



# The OLLI UPdate

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



**FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

Hi, Friends!

The thaw has come...and gone. But I see robins in the trees and on the ground and spring is truly, hopefully, just around the corner. I am so not a cold weather bird!

So, our classes are in full swing and a number of single lectures are in the offing. And now we're on to the summer and fall sessions. It's a greedy cycle. Tell us what you're interested in knowing more about, what you'd like to try, maybe even somewhere you'd like to visit. As I've mentioned before, summer will be primarily online but we are investigating a few outdoor meetups as options. Our hope (fingers and toes crossed) is that the fall session will be mostly face to face, in classrooms, with masks, social distancing and cleaning procedures. Are you ready for that?

Been thinking a lot about our OLLI post-Covid. I have a few questions I ask you to ponder with me - thinking about going back to classes in all four cities 1) How do we continue to connect with our new found OLLI friends in other cities? 2) How do we keep our new OLLI members who are now joining us from other states? 3) Do you like the various class lengths and the single lecture classes? Do we keep those options? 4) Do we continue to offer online classes?

I would appreciate your thoughts and ideas.

Kindly,

*Robbin,*

Your OLLI Director



Are you following OLLI on [Facebook](#)?

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## Cherokee Old Settlers

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WEDNESDAYS, MAR. 3 - APR. 7, 9:00 - 10:30 AM  
INSTRUCTOR: JONITA MULLINS

For thirty years before the infamous Trail of Tears in 1839, the Cherokees had slowly been migrating westward. These early settlers in Indian Territory came to be called “Old Settlers.” They built a life for themselves in the West, but when the Trail of Tears brought the eastern Cherokees to Indian Territory, the clash between the two groups brought their nation to the brink of their own civil war.

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### About Your Instructor

Jonita Mullins is an award-winning author and speaker from Muskogee, OK. She has written 12 books and more than 700 articles focused on history for the *Muskogee Phoenix*. Her newest book, *Oklahoma Originals*, made the *Publishers Weekly* best seller list at #2 for Oklahoma non-fiction. Jonita is a passionate preservationist and serves on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society. When she's not writing, speaking or conducting historical tours, Jonita works on preservation projects, including the restoration of the home of Alice Robertson, a missionary, teacher and Oklahoma's first Congresswoman.



## Guest Speakers

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THESE COURSES HAVE A DIFFERENT GUEST SPEAKER EACH WEEK.  
HERE'S WHAT'S UP NEXT

### **The Best & Brightest: Oklahoma Authors**

**2/26 Dinah Cox** is a fiction writer who teaches in the English Department at OSU-Stillwater. She has two books of short stories, *Remarkable* and *The Canary Keeper*. Dinah will read from one of her short stories and talk about their origins. Aimed at student-writers thinking about the creative process, she'll speak to character-building, setting and plot development. Dinah will speak about her own process as a model for students to think about their own stories and how they might unfold in the future. Her topic will be *Crafting Compelling Stories*.


### **Major Artists of Gilcrease Museum**

**3/2 Robert Taylor** is of Muscogee/Creek, Chickasaw, Cherokee and Potawatomi decent. He was born on Indian Land, attended an Indian Methodist Church and attended an Indian boarding school. Robert is a retired Senior Special Agent from the Dept. of U.S. Treasury and later the Dept. of Homeland Security Office of Internal Affairs. He is a proud member of the Gillies and proud to represent the Gilcrease Museum. His topic will be *Woody Crumbo*.

### **Voices from the University: OSU's Cutting Edge**

**3/2 Gina Peek** is the Interim Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences. In June 2020, Dr. Peek was named the Interim Associate Dean for Extension, Engagement, and Continuing Education in the College of Education and Human Sciences. Her presentation will be *The Land Grant Mission: Teaching, Research, Extension*.

[\*\*Enroll Here\*\*](#)



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## Recordings

During our first week of classes, we were challenged by a bit of arctic weather during which some of our members and instructors couldn't gain access to the internet. Never fear, OLLI is here! Five of our opening lectures have been recorded, and we invite everyone to enjoy them. You'll find the links below.

The links will **expire in 2 weeks** on March 12. If you're not already enrolled in these courses but find the videos inspiring, you can sign up right [here](#).

- 2/15 Medicare ABCs, [Watch the Lecture](#)
- 2/15 - 3/1 Changing Your Mind: The Power & Potential of Your Aging Brain, postponed
- 2/15 - 3/22 Epidemiology: An Introduction, not recorded
- 2/15 - 4/5 Little House on the Prairie Book Club, [Watch the Lecture](#)
- 2/16 - 3/9 Sharing Your Story, [Watch the Lecture](#)
- 2/16 - 4/6 Major Artists of Gilcrease Museum, [Watch the Lecture](#)
- 2/16 - 4/6 Voices from the University, not recorded
- 2/16 - 4/6 The Art of Calligraphy, not recorded
- 2/17 & 2/24 Maps and Map Making: Historical Maps of Oklahoma, postponed
- 2/17 - 3/10 Acrylic Painting, postponed
- 2/17 - 3/10 The Wisdom of the Axial Age, not recorded
- 2/17 A Look into Home Health Care, not recorded
- 2/18 - 4/8 Great Decisions, [Watch the Lecture](#)
- 2/19 - 3/5 Rodeo: America's Own Sport, postponed
- 2/19 - 4/9 The Best & Brightest: Oklahoma Authors, not recorded
- 2/19 - 4/9 And the Winner Is...William Wyler! [Watch the Lecture](#)

A photograph of a red mug filled with coffee, a silver pen, and a light-colored napkin. The napkin has the quote "There is something to be learned from everyone." written in blue ink. The background is a solid pink color.

There is  
something  
to be learned  
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everyone.

## A Call for Instructors

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SUMMER 2021 COURSES

***What would you like to teach?*** We want to hear about it. We're compiling the course catalog for summer 2021 as we speak! Propose a course by filling out the form you'll find [here](#). As you'll see, you don't need to submit the entire curriculum, but what we do need is a brief description about the topic and a few more lines about yourself. Don't worry about getting the description or the biography perfect. Our OLLI editor will touch it up to make it consistent with the format of our course catalog.

To show our appreciation, all our instructors enjoy a membership fee waiver or a free course on the house.

All courses will be held virtually on Zoom this summer, and if you doubt your technical abilities, we can say with great certainty there isn't a problem our tech-savvy staff haven't met and conquered. We love our instructors and the OLLI staff aim to make your teaching experience as easy and rewarding as possible.

Whether that means guiding you through a smooth Zoom experience, distributing copies of handouts and anything else, we've got you covered.

Summer courses will be offered Monday through Friday from May 17-June 18, 2021. Design your course to be anywhere from 2 to 5 weeks long or give a one-time lecture. Each class lecture period is 1.5 hours, and we'll help you find a schedule that meets your needs. If you wish to share the course with one co-instructor, invite a friend with compatible skills for the most successful classroom experience.

**The deadline for course proposals is midnight, Sunday, March 5** - not much time so get them in soon!

Inspire someone! Be an OLLI instructor.



*He was always inclined to read a fictitious sombreness into things when the shadows began to creep over the world and it was still too early for a cocktail.*

— P.G. Wodehouse, *Heavy Weather*

## Events Calendar

Lectures are free for OLLI members and \$10 each for non-members.

[Register here](#)

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|------|-------|--|
| 2/26 | 9 am  | <b>Maps &amp; Mapmaking: Historical Maps of Oklahoma, Part II</b> , with Chad Williams |
| 3/1  | 9 am  | <b>Alaskan Huskies: It's All about the Dogs!</b> with Doug Aichele                     |
| 3/19 | 9 am  | <b>Ask the Vet</b> with Mike Lorenz  |
| 3/26 | 9 am  | <b>COVID-19 Q&amp;A</b> with Tyrrell Conway  |
| 3/29 | 11 am | <b>Antiquing: The Seven Basic "How To's"</b> with Manning & Karen Rogers               |
| 3/29 | 3 pm  | <b>Special Guided Tour: The Spam Museum</b> , more info in future newsletters          |
| 4/1  | 9 am  | <b>Top 10s of 2021</b> with Doug Stowell   |
| 4/8  | 9 am  | <b>Learning a New Language</b> with Roha Kaira   |
| 4/9  | 1 pm  | <b>Leonardo's Knots</b> with Caroline Cocciardi  |