



FALL 2024 COURSES

History • Music • Health & Wellness
Theater • Literature & Writing • Law
Social Sciences • Politics & Public Affairs
Fine Arts • Science & Technology

37 COURSES

- 16 in-person
- 14 virtual
- 7 hybrid

NEW

- 28 Courses
- 9 Instructors



**Encore
Learning**
Expand your world

Fall 2024 Course Offerings

CATEGORY	COURSE # AND NAME	INSTRUCTOR	DAY	DATE	TIME	SITE
Fine Arts, Theater & Music	1050 – Silent Clowns	Gorsky	M	9/30 – 10/28	2:00 – 4:00 PM	GMU
	1051v – Celebrating Vocal Harmony Groups	Agron	W	11/6 – 12/18	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual
Health & Wellness	2003 – Estate Planning: Basics and Beyond	Parks	T	11/12 – 12/10	10:00 – 11:30 AM	FCC
	2022 – Understanding the Encore Years	Joyce	T	10/8 – 11/19	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Hybrid
	2023 – Pursuit of Purpose in Life	Arciero	F	10/11 – 11/1	12:00 – 1:30 PM	GMU
History	3047 – Early American History	Grefer	M	10/21 – 12/2	2:00 – 3:30 PM	GMU
	3070 – Walks With 'The Rambler'	Suydam	F	10/11 – 11/8	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Various
	3072v – Ancient Greece 2	Wukitsch	T	10/1 – 12/10	12:00 – 2:00 PM	Virtual
	3073 – Art and History - CANCELLED					
	3074 – Political Crises of the 1850s	Anbinder	W	10/2 – 12/11	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Hybrid
	3075 – World War II	Gartman	M	10/21 – 12/2	12:00 – 1:30 PM	GMU
	3076 – Arlington's Quest for Racial Equality	Fogarty	T	10/8 – 10/29	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Hybrid
Law, Politics & Public Affairs	4011v – Justice, Public Safety, and Reentry	Jones Valderrama	TH	10/10 – 11/14	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Virtual
	4041v – Religion and the American Presidency	Thomson	TH	10/31 – 12/13	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Virtual
	4051 – Poverty and the American Dream	Vor der Bruegge	W	10/16 – 11/13	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Hybrid
	4052v – Align Your Money With Your Values	Richardson	TH	10/3 – 10/31	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual
	4053 – First Amendment/Free Press	Policinski	W	11/6 – 12/4	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Hybrid
	4054 – Beyond the Russian-Ukraine War	Kauzlarich	W	11/13 – 12/11	10:00 – 11:30 AM	GMU
Literature & Writing	5051v – Shakespeare's King Henry IV, Part 1	Manteuffel	T	11/12 – 12/3	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Virtual
	5052 – Poetry: All You Really Need to Know	Sullivan	T	10/15 – 11/26	12:00 – 1:30 PM	GMU
	5054 – Demon Copperhead	Jann	W	10/23 – 11/13	10:00 – 11:30 AM	GMU
	5055v – Five Tales by Henry James	Pfordresher	W	10/30 – 11/20	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual
	5056 – Where Shall Wisdom Be Found? (Job 28:12)	Burns	T	10/8 – 11/12	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Hybrid
	5057 – Political Shakespeare	Alter	F	10/11 – 11/15	2:00 – 3:30 PM	GMU
	5058v – Eight Modern British Poets - CANCELLED					
	5059v – American and British Women Writers	Auten	F	10/18 – 12/13	10:00 – 12:00 PM	Virtual
Science & Technology	6026 – Science and Data and Stats – Oh My!	Stutts	W	11/6 – 12/4	2:00 – 3:30 PM	GMU
	6028 – Neuroscience of the Senses	Berg	W	10/2 – 12/11	10:00 – 11:30 AM	GMU
	6031 – Introduction to Fall Birding	Multiple	T	10/8 – 10/29	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Various
	6031 – Introduction to Fall Birding	Multiple	TH	10/10 – 10/31	10:00 – 11:30 AM	Various
	6032 – Becoming a Space-Faring Civilization	Summers	F	11/8 – 12/6	2:00 – 3:30 PM	GMU
	6033v – Jaguars, Amazon, Pantanal & Climate	Perz	M	9/30 – 11/4	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual
	6034v – Hearing Science and Audiology	Reinhart	F	11/8 – 12/6	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual
	6035v – Technology Hot Spots	Multiple	TH	10/24 – 11/21	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Virtual
	6036v – Technology Worries Beyond AI	Ruth	M	11/18 – 12/9	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual
	6037 – Future Science	Albro	F	10/25 – 12/6	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Hybrid
Social Sciences	7008 – Numbers, News and Neural Networks	Shapiro	T	10/8 – 10/29	12:00 – 1:30 PM	GMU
	7036v – Warren Buffett, The Oracle of Omaha	Vance	TH	11/7 – 12/5	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Virtual



2024 FALL SEMESTER

September 30 – December 13

Wide variety of courses offered:

- Monday through Friday
- 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM or 2:00 PM

Registration Begins

10:00 AM on Monday, September 9, 2024

Check the online catalog for the most recent course updates:
<https://encorelearning.asapconnected.com/#CourseIndex>



“I would be lost without Encore Learning. It provides intellectual stimulation and information on a variety of subjects in which I have interest or which I need to navigate retirement and maturity. I have relied on Encore Learning for many years to enrich my life.”

— Member Testimonial



VIRTUAL COURSE PREVIEW

Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 9:30 AM

Join us as Encore Learning Instructors talk about their upcoming classes. Whether you are a current member or thinking about joining, Encore Learning invites you to find out more about what's coming in the Fall!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Zoom Link: us02web.zoom.us/j/88937066600

Zoom Webinar ID: 889 3706 6600



General Information

For more information go to our website at www.encorelearning.net



What is Encore Learning?

Encore Learning, a nonprofit educational organization founded in 2002, offers a wide variety of daytime college-level noncredit courses, clubs, special events and activities to help meet the continuing educational and social interests of anyone over age 50. Encore Learning is governed, supported and financed by its members. Our volunteer instructors create a stimulating learning environment through an exciting array of academic subjects. There are no tests or prerequisites but often some suggested reading. Encore Learning receives valuable assistance through alliances with George Mason University, the Arlington Public Schools Adult Education Program, Arlington County's Office of Senior Adult Programs and Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Center.

Encore Learning Membership

Membership in Encore Learning costs \$65 per year and begins on the day on which the *nonrefundable* membership fee is paid. Membership renewal adds 12 months to the membership expiration date, which can always be found by logging in to your account online.

Your membership fee is a charitable contribution deductible from income taxes to the full extent permitted by law. All memberships are individual and non-transferable. All memberships are processed online. To join select JOIN at our website www.EncoreLearning.net.

Semester-Long Courses

Encore Learning will hold virtual (via Zoom), hybrid and in-person courses at George Mason's Arlington Campus and other locations for Fall 2024.

Classes are scheduled weekdays between 10:00 AM and 3:30 PM. Classes meet once a week for 1.5 to 2 hours and each course lasts from four to 10 weeks. Class sizes generally range from 15 to 95.

For virtual courses, you will need a computer, tablet or phone. Courses will vary in format depending on class size and content, with some having ongoing discussion and others reserving questions for the end of class.

Instructions for connecting to each Zoom course will be provided prior to the start of the course.

Course Previews

Encore Learning's spring and fall course previews offer an opportunity for members to hear the instructors describe their courses before course registration begins. Prospective members are also welcomed.

Course Registration

Course registration is open only to current Encore Learning members. The fee for each course is \$55 and is *not* transferable. All course registrations are processed online via our website. Course registration for the Fall 2024 semester begins at 10:00 AM Monday, September 9, 2024.

All registrations are *first-come, first-served*; waitlists for filled courses are available online. Members get immediate feedback on their registration status upon payment and receive an emailed receipt, including any waitlist status. To register, go to our website and select REGISTER FOR COURSES/EVENTS.

The registration for a course is not meant to be shared. If any other individual is going to participate in the course with you, they must also register for the course.

Refund of course registration fees is available under certain circumstances. Please visit www.encorelearning.net/about/policies for more detailed information.

Members may also transfer their course registration to another course with available space.

Clubs

Encore Learning's clubs are open to all current members. There are eleven clubs: Breakfast, Bridge, Chamber Music, Cinema, Current Issues Discussion, Global Lunch, Kayak, Mindfulness, Nonfiction Book, Tech Hobbyist and Travel. For information about club activities, please visit our website and click on CLUBS.

General Information *continued*

Special Events

Special Events include the Encore Learning Presents Series that are free and open to the public. These one-time lectures, panel presentations or films are presented online. Virtual and in-person member tours are also planned. For information about Special Events, please visit our website and click on EVENTS.

Membership Meeting

Encore Learning holds an annual membership meeting to elect a board of directors from a slate of candidates recruited by a nominating committee and to discuss the state of the organization. All current members will be notified of candidates for election to the board and receive a ballot to complete online. Membership Meetings are generally held in May.

Volunteer at Encore Learning

Volunteers are the backbone of Encore Learning and work in conjunction with the organization's part-time staff. There are a number of ways to get involved, whether by becoming a class aide, an instructor or organizing special events. For more information on volunteering, please visit our website and click on VOLUNTEER.

Support Encore Learning

Encore Learning is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Any donation is a charitable contribution deductible from income taxes to the full extent permitted by law. Members, friends and organizations wishing to support Encore Learning may direct their contributions to our General Fund or to one of the many scholarship funds sponsored by Encore Learning. For more details on Encore Learning scholarships, please visit our website and search for 'scholarships'.

Encore Learning Policies

Encore Learning is a non-profit, equal opportunity organization without regard to sex, race, color, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. To learn more about all of Encore Learning's policies, please visit encorelearning.net/about/policies.

Contact Encore Learning

Communicating with Encore Learning is easy, email: info@encorelearning.net
Leave a voice message: 703-228-2144



REVIEW/UPDATE

your account information online before registration begins on September 9.

- Note your password for easy access to your account on registration day.
- Choose your desired courses before logging in to register on September 9.
- Register online at 10:00 AM Monday, September 9 for your best chance at a seat in a popular course.
- Opt for a course waitlist if the course is filled.
- Complete your online registration and payment within 20 minutes.
- Sit back and wait for classes to begin.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions



Fine Arts, Theater & Music

1050 Silent Clowns

 Instructor: Jeffrey Gorsky

Monday 2:00 – 4:00 PM

9/30 – 10/28 (No class 10/14)


Sessions: 4; Location: GMU


This course explores the great comedies of the silent film era. We will look at the lives and works of the great silent comics, as illustrated in film clips from their greatest films in six sessions:



1. An overview on the nature of silent comedy and the history of the earliest films, with clips from the movies of Mack Sennett and the Keystone Kops as well as Mabel Normand and Fatty Arbuckle.
2. The short films from the early career of Charlie Chaplin.
3. Buster Keaton's short films from his early years, including clips from One Week and Cops.
4. The feature films of Chaplin from later in his career, with clips from The Gold Rush, City Lights and Modern Times.
5. Keaton's feature films from later in his career, with clips from Sherlock, Jr., The Navigator, and The General.
6. Harold Lloyd and his silent films, with clips from Safety Last, The Freshman, and Kid Brother.

Jeffrey Gorsky is a long-time silent comedy buff and has collected silent comedies since the days of 8mm film.

This semester's offering includes virtual courses taught on Zoom, in-person courses at George Mason University's Mason Square, offsite courses at various locations around Arlington, and hybrid courses which will be simultaneously taught virtually and in-person. All hybrid classes will have two registration options; either in-person at GMU or virtual on Zoom.

 Virtual classes are noted with the Zoom icon.

 In-person classes are noted with the people icon.

  Hybrid classes are noted with both icons.

A select number of virtual courses will be recorded based on the course format and instructor preference. Please check the online catalog in the fall for more information on which courses will be recorded.

Check the online catalog for the most recent course updates and easy access to recommended websites: <https://encorelearning.asapconnected.com/#CourseIndex>

FALL REGISTRATION BEGINS

10:00 AM Monday,
September 9, 2024

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

1051 Celebrating Vocal Harmony Groups

 Instructor: Michael Agron

Wednesday 12:00 – 1:30 PM
11/6 – 12/18 (No class 11/27)
Sessions: 6; Location: Virtual

Join us for a multimedia celebration of vocal harmony, where duos, trios and groups harmonize across multiple genres, creating unforgettable performances. Immerse yourself in the rhythmic swing of Big Band, Jazz, Rock, Doo-Wop, Folk, and Country as well as the soulful melodies of Motown and Gospel.

Explore the fascinating backstories of over 75 tracks from 60 iconic groups including The Andrew Sisters; Glenn Miller and The Modernaires; The Four Freshmen; The Everly Brothers; Dion and The Belmonts; The Beach Boys; Simon & Garfunkel; Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; The Temptations; and many more. Uncover their influences and legacies while enjoying their timeless music.

Michael Agron grew up in Los Angeles, the heart of the recording and entertainment industry. He loved music so much that he wanted to become a recording engineer, but fate had different plans. He has fulfilled his musical and entertainment passions by offering popular seminars to older adults at The Renaissance Society at California State University, Sacramento, and numerous Osher Lifelong Learning organizations across the country.



**Join, Renew,
Update
or Register**

GO TO [EncoreLearning.net](https://www.encorelearning.net)
and click on **MEMBERSHIP**.

If you need help, click on
HELP/FAQs.



Health & Wellness

2003 Estate Planning: Basics and Beyond

 Instructor: Sarah Parks

Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM
11/12 – 12/10 (No class 11/26)

Sessions: 4; Location: Fairlington Community Center

Become proactive in planning your estate and avoid the pitfalls of having no plan in place. The instructor will explain estate planning basics in plain English and present options so that participants can decide which approach is best for them. She will point out potential problems with some types of plans. This class will cover the following:

- 1. Overview:** Wills, trusts, powers of attorney and medical directives; basics of the probate system and ways to avoid probate.
- 2. Trusts:** What they are, how they work and different types. A revocable trust has become the most popular way to plan an estate.
- 3. Funding a Living Trust:** A trust is effective only for assets transferred to the trust. This session will explain which assets go into a trust and how to fund it.
- 4. Advance Health Care Directives:** Making end-of-life healthcare decisions for yourself in advance reduces the possibility of conflict among family members. This session will cover how advance directives work and the options within a directive and also discuss hospice and medical assistance in dying.

Sarah Parks is an attorney who limits her practice to estate planning and has been doing it for almost 30 years. She earned a JD degree from George Mason University Law School and an LLM from Georgetown University.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

2022 Understanding the Encore Years

 Instructor: Peter Joyce

Tuesday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

10/8 – 11/19 (No class 11/5)

Sessions: 6; Location: Hybrid

This course will help you understand and prepare for your “Encore Years,” a distinctive chapter in life for those between 50 and 75 years of age. There will be information for those just entering it as well as those already in it. The seven sessions will cover salient topics like preparing for change, finding resilience in your strengths, identifying happiness and exploring faith. There will be thought-provoking presentations, interactive activities and inspiring guest speakers. The course will guide participants as they design or update personal plans in this new phase of life.

Week 1: Review what is being called the “Third Chapter” or “Encore Years,” redefining our views about aging and challenging current cultural definitions of strength, maturity and power.

Week 2: Look at your strengths and consider ways to best leverage your skills and knowledge.

Week 3: Craft a plan or adjust current plans as your priorities or circumstances change to incorporate what matters most.

Week 4: Explore the science of happiness and the importance of personal relationships, meaningful activities, gratitude and moral character in achieving lasting happiness and fulfillment.

Week 5: Discuss the basics of faith (religious, spiritual or philosophical) and the positive impact of intentional practices.

Week 6: Consider the significance of brain health, wellness and fitness, including insights, research and strategies.

Week 7: Enjoy discussion with guest speakers on topics covered in the course.


Independent Reading: The Third Chapter: Passion, Risk, and Adventure in the 25 Years After 50, Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot; Prime Time: How Baby Boomers Will

Revolutionize Retirement and Transform America, Marc Freedman; Build the Life You Want: The Art and Science of Getting Happier, Arthur Brooks and Oprah Winfrey.

Recommended Media: The Third Chapter: Passion, Risk, and Adventure in the 25 Years after 50, Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot
www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIGgBLpzqrU

Peter Joyce is an educator of 40-plus years including time as a science teacher, state/national policymaker, tech workforce manager, international development project designer, and diplomat in Nairobi, Kenya. He earned his PhD at Harvard University, where career management and retirement were never discussed. He looks forward to working with a passionate group of people who want to think through their next chapter in life.

2023 Pursuit of Purpose in Life

 Instructor: Anthony Arciero

Friday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

10/11 – 11/1

Sessions 4; Location: GMU

At any age, we can commit to discovering and pursuing our purpose in life. There is a robust science behind the pursuit of meaning and purpose. For example, research suggests that as few as 20 percent of people ever figure out a life purpose. This course will begin by discussing how doing that can contribute to our overall happiness and well-being. We will spend the rest of the time on exercises to assess ourselves and develop our unique life purposes. The instructor will identify supplementary readings and videos for those interested in the science underlying the pursuit of purpose, the philosophical history of the search for meaning and additional techniques to increase our sense of well-being.


Anthony Arciero has taught psychology and leadership at Virginia Military Institute and human development, theories of learning and motivation at George Mason University, where he earned his PhD.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*



History

3047 Early American History: Conception to Adolescence

 Instructor: James Grefer

Monday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

10/21 – 12/2 (No class 11/11)

Sessions 6; Location: GMU

If you want to know someone, find out where they came from and how they grew up. It is the same for a country. A nation's conception, birth and development through adolescence and adulthood will tell you much of what it and its people are about and how they think. This metaphor can be used to describe the early history of the United States, conceived and born in the decades before and during the Revolutionary War. The nation grew through its First Congress, industrial development, expansion to the Mississippi River, regional conflict and war – from childhood to adolescence.

This course will employ this metaphor, along with historical and economic narratives, pictures, data and charts, to tell the story of 100 years of early American history from the French and Indian War to the start of the Civil War.

Along the way, we will answer such questions as:

- Why did the American colonies, both economically and politically aligned with Great Britain, decide to seek independence?
- How did America's constitution and political system develop the way they did?
- How did the United States become a nation with three very different economic systems?
- How did slavery become institutionalized in the American economic system and why in the South but not in the North?
- How did regional economic and cultural differences turn into sectionalism and conflict?
- What was (or were) the cause (or causes) of Confederate secession? Why did this lead to the Civil War?

James Grefer is a retired economist who spent 25 years conducting economic research for defense contractor CNA. Along the way, he developed a keen interest in American history and use of economic methods to get to the core of historical events.

3070 Walks With 'The Rambler'

 Instructor: Marty Suydam

Friday 10:00 – 11:30 AM

10/11 – 11/8

Sessions: 5; Location: Various Locations

When writing *Walks with Charley*, a book that is part memoir and part 2020s hindsight-perspective on the history of South Arlington, the author/instructor discovered the work of photographer and newspaper columnist J. Harry Shannon (1869-1928). After becoming a fan, he wove some of Shannon's stories into his book. His research included curating most of Shannon's 650-plus published articles and many others he may have written before his column, "The Rambler," began appearing in *The Washington Sunday Star*.

This course takes The Rambler's 1900s perspective on the same geographic area covered in previous Encore Learning courses led by the instructor. However, instead of walking with his dog Charley, the class will "walk" with The Rambler.

The walks will include: (1) Arlington Ridge, North; (2) Arlington Ridge, South; (3) Lower Four Mile Run; (4) Along the Potomac (Crystal City); and (5) Green Valley (pre-Civil War 1,000-acre plantation, mostly Army Navy Country Club of today). While the walks will cover essentially the same areas as before, most of the material will be new and follow different paths, thus offering some different perspectives, thanks to The Rambler.

Marty Suydam is a retired Army officer, government and corporate executive, and professor. He has published articles in *The Arlington Historical Magazine* and written two history books about Arlington: *Walks with Charley: Sniffing Arlington Ridge History and Mystery*, 3rd ed., and *Walk Four Mile Run: A Chain of Parks*, 2nd ed.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

3072 Ancient Greece 2

 Instructor: Tom Wukitsch

Tuesday 12:00 – 2:00 PM

10/1 – 12/10 (No class 11/5)

Sessions: 10; Location: Virtual

Ancient Greece 2 is the second part of a course offered during the Spring 2024 term. This one covers the Athenian Golden Age that followed the Greco-Persian Wars. We will then look at the Peloponnesian War and its aftermath, the rise of Macedonian power under Philip II of Macedon and his son Alexander III (Alexander the Great), and the Hellenization of the Western world.

Supplemental Materials:

www.mmdtkw.org/ALRItkwPages.html

Tom Wukitsch's fascination with ancient things began while reading his grandparents' collection of National Geographic magazines. Early on, he studied Latin, ancient Greek, ancient Semitic languages and Egyptian hieroglyphs. He earned degrees in Semitic languages, ancient history and archeology/archaeometry. After retiring from a long career in the Foreign Service, he studied and taught in Rome and has led Encore Learning study trips to Egypt, Italy, Turkey, Greece and the Aegean islands.

3073 American Art in the Context of American History

 Instructor: Elly Kluge

Wednesday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

10/2 – 12/4 (No class 11/27)

Sessions: 9; Location: GMU

All of us who live in the Washington, D.C., area are blessed with multiple museums, both public and private. Locals also are privileged to witness history through D.C. architecture. How many of us have stood in front of a work of art and tried to see it within the context of its times? How influenced is each piece by the period when the artist lived? Does our colonial art inform us about the times? Could Andy Warhol have produced his works in 1850? This course is designed to clarify the connection (if any) between artists and the time period when their work was produced. The instructor will display images of paintings in the classroom and explain the historical events when each artwork was produced. Come to class ready to engage in lively discussion and expand your understanding of art and history and how they are related.

Elly Kluge was a high school history teacher at the HB Woodlawn Program in Arlington for 34 years. She has undergraduate and graduate degrees in history and literature and has received numerous post-doctoral grants and awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities and as a Fulbright educator.

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GOT IDEAS

For new courses
or new instructors?

Email them to
[info@encorelearning.net!](mailto:info@encorelearning.net)

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

3074 Political Crises of the 1850s

  Instructor: Tyler Anbinder

Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM

10/2 – 12/11 (No class 10/23 and 11/27)

Sessions: 9; Location: Hybrid

We tend to think that the United States has never been more politically polarized than it is today, but the most divisive decade in all of American history was probably the 1850s. At the beginning of that decade, many Americans believed that the Compromise of 1850 had settled the slavery issue once and for all. Over the course of the next 10 years, however, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Dred Scott decision and John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry brought the nation to the brink of civil war.

This course will recount the dramatic events of the 1850s, starting with the Compromise, then looking at the dissolution of the Whig Party and the concurrent rise of the antislavery Republican Party and anti-immigrant Know Nothing Party. We will witness the struggle between William H. Seward and Salmon P. Chase for control of the Republican organization; and we will learn how both were eventually bested by a lesser-known rival, Abraham Lincoln, who became nationally prominent in his famous debates with Stephen A. Douglas.

The course will conclude with Lincoln's victory in the 1860 presidential election, which led most Southern states to secede and precipitated the Civil War.

Tyler Anbinder was a professor of history for 26 years at George Washington University until his retirement in 2020. At GW, he taught courses in the era of the American Civil War and American immigration history. He is the author of four books: *Nativism and Slavery: The Northern Know Nothings and the Politics of the 1850s*; *Five Points: The Nineteenth-Century New York Neighborhood that Invented Tap Dance, Stole Elections, and Became the World's Most Notorious Slum*; *City of Dreams: The 400-Year Epic History of Immigrant New York*; and most recently *Plentiful Country: The Great Potato Famine and the Making of Irish New York*.

3075 World War II

 Instructor: Eric Gartman

Monday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

10/21 – 12/2 (No class 11/11)

Sessions: 6; Location: GMU

The Second World War was the largest conflict in human history, spanning several continents and involving millions of people, including the people of the United States. In this class, we will examine the origins of the war in Europe and Asia and follow the course of military operations. We will discuss several major issues that continue to be debated, including the degree to which ideological factors played a role in the cause and prosecution of the war, whether Germany and the Axis powers could have won and why the Allies prevailed in the end.

Recommended Reading: A War to Be Won: Fighting the Second World War, Williamson Murray and Allan Millet.

Eric Gartman is a former intelligence analyst for the Department of Defense who studied history and political science as an undergraduate at the University of Arizona. He earned an MA in international relations at the University of Virginia and an MS in strategic intelligence at the National Defense University.

3076 Arlington's Quest for Racial Equality: 100 Names to Know

  Instructor: Bill Fogarty

Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM

10/8 – 10/29

Sessions: 4; Location: Hybrid

With a history-through-biography theme, the instructor will share stories about 100 individuals involved in the struggle for racial equality in Arlington County, dating from 1821 to 1971. Some names are well-known, most can be considered heroes, and others can be described as "influencers" or "resisters."

The stories will start with Charles Syphax, who married Maria Carter in 1821 in the parlor room of historic Arlington House. Both were enslaved at the

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

time by George Washington Parke Custis; Maria was the daughter of Custis and an enslaved maid, Arianna Carter. The stories will end with Eleanor Monroe, who became the first Black school board member in Arlington in 1971. That is the same year in which she was a plaintiff in a federal lawsuit against the school system for its failure to fully integrate 12 years after the initial desegregation of one county school.

The 98 other individuals to be discussed include some familiar politicians such as Bob Peck, a county and school board member during the 1950s and 1960s who is perhaps better known as the owner of Bob Peck Chevrolet. But the emphasis will be on citizens who stepped up to solve a problem, such as Ralph Collins of the Friendly Cab Company.

No list is perfect, and the instructor will welcome nominations from the class of other key influencers.

Bill Fogarty is a retired attorney who has lived and worked in Arlington County for more than 40 years. He is currently exploring different parts of Arlington history. He plans to expand on his Spring 2024 course on "History of Race and Law in Arlington."

VOLUNTEER AS A CLASS AIDE

- Get free parking while attending the class (only for in-person classes).
- Get complimentary course registration for next semester (only for virtual classes).
- Training on use of audio-visual equipment and Zoom.
- Get to know the instructor and your classmates.
- Get to be an integral part of Encore Learning.



Law, Politics & Public Affairs

4011 Justice, Public Safety, and Reentry

 Instructor: Elizabeth Jones Valderrama

Thursday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

10/10 – 11/14

Sessions: 6; Location: Virtual

This class is an introduction to the criminal legal system, public safety, justice and reentry, including the Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) movement. Television, newspapers and the Internet constantly remind us of the vast machinery devoted to enforcing our criminal code, but they explain very little about how it affects the people involved. Founded in 1974, OAR of Arlington, Alexandria and Falls Church is a community-based nonprofit organization that envisions a safe and thriving community where those impacted by the legal system enjoy equal civil and human rights. Through its upstream work, OAR is confronting and dismantling racism at individual and systemic levels. Its downstream work positions OAR to journey with individuals and their families during and after incarceration. OAR also offers alternative sentencing options (including community service) and diversion programs so individuals can avoid the trauma of incarceration and, instead, help the community thrive.

Class participants will meet key officials involved in the criminal legal system, public safety and reentry – Arlington County Police Department, Arlington County Sheriff's Office responsible for the detention facility, Commonwealth's Attorney Office of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church, Arlington County Public Defender's Office, and Arlington courts including Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Probation and Parole. OAR team members will talk about racial disparities within the system as well as collateral consequences.

The course is virtual through Zoom, except for the last class, which will be a two-hour in-person field trip hosted at the OAR office in the courthouse area, including a tour of the county detention facility.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

Recommended Reading: The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, Michelle Alexander; *Race To Incarcerate: A Graphic Retelling*, Marc Mauer and Sabrina Jones; *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, Isabel Wilkerson; *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Ijeoma Oluo; *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*, Richard Rothstein; *One in Five: Racial Disparity in Imprisonment – Causes and Remedies Report: www.sentencingproject.org/publications/one-in-five-racial-disparity-in-imprisonment-causes-and-remedies; U.S. Criminal Justice Data: www.sentencingproject.org/research/us-criminal-justice-data*

Independent Viewing/Listening: 13th, documentary film directed by Ava DuVernay; *Octavia's Parables*, podcast on literary works of Octavia E. Butler, beginning with *The Parable of the Sower* (25 episodes): www.readingoctavia.com/episodes/sower-e1

Elizabeth Jones Valderrama is executive director of OAR of Arlington, Alexandria and Falls Church, where she has worked for more than 19 years. She is a graduate of (then) Washington-Lee High School and the University of Virginia. She earned a master's degree in organizational management and development from the University of Phoenix and is scheduled to complete her studies in 2025 for a doctorate in management focusing on leadership. She currently serves on the Alexandria Community Criminal Justice Board and Arlington County Community Criminal Justice Board and is active in the Pre-Release and Post-Incarceration Services Coalition of Virginia.

4041 Religion and the American Presidency

 **Instructor: Julianna Thomson**

Thursday 10:00 – 11:30 AM
10/31 – 12/13 (No class 11/28)
Sessions: 6; Location: Virtual

This course is about the intersection of religion and politics in the United States from John F. Kennedy to Joe Biden. We will explore how the religious beliefs and practices of American presidents have influenced political decisions, shaped national identity and become a tool for political mobilization.

Religion has been a defining characteristic of the presidency since the nation's founding. We will trace the interrelationship before turning to Kennedy and his successors. The focus will be on major events such as the growth of the Religious Right during the presidency of Ronald Reagan and the development of secularism during the administrations of Barack Obama, Donald Trump and Biden. In the last session, we will look at possible future developments.

Recommended Reading: Religion and the American Presidency, Mark Rozell and Gleaves Whitney, eds.: doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-62175-3; *God in the White House: A History (How Faith Shaped the Presidency from John F. Kennedy to George W. Bush)*, Randall Balmer; *American Gospel: God, the Founding Fathers, and the Making of a Nation*, Jon Meacham.

Julianna Thomson is a PhD student in political science at the George Mason University Schar School of Policy and Government. She earned an MBA from Villanova University and a BA in religion from Dartmouth College.

4051 Poverty and the Myth of the American Dream

  **Instructor: Anne Vor der Bruegge**

Wednesday 2:00 – 3:30 PM
10/16 – 11/13
Sessions: 5; Location: Hybrid

Arlington's vision statement says we are a world class, caring and inclusive community. Yet 10 percent of our population is living in poverty, with tens of thousands more one emergency away from instability and displacement. Not only here but across our country, millions of people work hard, play by the rules, but can barely get by – much less get ahead.

This course will examine economic disparities in Arlington and the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia (DMV) region, along with policies and systems that perpetuate poverty. We will start with data on Arlington, differences based on neighborhoods and demographics, and how lack of truly affordable housing, childcare and living wages affect the overall health of our community.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

Borrowing heavily from the work of Matthew Desmond in his book *Poverty, By America*, we will discuss historic and existing national policies and systems that perpetuate poverty. This includes what Desmond describes as America's unique form of capitalism that aims to guard fortunes rather than spread prosperity. We will look at myths and stereotypes about low-income people versus actual data.

Guest speakers from Arlington's nonprofits, county government and the Arlington Community Foundation's Shared Prosperity Initiative will describe the local safety net, lessons learned during the pandemic, and promising strategies to change systems and structures to allow for increases in income, self-determination and belonging for our lowest-income neighbors.

Anne Vor der Bruegge recently retired from the Arlington Community Foundation, where she led its economic mobility initiatives and demonstration pilots to prevent the displacement of low-income residents. She previously convened Safety Net Arlington, a collaborative group of local human services leaders. She also served on the leadership teams for Arlington's equity initiative, the Arlington Child Care Initiative and the Community Progress Network. She earned an MA in planning and community development from the University of Virginia.

4052 Align Your Money With Your Values

 Instructor: Michael Richardson

Thursday 12:00 – 1:30 PM
10/3 – 10/31 (No class 10/10)
Sessions: 4; Location: Virtual

Are you an environmentally conscious investor – or want to be? This course will provide interactive sessions on how to prevent your investments (bank deposits, credit cards, home/auto insurance premiums, and other investments) from being used to finance the fossil fuel industry and, instead, support local businesses, community housing, and the development of renewable clean energy. The four sessions will focus on:

Personal Banking: If you bank with one of the mega-banks, some of your money is likely being used to fund

ventures causing climate destruction. Learn how to find regional and local community banks and credit unions that use your deposits to fund local ventures and not fossil fuel projects. Simply put: Shop Local – Eat Local – Bank Local.

Credit Cards: If you have a credit card with one of the mega-banks, the money from transaction fees, annual fees and interest on debt is feeding into the money pipeline to finance fossil fuel companies. Learn how to find an alternative credit card.

Home and Auto Insurance: If you insure your home and auto with one of the large national insurance companies, some of your money is likely used to insure and invest in the excavation, production and distribution of oil, tar sands, coal and gas. Learn how to find mutual insurance companies that do not insure nor invest in fossil fuel ventures.

Investments: Most financial institutions are complicit in the climate crisis. Large asset managers – companies that people pay to manage and invest their money – are among the largest investors in fossil fuel companies. Learn about the funds you are now investing in, how to find alternative investments and how to find an environmentally conscious financial adviser.

Supplemental Materials: Participants are encouraged to view the following four-part webinar from Green America co-produced by the instructor.

Banking: www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Omduvlb7Bg

Credit Cards: www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfISjW0dIo8

Home/Auto Insurance:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxPfg-BRGRw

Responsible Investing:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=0IKrIIQ2fSY

Michael Richardson has produced and presented workshops nationwide on the divestment of fossil fuels from personal finances for Green America, GreenFaith, and Third Act. He is co-facilitator of Third Act Upstate New York and is on the steering committee of NY Renew, the force behind the landmark New York State Climate Act. From a varied cache of experiences – including

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

organic farmer, solar heating contractor, labor economist, county legislator, municipal consultant, and Buddhist practitioner – he is committed to bringing attention to the moral imperative to stop funding climate chaos.

4053 First Amendment, A Free Press and Journalism Today

  Instructor: Gene Policinski

Wednesday 2:00 – 3:30 PM
11/6 – 12/4 (No class 11/27)
Sessions: 4; Location: Hybrid

This course will examine the roots of our free press and its First Amendment protection and how U.S. journalism and the free press have evolved through the years. How well or poorly has the free press we have today – in all its media forms – met both modern consumer expectations and its implied constitutional duty in a self-governing society? We will consider the impact of artificial intelligence; the loss of many local, regional and national news outlets as well as working journalists over the past 25 years; ongoing credibility issues such as loss of trust; new kinds of news media; and the picture of financial struggle for both traditional and other media.

Gene Policinski is a senior fellow for the First Amendment at the Freedom Forum, the nonpartisan foundation that works to foster First Amendment freedoms. He has been a journalist for more than five decades; worked in print, radio, TV and online; and is one of the founding editors of USA Today. He is a contributor to *Whistleblowers*, *Leaks and the Media: The First Amendment and National Security*; and is author of the forthcoming *From the Village Green to the Village Screen*, a look at the legal and social evolution of our core freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly and petition.

REMEMBER

check www.EncoreLearning.net for the most up-to-date information!

4054 Implications of Russia-Ukraine War Beyond Ukraine

 Instructor: Richard Kauzlarich

Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM
11/13 – 12/11 (No class 11/27)
Sessions: 4; Location: GMU

Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine continues. No crystal balls tell us what the world will look like, but we can confidently say that the Ukraine war will result in a fundamentally different geopolitical setting for the United States and Russia in the years ahead. Under these circumstances, there will also be consequences in other regions where U.S. and Russian geopolitical interests collide. Without trying to predict the outcome, it is crucial to see how the disruptions caused by the war in Ukraine have affected the possibility of conflict or cooperation in areas at the geographic periphery of Ukraine. We also will consider the role an expanded NATO will play and how these disruptions affect energy security and the quest for clean energy.

Four sessions will delve into these issues, particularly the South Caucasus and Iran, the Balkans and Eastern Europe, along with the impact of an expanded NATO and a disrupted international economic system.

Recommended Reading: “Inevitable Fractures: The Ukraine War and the Global System,” Ashley Tellis, Adapted from “The Ukraine War and Global Cleavages” in “War in Ukraine: Conflict, Strategy, and the Return of a Fractured World; The Impact of the Russo-Ukrainian War on the Broader Region,” www.ponarseurasia.org/policy-memos-list/ebooks

Independent Reading: *Farewell, Aylis, A Non-Traditional Novel in Three Works*, Akram Aylisli, Katherine Young, trans.

Richard Kauzlarich is a distinguished visiting professor in the Schar School of Policy and Government and co-director of the Center for Energy Science and Policy at George Mason University. He was the officer for Europe in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence from 2003 to 2011. He served as U.S. ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1997 to 1999 and Azerbaijan from 1994 to 1997. He was senior deputy to the secretary of state and the president’s special representative to the Newly Independent States from 1993 to 1994.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*



Literature & Writing

5051 Shakespeare's King Henry IV, Part 1

Instructor: Tom Manteuffel

Tuesday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

11/12 – 12/3

Sessions: 4; Location: Virtual

Shakespeare uses the story of Henry Bolingbroke, who deposed Richard II to become King Henry IV, to explore the uses and limits of power, particularly power wrested from a divinely established king. Henry's rule is presented as a struggle, most of all in Henry's fraught relations with his son, Prince Hal. We will examine the play, the characters including the inimitable Falstaff, and Shakespeare's purposes in bending his historical sources to heighten the drama of English history. We will select scenes from several productions of the play to illustrate varied approaches to the story.

Tom Manteuffel is a retired consultant in cybersecurity with a long-term interest in art and history. He has taught classes on the Renaissance in Florence and Northern Europe, Renaissance patrons, French Impressionism, the Book of Job, and American art museums.

5052 Poetry: All You Really Need to Know

Instructor: Jenny Sullivan

Tuesday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

10/15 – 11/26 (No class 11/5)

Sessions: 6; Location: GMU

This course is for two types of people. The first are those who love poetry and would like a chance to increase their appreciation of it with others in an easy-going yet academic atmosphere. But the course is also for the second type: those who just do not "get" poetry and would like to give it one more try. The primary focus will be a poet's use of sound and provocative language to engage and delight the reader.

The instructor says: "I hope to show you poetry lovers some poems you have never encountered, but we will visit classic examples as well. My goal for you valiant folks persevering in your pursuit of understanding poetry is to show you how to do just that and to love the process. It will happen, and it will be fun for all."

Jenny Sullivan taught literature for more than four decades in the Virginia Community College System. She is the author of four books: two academic texts, a novel, and a children's book in verse. She is delighted to offer this course in response to requests from Encore Learning members.

5054 Demon Copperhead: Coming of Age in Southwest Virginia

Instructor: Rosemary Jann

Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM

10/23 – 11/13

Sessions: 4; Location: GMU

Demon Copperhead, which won a Pulitzer Prize for Barbara Kingsolver in 2022, traces the journey of a child struggling toward young manhood in 1990s Appalachia, specifically Lee County, Virginia.

Kingsolver invents a brilliantly caustic, comic voice for *Demon*, equal parts naïve and knowing. She uses his autobiography to reveal the ways that our society fails the most vulnerable but also to build empathy for a spunky underdog who beats the odds. *Demon's* suffering is raw and persistent, but his instinct for survival drives him to a hopeful future. While her novel indicts the failings of Appalachian culture, it also explores its exploitation and writes a love letter to its strengths.

Demon Copperhead is inspired by, and written in conversation with, Charles Dickens' *David Copperfield*. Although it is not necessary for class participants to have read it, familiarity with Dickens' novel will increase their appreciation of how Kingsolver both mirrors and reimagines it for a different era, class and culture. We will consider these connections at our first meeting.

This will mainly be a discussion-based class; occasional short lectures will fill in background. Detailed questions

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

will be provided in advance to help guide our reading and focus our conversations.

Recommended Reading: *Demon Copperhead*, Barbara Kingsolver; *David Copperfield*, Charles Dickens.

Recommended Websites: barbarakingsolver.net
victorianweb.org/authors/dickens/dc/index.html
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Copperfield

Rosemary Jann, emerita professor of English, George Mason University, taught a variety of courses on Victorian prose, poetry and fiction, as well as literary analysis and research methods. She also served as department chair and associate director of the GMU Honors Program. She is the author of various books and articles on Victorian fiction and historical writing, Darwinian science and Sherlock Holmes.

5055 Five Tales by Henry James

 Instructor: John Pfordresher

Wednesday 12:00 – 1:30 PM
10/30 – 11/20

Sessions: 4; Location: Virtual

In four sessions we will discuss five tales by Henry James set in Rome, Venice, 1890s London and the English Countryside. They are *Daisy Miller*, *The Aspern Papers*, *The Lesson of the Master*, *The Figure in the Carpet*, and *The Turn of the Screw*. Our discussion of each text will feature PowerPoint slides of crucial passages. Each session will include two discussion intervals during which participants can ask questions and briefly explain their own readings. A list of topics for consideration will be sent to participants a week before each session.

Recommended Reading: *The Aspern Papers and Other Tales*, Henry James, Michael Gorra and Philip Horne, eds.

John Pfordresher, emeritus professor of English at Georgetown University, taught undergraduate and graduate students for 50 years, 47 of them at Georgetown. He has published books on Tennyson, Matthew Arnold, Charlotte Brönte and Catholic Studies.

5056 Where Shall Wisdom Be Found? (Job 28:12)

  Instructor: John Barclay Burns

Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM
10/8 – 11/12 (No class 11/5)

Sessions: 5; Location: Hybrid

The course is an introduction to writing and education in the ancient Near East and will include discussions on the books of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes from the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). We will also explore the influence of the Wisdom Tradition.

In the Hebrew Bible the emphasis is on the law and the prophets, but the Wisdom Tradition also has a strong presence in Jewish, Christian and even Islamic traditions. Wisdom does not refer only to the three books identified above. Rather, it is linked to the ancient and enduring intellectual traditions of the Near East, its schools and scholarship. We will learn how students were taught and see that ancient concerns were not so far removed from our own. The hand-held cuneiform tablet is not unlike our ubiquitous – necessary, but often irritating – cell phone.

The instructor adds: “I find the Wisdom Tradition far more interesting, subversive and ‘real’ than the law and the prophets. It is a tradition that puts God in his place (sorry!) by challenging him (Job), mostly ignoring him (Ecclesiastes) or setting humans first (Proverbs). Wisdom, like all conceptual nouns in Hebrew, is female, and she (hooray!) is celebrated in this tradition, especially in Proverbs. Though the Hebrew Bible moves toward a sweaty patriarchy, the wisdom tradition, happily, works against that. I hope that this course will be lively, informative and fun.”

Recommended Reading: The books of Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes in the New Revised Standard Version.

Independent Reading: Any general but scholarly introduction to the Wisdom Tradition, such as *Old Testament Wisdom: An Introduction*, James L. Crenshaw.

John Barclay Burns, born and raised in Scotland, pastored Presbyterian churches in Scotland, Toronto, and Fairfax, Virginia. He joined the Religious Studies faculty at George Mason University in 1986 and retired in 2011 as associate professor emeritus.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

5057 Political Shakespeare: Richard III, Macbeth, Coriolanus

 Instructor: Iska Alter

Friday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

10/11 – 11/15

Sessions: 6; Location: GMU

During much of his theatrical work, William Shakespeare dramatized politics and power, whether in the early history plays or the great tragedies of his middle period or the presumably apolitical later romances. History is determined by actual events as they happened in time, by the social and political contexts that shaped such events, and by the individuals who drove those events. Shakespeare asks us to consider the very nature of governance itself, the exploitation and the abuses of sovereignty, as well as the conditions that produce tyranny.

For six weeks we will explore three plays – *Richard III*, *Macbeth*, and *Coriolanus* – as they address two particular questions: What defines a bad king? Once defined, how to rid the nation of such a ruler?

Iska Alter is professor emerita of English at Hofstra University. Her specializations are American literature, Shakespeare, and Renaissance drama. Her work has appeared in *Modern Drama*, *Theater History Journal*, and *Shakespeare Survey*. She is the author of *The Good Man's Dilemma*, an analysis of the fiction of Bernard Malamud. She earned a BA at City College of New York, an MA at the University of Wisconsin, and a PhD at New York University.

5058 Eight Modern British Poets

 Instructor: Michael Collins

Thursday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

10/10 – 11/7

Sessions: 5; Location: Virtual

The course will look at one or two poems by eight modern British poets. While we shall from time to time consider various contexts for the poems, the classes will involve primarily close and careful readings of each poem to discover not only what the poem says, but also what it does through the poet's use of language. Although some (but not all) of the poems may seem initially difficult to

understand, the goal of the course is to make the work of these poets more accessible and rewarding.

The course will run for five classes. Each of the first four classes will focus on one or two poems by two poets. The final class will be devoted to questions about and discussions of issues that have emerged in the classes and poets who might have been included in the course. The eight poets are Thomas Hardy, Gerard Manley Hopkins, William Butler Yeats, Wilfred Owen, T.S. Eliot, W.H. Auden, Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin. Most of the poems are available online, and participants will be provided with an anthology of the poems.

Michael Collins is teaching professor of English and dean emeritus at Georgetown University, where he taught courses and published articles on Shakespeare and modern British poetry and drama. He received the Edward J. Bunn Award for outstanding teaching at Georgetown University.

5059 American and British Women Writers 1818–1918

 Instructor: Janet Auten

Friday 10:00 – 12:00 PM

10/18 – 12/13 (No class 11/29)

Sessions: 8; Location: Virtual

This course will explore the transatlantic connections and differences between American and British women's fiction and poetry from a Golden Age of women's writing between 1818 and 1918.

In eight weeks of two-hour virtual classes, we will examine the life stories and read the work of British women "influencers" from Mary Shelley to Virginia Woolf and their American counterparts like Louisa Alcott, Willa Cather, Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Edith Wharton. Each of them broke new ground for women and, in some cases, also introduced new genres of fiction. We will punctuate the fiction with poetry from familiar and less familiar poets. Expect to find at least one writer you "never heard of" (I always do) as we consider why popular writers like "Mrs. Gaskell" and Agatha Christie somehow never made it onto our school reading lists. As in Agatha Christie mysteries, we will look for clues to help us understand why these works are called "classics."

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

As usual, we will be thinking and talking about if and how we can define literature as distinctively American and authored by women. This time, however, we will be able to compare American classics with their British counterparts using an anthology called *Classic Works from Women Writers*, which includes several short novels as well as stories and poems. We will also draw on a previously recommended anthology, *The Vintage Book of American Women Writers*.

The course operates on the idea of a “reading circle” revolving around PowerPoint lectures and continuous class discussion on chat, with opening and closing open-mic discussion time.

Recommended Reading: Classic Works from Women Writers, with an introduction by A.J. Odasso, *Canterbury Classics*.

Independent Reading: Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte; *The Vintage Book of American Women Writers*, Elaine Showalter, ed.

Janet Auten taught literature and composition and directed the Writing Center during her 25 years at American University. She also developed and team-taught a Women’s Studies course, “Women’s Voices Through Time,” and published essays on 19th-century American women writers. She holds a PhD in Composition/American Literature and MA in journalism.

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Science & Technology

6026 Science and Data and Stats – Oh My! (You can do this!)

 Instructor: Michael Stutts

Wednesday 2:00 – 3:30 PM
11/6 – 12/4 (No class 11/27)
Sessions: 4; Location: GMU

Do not fear data! Confront it, scrutinize it, evaluate it. This course aims to help participants become more informed and discerning consumers of scientific and other data-driven studies that we encounter daily. The instructor, a retired academic clinical psychologist trained in the “scientist-practitioner” model, will help students gain a working knowledge of the scientific method, the terms and techniques associated with data analysis, and how these processes can sometimes go awry. Participants will emerge not only more comfortable with these concepts, but also with the healthy skepticism that is at the core of good science. The course will cover the following topics:

The Scientific Method and Process will explain hypothesis development and testing that is the foundation of scientific inquiry and study.

Data and Statistics will provide an overview of basic statistical concepts and terms (no equations!).

Data Analysis will discuss how scientific data is analyzed, interpreted and presented.

Science Done Wrong will show how science can be done incorrectly due to incompetence, unconscious bias or, occasionally, outright fraud, but also by outside forces distorting or misrepresenting its processes and findings.

Michael Stutts is an academic neuropsychologist who was appointed to the faculty of the Eastern Virginia Medical School in 1985 and who retired as professor emeritus in 2018. He is a fellow of the National Academy of Neuropsychology and the Virginia

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

Academy of Clinical Psychologists, and serves on the Editorial Review Board of the journal *Perceptual and Motor Skills*. He has taught Aging and the Brain for Encore Learning on three occasions.

6028 Neuroscience of the Senses

 Instructor: Linda Berg

Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 AM
10/2 – 12/11 (No class 11/27)
Sessions: 10; Location: GMU

Our senses are the interface between our internal selves and the outside world. This 10-week course will explore how our senses work, how the brain interprets what the senses perceive and how things go wrong. We will explore insights from cell and molecular biology, pharmacology and neuroscience to understand the processes that underlie the senses. We will learn why bees see the world differently than we do and why cilantro tastes like soap, along with many other just-so stories in sensory neuroscience.

Sessions will cover:

- Senses as the interface between the world and behavior
- Auditory system
- Vestibular (balance) system
- Visual system
- Olfactory system
- Gustatory system
- Somatosensory (touch/pain/temperature) system
- Proprioception (body awareness)

In the last class, we will discuss synesthesia (experiencing more than one sense simultaneously) and current research questions in the field of neuroscience of the senses, with concluding remarks by the instructor.

Linda Berg pursued her interest in neuroscience after a 30-year career at the Central Intelligence Agency. She holds undergraduate degrees in physics and mathematics from the University of Puget Sound in Washington State and a PhD in solid-state physics from Iowa State University.

6031 Introduction to Fall Birding

 Instructor: Multiple

Tuesday Section: 10:00 – 11:30 AM 10/8 – 10/29
Thursday Section: 10:00 – 11:30 AM 10/10 – 10/31
Sessions: 4; Location: Various Locations

Fall is the peak time to observe many species of birds as they migrate south to their breeding grounds in Central and South America. Learn about local bird species in two sessions at two Arlington Nature Centers. Then put your learning into practice with experienced birders at Long Branch Nature Center and Four Mile Run.

Session 1: Raptors (10/8 and 10/10)

Learn about our local raptors – owls, hawks, eagles, falcons and kites – and how to spot them in the wild. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road, Arlington. Parking is limited; parking on Military Road is recommended.

Session 2: Songbirds and Crows (10/14 and 10/17)

Learn about local birds and those that migrate through our area in the fall. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Limited parking at the center or use nearby parking deck (\$5 fee, 5-minute walk) or Glencarlyn Park lot near picnic shelter 1 (15 to 20-minute walk).

Session 3: Birds of Long Branch (10/22 and 10/24)

Learn how to use binoculars and the apps available to aid birders. Then, expert birders Colt Gregory and Kurt Moser will guide you around the park. Participants may bring their own binoculars and instructors will have binoculars to lend. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center.

Session 4: Birds of Four Mile Run (10/29 and 10/31)

Expert birders Kurt Moser and Colt Gregory will introduce you to the birds that frequent this diverse habitat. Meet at Four Mile Run parking lot, 3700 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria.

Recommended Resources: Cornell Lab of Ornithology: free Merlin and Ebird apps, AllAboutBirds.org, Audubon.org/gear/binocular-guide

Gabby Hrycyszyn, a naturalist at Gulf Branch Nature Center, has a bachelor's degree in biology from Penn State University, a master's degree in interdisciplinary

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

ecology from the University of Florida, and a master's certificate in project management from The George Washington University. She worked with the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia and trained at the Minnesota Raptor Center, the Linwood Springs Research Center in Wisconsin, and Boise State University. Before coming to Arlington, she worked for the Fairfax County Park Authority and has extensive experience working with birds of prey, including owls and hawks at Potomac Overlook Regional Park.

Colt Gregory, a member of the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Northern Virginia Bird Club, has been an Arlington regional master naturalist since 2017. He co-leads the Sunday bird walks for the National Park Service at Great Falls and leads a sector in our area's Christmas bird count. He is often seen pulling up invasive plants to restore bird habitat and balance in our local parks where he would like to see more common yellowthroat warblers.

Kurt Moser is co-founder and president of the Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation, an organization that promotes nature, culture and community at lower Four Mile Run in Alexandria and Arlington. He also is an independent researcher/ecologist. He is on the boards of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust and NoVa Outside. He earned a master's degree in environmental science and policy from George Mason University, where his thesis and publications focused on ecosystem function in natural and mitigation wetlands.

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6032 Becoming a Space-Faring Civilization

 Instructor: Michael Summers

Friday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

11/8 – 12/6 (No class 11/29)

Sessions: 4; Location: GMU

Humanity is becoming a space-faring civilization. We now have a permanently staffed space station in Earth orbit and plans for another in lunar orbit, a science station at the moon's South Pole, and a manned mission to Mars all within the next decade. NASA's Artemis program will begin taking astronauts to the moon next year. Countries such as India and China now compete with the United States to claim lunar resources. All major military powers understand that space is the ultimate high ground for future military conflicts. The U.S. Space Force was established in 2019 to protect U.S. and allied interests in space.

The discovery of water ice on the moon and in numerous asteroids means we can produce rocket fuel and oxygen in space without having to bring them from Earth. The asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter contains water; metals such as iron, nickel, gold and platinum; rare Earth elements; and compounds containing rich carbon deposits in amounts thousands of times greater than have ever been mined on Earth. All the resources needed to build cities and to live permanently in space are already there and easily accessible. New disciplines such as space law, medicine, manufacturing, economics, robotics and exploration ethics are creating new career choices.

Each class session will deal with one aspect of solar system exploration and development:

1. Current space exploration activities
2. Future exploration and development
3. Colonization of the moon, Mars and asteroids
4. Humanity as a space-faring civilization

Michael Summers is a planetary scientist who investigates the structure and evolution of planetary atmospheres. His research has encompassed many aspects of the atmospheres of planets and moons in our solar system. He was a mission co-investigator on the NASA/New Horizons Spacecraft Mission to Pluto and the Kuiper Belt. He is also an award-winning educator who teaches astronomy and astrobiology at George Mason University.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

6033 Exploring the Amazon, Pantanal, Jaguars and Climate Change

■ Instructor: Susan Perz

Monday 12:00 – 1:30 PM
9/30 – 11/4 (No class 10/14)
Sessions: 5; Location: Virtual

This course will feature beautiful wildlife documentary films, current research and discussion on the importance of the Amazon rainforest region and its crucial role in addressing climate change.

Fires during 2020 destroyed one-third of the vast Pantanal wetland (bigger than Florida). It is the only place in the world where people coexist with wild jaguars through ecotourism and is home to more than 4,700 species of wildlife including capuchin monkeys, giant otters and 200 bird species, many endangered. Jaguars are a keystone species and symbol of why the Amazon Rainforest, the Pantanal Wetland and the Cerrado Savanah Triad are critical to combating climate change. The instructor traveled to the Pantanal wetland in Brazil for the second time in the summer of 2022 to interview local people and film jaguars and wildlife. Her original 20-minute documentary film *Saving Jaguars and Ourselves* will be shown as part of the course.

We will also watch and discuss several other documentary films related to the Amazon. Participants will gain an understanding of the ten main methods of addressing climate change. Of these, we will spend the most time on eight ways that nature protects us from climate change and how best to preserve and protect these important ecosystems, the rainforests and wetlands.

Susan Perz has a PhD in education, a bachelor's degree in journalism with courses in film, and master's/specialist degrees in marriage and family therapy. Her documentary film *Saving Jaguars and Ourselves* is being shown at various film festivals. She has created short films and documentary films on a part-time basis for the past 20 years.

6034 Hearing Science and Audiology

■ Instructor: Paul Reinhart

Friday 12:00 – 1:30 PM
11/8 – 12/6 (No class 11/29)
Sessions: 4; Location: Virtual

This course delves into the intricate world of hearing science and audiology, providing a foundational understanding of the auditory system and its function. We will explore the fundamental principles of hearing, including the anatomy and physiology of the ear, auditory pathways, and mechanisms of sound perception.

All individuals experience changes to their auditory system to varying degrees throughout the aging process. A primary focus of the course is the exploration of various types and causes of hearing loss and the implications for individuals across the lifespan. We will examine communication techniques for enhancing spoken communication and the current state and practices of the hearing healthcare industry. The final session will explore the vast array of technological advancements available for mitigating the effects of hearing loss. From hearing aids to cochlear implants and assistive listening devices, the course will provide an overview of available technologies, their applications, and considerations for selection and fitting, as well as the future of hearing therapeutics.

Paul Reinhart is a hearing scientist with more than ten years of experience in academia and the hearing healthcare industry. He has a BS in speech and hearing sciences from Indiana University and a PhD in communication sciences and disorders from Northwestern University. He has authored more than ten journal articles and developed more than 15 patents on hearing aid and cochlear implant technologies.

In addition to our courses in the spring and fall semesters, our
Special Events & Clubs run year round.

See pg 25 for more details.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

6035 Technology Hot Spots

 Instructor: Multiple

Thursday 2:00 – 3:30 PM

10/24 – 11/21

Sessions: 5; Location: Virtual

We live in a world dominated by complex technology. Microchips run our computers, tablets, phones, TVs, appliances, thermostats, vehicles and even light bulbs. Modern medications and plastics are produced by technology, and our power sources are moving from fossil fuels to renewable electricity. In most cases, these technologies make our lives better ... but not always.

Knowing how these technologies work and how we understand their advantages and faults make us better consumers of these very sophisticated products. This course aims to make these complicated technologies understandable. In five sessions, the instructors will provide the scientific background needed to understand these processes and products.

Artificial Intelligence: Origins and the Future (Steve Shapiro 10/24)

This session will explain how the development of artificial intelligence (AI) has evolved over the past 40 years and what the future may hold. The instructor will describe both the opportunities and the risks of this emerging technology and use examples to show how it is already having an impact on science, business and our personal lives.

3D Printing of Planes, Trains, Automobiles and Virtually Everything Else in Our Lives (Barry Ginsberg 10/31)

Thirty years ago, 3D printing was an expensive novelty used by a few giant corporations. Today it is a widely used tool for construction and manufacturing and also by millions of hobbyists. Prototypes of many products use 3D printing, and some very complex products can only be made on 3D printers. Such printers now utilize plastics, metals, concrete, clay and other materials and bakeries use 3D printers to decorate cakes. In this presentation, we will address the history of 3D printing, the printing method and specific examples of 3D products, both professional and amateur.

Drug Discovery and Development (Alphonse Galdes 11/7)

The past 50 years have seen tremendous advances in the discovery of new medications, providing effective treatment for many debilitating and chronic autoimmune and genetic diseases such as multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis and spinal muscular atrophy. There have also been great advances in the treatment of many blood cancers (lymphomas and myelomas), breast cancer and other solid tumors.

Have you ever wondered where these medications come from, how they are discovered, and why they cost so much? The instructor will provide an overview of the biopharmaceutical industry and the drug discovery process and cover the technical advances driven by the biotechnology revolution. The class will also examine current trends and what the future may hold.

An Introduction to Robotics (Michael Shapiro 11/14)

The term robot refers to a wide variety of devices with uses ranging from the space program to surgery and food delivery. This session will provide an overview of robotics, focusing primarily on devices that incorporate mobility and a degree of autonomy. We will examine general challenges in developing robots, including movement, sensing, manipulation, intelligence, social interaction and ethics.

Recent Advances in Renewable Energy Technologies (Susan Hamm 11/21)

As the country transitions toward clean energy, renewable energy technologies for power generation, heating/cooling, and energy storage are becoming more critical. Advances in research, development and deployment are bringing these technologies onto electric grids and into residential and commercial buildings throughout the United States. In this session, we will examine each of the major renewable technologies (solar, wind, water and geothermal), what is new, and where barriers remain to achieving a clean energy economy.

Steve Shapiro spent 25 years in the private sector with several technology companies in the DC area, including SAIC, where he served as vice president of E-business Solutions. He later became a high school math teacher in Fairfax County and department co-chair at Falls

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

Church High School. He is a member of the Board of Directors at the Virginia Public Access Project, Encore Learning's treasurer and coordinator of the Technology Hobbyists Club. He earned a BA in economics from Tufts University and MS in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Barry H. Ginsberg joined the board of Encore Learning last year as vice president, hoping to introduce more technology to members. He previously worked as vice president for worldwide medical affairs at Becton Dickinson. Before that, he was a professor of medicine and biochemistry at the University of Iowa College of Medicine. He attended the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where he earned both his MD and PhD in molecular biology.


Alphonse Galdes earned a PhD in biochemistry at Oxford University and did graduate work at Harvard Medical School. He spent his professional career largely in the pharmaceutical industry, where he ran both drug discovery and product development and manufacturing. He retired in 2021 as executive vice president for Pharmaceutical Operations and Technology at Biogen and was a member of its executive team.

Michael Shapiro is a 37-year veteran of the US Environmental Protection Agency. From 2002 to 2017 he was the senior career official responsible for EPA's Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act programs. Earlier, he served in senior management positions in the Office of Land and Emergency Management, the Office of Air and Radiation and the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. Before joining EPA, he was an associate professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. He earned a BS in mechanical engineering and MS and PhD degrees in environmental engineering.

Susan Hamm is director of integrated strategies at the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). Previously, she was director of its Geothermal Technologies Office, leading efforts to improve performance, lower costs and accelerate deployment of geothermal technologies. She has also served as the directorate operations officer for the National Science Foundation's Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate, where she managed human capital, space and budget.

Before serving at the NSF, she worked at the Department of Homeland Security in the Science and Technology Directorate and focused on strategic planning, budget development, policy planning and congressional affairs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary. She earned a BS in geology from Amherst College, an MS in geophysics and a PhD in material sciences from the University of Minnesota.

6036 Technology Challenges in Our Daily Lives – There's More To Be Concerned About Than Just AI

 **Instructor: Stephen Ruth**

Monday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

11/18 – 12/9

Sessions: 4; Location: Virtual

Looking for some technology concerns beyond artificial intelligence (AI)? There is no shortage. We will start off with 3D printing, biometrics, blockchain, bots, censorship, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, crowdsourcing, crypto-jacking, cryptocurrency/digital currency, and cyberthreats/security; proceed to net neutrality, neurotechnology, phishing, predictive analytics, privacy and the Dobbs decision, quantum computing, ransomware, recidivism, revenge porn, right to be forgotten, robotics, satellite cybersecurity, and Section 230 of the Communications Act; and wrap up with technology and voting fraud, telecommuting, virtual reality, augmented reality, utility grid vulnerability, and wearable technology.

In his George Mason University graduate course, the instructor offers each student the option of selecting six topics from the list above as part of a mandatory "technology portfolio." Encore Learning members can collectively select their own favorites and look out for late-breaking stories and policy challenges associated with each. There will be plenty of time for discussion, and no technology background is required.

Stephen Ruth is emeritus professor of public policy at the Schar School of Policy and Government. His major areas of research are the challenges and dangers of information technology, especially AI. After serving as a captain in the U.S. Navy, he taught at GMU for 46 years before retiring in 2024.

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

6037 Future Science: The US Quest to Define and Anticipate What Comes Next

  Instructor: Robert Albro

Friday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

10/25 – 12/6 (No class 11/29)

Sessions: 6; Location: Hybrid

This class will explore how different cultural movements, scientific developments and technological advancements, primarily in the United States, have shaped how we collectively think about the future. Rather than understanding it simply as that period of time following the present, we will engage with the future as a concept and challenge with which we are deeply preoccupied, and which we have variously sought to control, shape and predict. In short, this class will consider diverse cultural and scientific constructions of specific futures that we hope to avoid or in which we hope to live.

All of us, but Americans in particular, have a longstanding societal obsession with the future, which took on particular intensity beginning in the mid-20th century. Concerns about what the future might hold have also driven the planning of governments, militaries and corporations and helped to organize the insurance industry. We often insist upon accounts of the future as measurable progress. What we call “futurism” has enchanted and animated artists, science fiction writers, scientists, philosophers and technologists. Identifiable and often incompatible orientations to the future have been promoted by the likes of Silicon Valley tech gurus, with their techno-utopian optimism, and by climate scientists, in contrast, who are typically apocalyptic and pessimistic.


We have also seen the recent emergence of an entire “future industry” presided over by expert futurists with sophisticated forecasting tools, who specialize in prediction, scenario planning, strategic foresight and risk assessment. By closely examining how we think about the future, we hope to better understand ourselves in the present.

Robert Albro was trained in sociocultural anthropology at the University of Chicago, where he earned his BA and PhD. He is associate director of the Center for Latin American & Latino Studies at American University. He has maintained a long-term research focus on urban and indigenous politics in Bolivia and, more recently, researched and published widely on climate change and science and technology.



Social Sciences

7008 Numbers, News and Neural Networks

 Instructor: Steve Shapiro

Tuesday 12:00 – 1:30 PM


10/8 – 10/29

Sessions: 4; Location: GMU

The “Numbers and the News” guy returns for his eighth season – with a slight twist. The course will continue to discuss the underlying data in major news stories relating to economics, politics, demographics and climate change. This time around, however, we will incorporate an analysis of how artificial intelligence (AI) is changing the way news stories are created and distributed.

Steve Shapiro spent 25 years in the private sector with several technology-centric companies in the metro DC area, including SAIC, where he served as vice president of E-business Solutions. He later became a high school math teacher in Fairfax County and department co-chair at Falls Church High School. He is a member of the board of directors at the Virginia Public Access Project, Encore Learning’s treasurer and coordinator of its Technology Hobbyists Club. He earned a BA in economics from Tufts University and an MS in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

7036 Oracle of Omaha: The Life, Learning and Legacy of Warren Buffett

 Instructor: Verne Vance

Thursday 12:00 – 1:30 PM

11/7 – 12/5 (No class 11/28)

Sessions: 4; Location: Virtual

Warren Buffett, called by many the “Oracle of Omaha,” is widely regarded as the most successful long-term stock market investor of all time. But beyond his investing prowess, Buffett’s down-to-earth Midwestern wisdom expressed in his idiomatic style on a broad variety of topics is widely prized. With his longtime friend and

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions *continued*

colleague, the late Charlie Munger, a fellow Omahan, Buffett transformed a small New England textile company called Berkshire Hathaway into one of the largest conglomerates in the world with a net worth of nearly \$900 billion.

In this four-session course, taught by an instructor who knew Buffett as a teenager in Omaha, we will explore his unusual life, career, and ideas through lectures, videos of him and Munger, and discussions of Buffett's thoughts on a variety of topics. These discussions will be based on materials from *The Essays of Warren Buffett*, by Lawrence A. Cunningham, a distillation of Buffett's thoughts on business, investment, and other topics from his annual letters to stockholders as CEO

of Berkshire Hathaway. We will also discuss Buffett's views on the obligations of wealth to society, as well as his remarkable record of charitable giving.

Recommended Reading: The Essays of Warren Buffett, Lawrence A. Cunningham.

Verne Vance is a retired corporate attorney who has taught courses at Encore Learning and other lifelong learning programs on a variety of topics ranging from literature to politics. As a boy he knew young Warren Buffett, who gave him his first lessons in playing the ukulele and investing. Verne gave up the ukulele long ago but proudly owns shares of Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway. He only wishes he owned more.

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You are our
best source of
information for
prospective
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Simply refer them to
our website
www.EncoreLearning.net



DON'T Forget!

Join the Fall 2024
Course Preview on
Thursday, September 5
at 9:30 AM on Zoom.

Invite your friends
and neighbors to join!

See page 1 for details

Encore Learning Special Events & Clubs

Encore Learning's Special Events and Clubs provide a variety of activities to complement our academic course offerings. Our special events and clubs run year-round, so no need to wait to become a member! All Special Events are announced by email and are posted on our website. Email our office at info@encorelearning.net to subscribe to our special event email announcements or to join a club.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Encore Learning Presents – Co-sponsored with the Arlington Public Library

Encore Learning Presents events are open to the public and include lectures, panels, and film screenings.

Recent public events have included talks about cybersecurity, book banning, public art in Arlington, and many more. These virtual events are free and are usually scheduled from 3:00 to 4:30 PM on Monday afternoons. This fall we once again welcome Chuck Rosenberg, MSNBC correspondent, to our virtual presentation. Please visit our YouTube channel for a more comprehensive list of previous Encore Learning Presents events, as well as recordings to view at your convenience. Go to www.YouTube.com and search for Encore Learning. Please note, not all Encore Learning Presents events are recorded.

For Members: Tours of Museums, Historical Sights, and More

We also offer popular member group tours as a benefit of membership. Recent tours have included Tudor Place in Georgetown, Black History Museum of Arlington, Library of Congress Music Division and Copyright Office, Smithsonian Castle Gardens and the Salvador Dali Museum (virtual).

Many member events are free, although some may require tickets, entrance or other fees. Check event listings for details and to register for these member events. Events requiring registration are for members only and require current membership through the event date.

CLUBS

Another benefit of membership is the opportunity to expand your social network with other members who have similar interests. We currently have ten clubs that promote lifelong learning, personal growth, physical activity and

social engagement. Club membership is open to all current Encore Learning members. Club membership is free, but some club activities might involve visiting a location (e.g., restaurant, museum, kayak rental, movie theater) that charges a fee. Please visit our Clubs page on our website for more club details. Contact the office at info@encorelearning.net with questions or to join a club.

Breakfast Club – Meets weekly for breakfast and lively conversation at La Madeleine in Falls Church.

Bridge Club – Meets monthly for a light lunch and to play social bridge.

Chamber Music Club – Attends Friday Morning Music Club's free, noon concerts, the first and second Friday of the month October through May, at St. George's Church in Arlington.

Cinema Club – Meets monthly at the movies and discusses the film at lunch afterwards.

Current Issues Discussion Group – Meets twice a month virtually to discuss a topic that has been chosen by club members. Discussions are always polite and insightful, and participation is encouraged.

Kayak Club – Meets twice a month May – October at Fletcher's Boathouse. Novice and experienced kayakers are welcome to join for fun adventures on the Potomac. No equipment needed.

Mindfulness Club – Meets virtually weekly for meditation, discussion and exploration of the mindfulness tradition.

Nonfiction Book Club – Meets bimonthly at Arlington Central Library for lively discussions about nonfiction works chosen by club members.

Tech Hobbyist Club – Enjoy tinkering with new technology? The Tech Hobbyist club meets virtually weekly.

Travel Club – Meets virtually monthly to hear presentations about members' fascinating travels and discusses travel related topics. Recent discussions included health issues while traveling, and recommended tour operators.

Board, Committee Members & Staff

Thank you to the Encore Learning

Board • Academic Programs Committee • Publications Committee • Staff
for all of the hard work and dedication in preparing for the fall 2024 semester.



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Don't toss out this catalog!

If you're done with it, consider passing it along to a neighbor, friend, fellow club member, or anyone who might appreciate all that Encore Learning has to offer.

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Clip the section below to share the joy of Encore Learning with someone else.



Welcoming Everyone Over 50 To Classes, Clubs And Events

Power Up Your Brain! Learn Something New!

Encore Learning, a nonprofit organization founded in 2002 for those over 50, offers a wide range of more than 70 noncredit courses in the fall and spring. The courses cover fine arts, theater, music....health and wellness....politics, public affairs....literature and writing....science and technology....and the social sciences, all taught by leading experts from universities, government, nonprofits and corporations. More than 30 Special Events a year feature notable speakers, panel discussions and film screenings.

Find out more and join our growing community of active, interesting and friendly neighbors over 50! Members live in Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, DC & wherever you Zoom. Scan the QR code or go to www.encorelearning.net.

Meet Your Neighbors! Make New Friends!

Encore Learning is a gateway to fun! Make new friends and meet new neighbors who share your interests. Share ideas! Engage in lively discussions during classes and Special Events. Join a Specialty Club! There are ten clubs to choose from: breakfast, bridge, chamber music, cinema, current issues, kayak, mindfulness, nonfiction books, tech hobbyist, and travel. Volunteer! Our treasured volunteers power every aspect of our organization.



Courses by Calendar View

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MORNING	<p> Virtual classes are noted with the Zoom icon.</p> <p> In-Person classes are noted with the people icon.</p> <p> Hybrid classes include an option to register for either an in-person class at Mason or a virtual class on Zoom.</p> <p>For in-person course locations, check our online catalog.</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 6031 – Introduction to Fall Birding Multiple 10/8 – 10/29</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 3074 – Political Crises of the 1850s Anbinder 10/2 – 12/11 No class 10/23 and 11/27</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 6031 – Introduction to Fall Birding Multiple 10/10 – 10/31</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 3070 – Walks With 'The Rambler' Suydam 10/11 – 11/8</p>
		<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 3076 – Arlington's Quest for Racial Equality Fogarty 10/8 – 10/29</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 6028 – Neuroscience of the Senses Berg 10/2 – 12/11 No class 11/27</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 4041 – Religion and the American Presidency Thomson 10/31 – 12/13 No class 11/28</p>	<p> 10:00 – 12:00 PM 5059 – American and British Women Writers Auten 10/18 – 12/13 No class 11/29</p>
		<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 5056 – Where Shall Wisdom Be Found? (Job 28:12) Burns 10/8 – 11/12 No class 11/5</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 5054 – Demon Copperhead Jann 10/23 – 11/13</p>		
		<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 2003 – Estate Planning: Basics and Beyond Parks 11/12 – 12/10 No class 11/26</p>	<p> 10:00 – 11:30 AM 4054 – Beyond the Russian-Ukraine War Kauzlarich 11/13 – 12/11 No class 11/27</p>		
NOON	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 6033 – Jaguars, Amazon, Pantanal & Climate Perz 9/30 – 11/4 No class 10/14</p>	<p> 12:00 – 2:00 PM 3072 – Ancient Greece 2 Wukitsch 10/1 – 12/10 No class 11/5</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 3073 – American Art in the Context of American History CANCELLED</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 4052 – Align Your Money With Your Values Richardson 10/3 – 10/31 No class 10/10</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 2023 – Pursuit of Purpose in Life Arciero 10/11 – 11/1</p>
	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 3075 – World War II Gartman 10/21 – 12/2 No class 11/11</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 7008 – Numbers, News and Neural Networks Shapiro 10/8 – 10/29</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 5055 – Five Tales by Henry James Pfordresher 10/30 – 11/20</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 7036 – Warren Buffett, The Oracle of Omaha Vance 11/7 – 12/5 No class 11/28</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 6037 – Future Science Albro 10/25 – 12/6 No class 11/29</p>
	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 6036 – Technology Worries Beyond AI Ruth 11/18 – 12/9</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 5052 – Poetry: All You Really Need to Know Sullivan 10/15 – 11/26 No class 11/5</p>	<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 1051 – Celebrating Vocal Harmony Groups Agron 11/6 – 12/18 No class 11/27</p>		<p> 12:00 – 1:30 PM 6034 – Hearing Science and Audiology Reinhart 11/8 – 12/6 No class 11/29</p>
AFTERNOON	<p> 2:00 – 4:00 PM 1050 – Silent Clowns Gorsky 9/30 – 10/28 No class 10/14</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 2022 – Understanding the Encore Years Joyce 10/8 – 11/19 No class 11/5</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 4051 – Poverty and the American Dream Vor der Bruegge 10/16 – 11/13</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 4011 – Justice, Public Safety, and Reentry Jones Valderrama 10/10 – 11/14</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 5057 – Political Shakespeare Alter 10/11 – 11/15</p>
	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 3047 – Early American History Grefer 10/21 – 12/2 No class 11/11</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 5051 – Shakespeare's King Henry IV, Part 1 Manteuffel 11/12 – 12/3</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 4053 – First Amendment/Free Press Policinski 11/6 – 12/4 No class 11/27</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 5058 – Eight Modern British Poets - CANCELLED</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 6032 – Becoming a Space-Faring Civilization Summers 11/8 – 12/6 No class 11/29</p>
			<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 6026 – Science and Data and Stats – Oh My! Stutts 11/6 – 12/4 No class 11/27</p>	<p> 2:00 – 3:30 PM 6035 – Technology Hot Spots Multiple 10/24 – 11/21</p>	



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Encore Learning Fall 2024

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Membership in Encore Learning is open to all individuals over 50 years of age, regardless of residence. Membership brings you:

- **Educational Value** – Access to high-quality college level courses at rates far below those charged by most other educational institutions in the Washington, DC area.
- **New Friends** – Opportunities to socialize with other members through our specialty clubs, special events, and while taking courses.
- **Insight** – Participation in Encore Learning special events offered throughout the year, including lectures and tours.

Members may register for courses, join our clubs, and reserve space in members-only Special Events.

Annual membership dues are \$65 per person. Members may register for as many courses as desired at \$55 per course.

About Encore Learning

Encore Learning was founded 22 years ago as Arlington Learning in Retirement Institute and thrives today with nearly 1,000 members and offering more than 60 courses and 50 events each year for those over 50. More than 150 volunteers plan and teach courses; procure outstanding speakers and tours; and lead our dynamic clubs. Join us to get involved. You will make new friends, gain new insights, explore local treasures, and expand your world.

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