group prior to screening the documentary “Maiden” at the Peoria Riverfront Museum’s Giant Screen.

VIRTUAL TRIPS

Virtual trips offer a chance to interact with experts who offer behind-the-scenes looks at area businesses, organizations, and even regional attractions.

This July, you can enjoy a delicious dinner from an area restaurant and enjoy a virtual visit behind-the-scenes with the owner or chef.

OLLI will take care of all the details. We'll even help with curbside pickup and bring dinner directly to your car at the designated time. The next day, the restaurant will host a private virtual presentation, available only to those who have registered for the event. During the presentation, the owner and/or chef will discuss how our dinners were prepared, and talk about how the business is handling orders during the state's stay-at-home order.

Your \$30 fee includes dinner, gratuities, and online virtual visit. Please check your email for any updated information on menus and pickup times.

1. Kelleher's with Pat Sullivan

Menu: Baked fish with a white wine sauce, roasted red potatoes and broccoli sprinkled with Parmesan cheese.
 Wednesday, July 1 – dinner pickup 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday, July 2 – virtual presentation at 10:00 a.m.
 \$30 per person

2. The Edge with Chef Dustin

Menu: Garganelli and meatballs in fresh tomato sauce with homemade bread.
 Wednesday, July 8 – dinner pickup 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
 Thursday, July 9 – virtual presentation at 2:30 p.m.
 \$30 per person

3. Obed & Isaacs with Court Conn

Menu: TBD
 Wednesday, July 22 – dinner pickup TBD
 Thursday, July 23 – virtual presentation TBD
 \$30 per person

4. EastPort Basta with Bill and Kathy Backes

Menu: TBD
 Wednesday, July 29 – dinner pickup TBD
 Thursday, July 30 – virtual presentation TBD
 \$30 per person

FREE VIRTUAL HAPPY HOURS



We all know it's incredibly important to stay connected, but we can't interact in person as much anymore. Thanks to technology, however we can still hang out and have a virtual happy hour. Each

OLLI Happy Hour has a discussion, it's a great way to meet and connect with other OLLI members in a relaxed setting, theme, even if you prefer not to share on a particular topic, it's a great time to learn new things.

1. July 7, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Bucket List: Where would you like to go or what would you like to accomplish? Share your collection of goals, dreams, and things you've already checked off. Get inspired by fellow OLLI members who may just give you another item to add to your Bucket List!

2. July 21, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

YouTube: It's one of the most popular sites online, with visitors watching around six billion hours of video every month. Find out what your OLLI friends are tuning in to and share your favorite YouTube video. Never tried YouTube? No worries! Just relax and socialize.



FREE ZOOM TRAINING

OLLI Online uses Zoom, a popular video conferencing software, because it's so easy to use and allow individuals to meet "face-to-face" when meeting in person isn't possible.

You may access Zoom on a PC, Mac, tablet, or smart phone. OLLI has had great success in assisting our members get used to this new way to meet. Please register for one of our five free upcoming training sessions:

- Thursday, July 2 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 9 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 16 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 23 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 30 at 1:00 p.m.

OLLI'S PROGRAMMING VOLUNTEERS

OLLI volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization – thank you all very much!

Officers 2020 - 2021

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Continuing Education Staff

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Catherine Lawless, Interim Associate Director
Christy Haeffele, Interim Program Director
Gwen Howarter, Program Coordinator
Diana Klein, Program Coordinator
Bonnie Davis, Administrative Support
Debbie Finnegan, Administrative Support
Dani Schenkel, Administrative Support

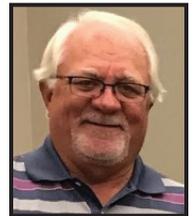
SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH OUR PROGRAM CHAIRS



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CONNECT WITH OLLI!



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