



The OLLI UPdate

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 20, 2020

Dear Friends,

We are quickly approaching the opening of enrollment for the fall session! With 25 courses and several single-lecture classes, we are very excited for you to join us in class. Now would be a good time to renew your membership or purchase a new membership as you must be a member first before you can enroll in courses. Take a few minutes and go to the [OLLI website](#) and purchase your membership so that when we give you the thumbs up to enroll, you'll be ready to go!

It's always a good time to invite someone to join OLLI but this fall we're making it even easier with our low cost single-lecture classes. These classes are free to current members and only \$10 each for non-members. A sneak peek at a few follows below in the newsletter. We are confirming additional instructors for these single-lecture classes AND we're taking recommendations. If you have someone you'd like to recommend or a topic you'd like covered, send me an email to let me know. We're always, always looking for course ideas and instructor recommendations.

All of the fall courses will be online through the Zoom platform. There are several resources for you to become familiar with Zoom including a [link](#) on the OLLI website. However, if you want to walk through Zoom with an OLLI staffer, we are more than happy to do that with you. We can schedule a private tutorial to help you learn to navigate Zoom and make it even easier for you to participate. Don't let the technology keep you from participating in OLLI!

We hope you are continuing to stay healthy and doing fun and interesting things during the pandemic.

Kindly,
Robbin Davis
Director



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Fall 2020 OLLI Catalog

ONLINE

It's here! The *Fall 2020 OLLI @ OSU Course Catalog* is now on our website. Open [this link](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page. You'll find it under "Quick Links." Expect to see a print version of the catalog in your mailbox around August 24. Online registration opens on August 31, and classes begin on September 21.

We're always planning ahead, so it won't surprise you that we are looking for instructors, moderators and facilitators for the spring 2021 term, which begins in February. If your interest lies in sharing your knowledge and you have an an itch to teach or if you enjoy facilitating discussions, please call the OLLI office or fill out the [volunteer form](#) at this link.

Are you willing to step forward but have your doubts about leading an online class? Never fear! We have experienced staff members who are happy to help you achieve a smooth transition to online education. Plus, every course has a staff member serving as a room monitor to give you extra back-up. As you know, we offer courses in every imaginable field of study, and we cater to your specifications for a successful course.

Give us a call, drop us an email or submit the online form.



There's Work to Do

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We're grateful to our many volunteers who keep OLLI@OSU running smoothly. On the surface, you may think the OLLI year consists of three busy semesters with down time in between, but like the proverbial duck that looks calm on the surface, we're paddling as hard as we can year round to keep the program moving forward. Between our fall, spring and summer terms, the work goes on. Ask any of our committee members, instructors or staff, and they'll all tell you the same thing: the work is deeply satisfying. What makes it so great is the friendships that develop, the stimulating conversations, the esteem of an appreciative group of lifelong learners and so much more. Take our Curriculum Committees, for instance. Every region is teaming with resources, so we have a Curriculum Committee in each of our four cities. Committee members are always on the look-out for new ideas to turn into courses. They engage with potential instructors and help with course development.

We need you and your skills. Consider where you can put your knowledge and talents to good use and join one of our teams. We have Curriculum, Social, Membership and Fundraising as well as Executive Committees which oversee the program in each city. And we always need instructors, moderators and facilitators.

If you would like to know more, we've posted a [form](#) on our website that serves both as a sign-up for anyone ready to help and a query for those who would like to consider all the options. Have a look!



Onward, Fearless Traveler!

FIRST CLASS

We had plans.

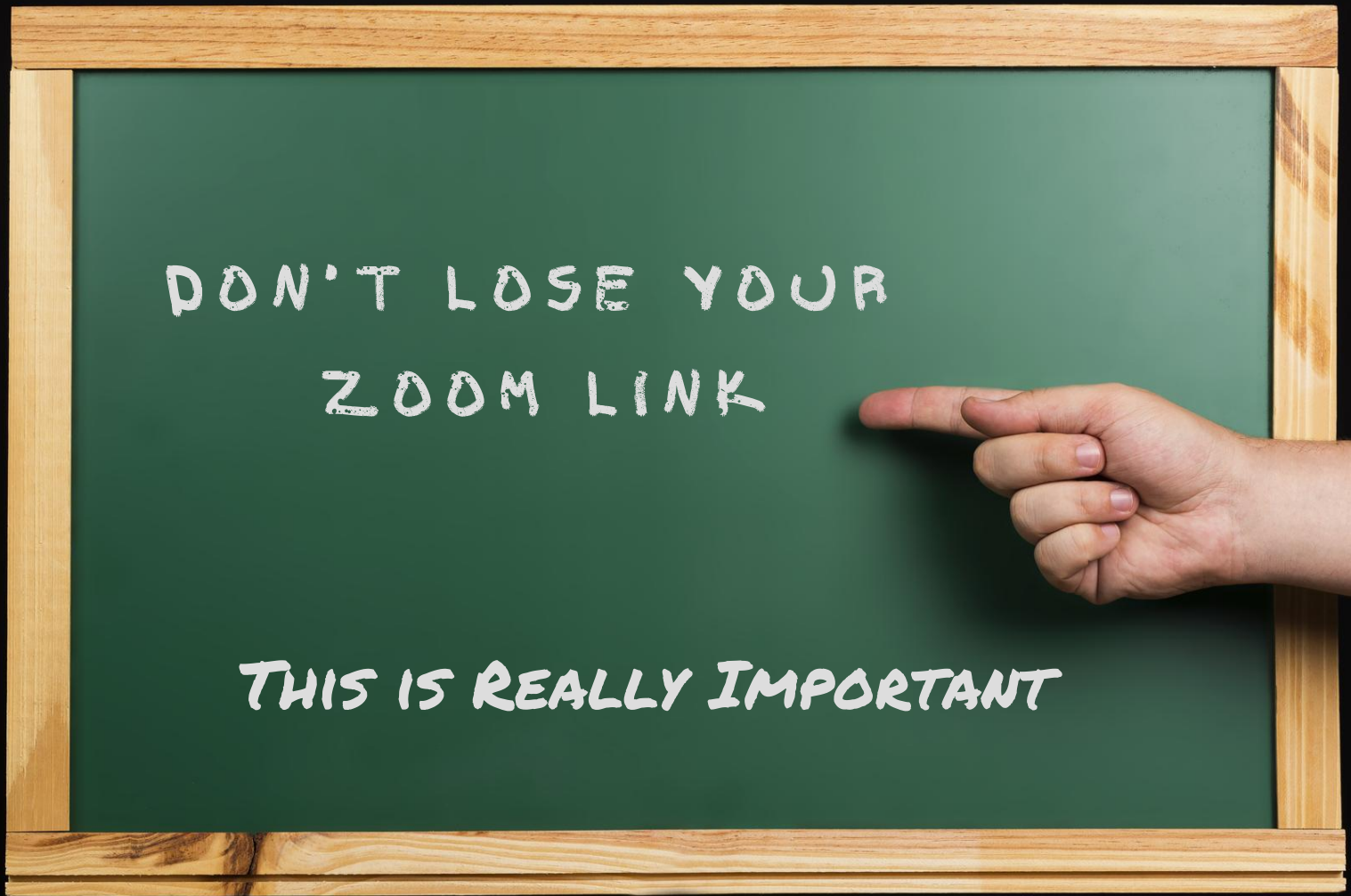
We made them last winter when we were imagining being in warm places. Then we made them in the summer when we imagined how good the cold places would feel. We spent hours writing up itineraries, organizing our gear, marking off the calendar days.

Oh, yes, we had Big Plans.

Now we're reduced to playing [Rick Steve's Bingo](#) and trying to convince ourselves that Oklahoma in August really is very much like the Yorkshire Dales, indeed, if the Yorkshire Dales were flatter, hotter and had fewer sheep.

There, there. OLLI's here to help. Your suitcase may be gathering dust, but you don't need to! We'll eventually get back to traveling, perhaps sooner than we can imagine. In the meantime, we shall dream of our future trips by tapping into some of our seasoned OLLI travelers' experiences at home and abroad. *Armchair Traveler* is a course designed for you to share your travel story and photos with an OLLI class full of folks who love adventure. We'll feature a different "tour guide" each week, and--this is where you come in--we need a few more tour guides. This course is being offered on Fridays from 3:00 to 4:30 pm starting on Sept. 25. Would you like to share your travelogue? Call the OLLI office, and we'll help you embark on a new experience.

To help you pass the hours between now and the first *Armchair Traveler* class, the music of Pink Martini may be just what you need. With an international appeal, it's been said that if the United Nations had a house band, it would be [Pink Martini](#).



How important is it?

When you register for a course or lecture, you'll receive a confirmation email that contains a Zoom link. Your Zoom link is like a key that opens the classroom door. You need one key for each classroom and each classroom has its own key. That is why we send you one unique Zoom link (key) for each of your courses or lectures. Use the same link every time you wish to enter the classroom. When the course is finished, you can throw away the key. But until then, keep track of that email with the Zoom link in it!

Here's a tip:

When you receive your confirmation email that has the Zoom link for that particular course, copy the link, paste it into a document and then save the document to your device. If you have more than one link, you can paste all of them into the same document. Be sure to label which class goes with each link. Then on class days, just open that document and click on the appropriate link.



Sneak Preview

LOOKING FORWARD TO FREE LECTURES

Let's focus on some of the 90-minute lectures we're offering this fall. These lectures are free for OLLI members and \$10 each for non-members. Do you know someone who enjoys learning as much as you do? Share this info with them. They'll thank you for it. Just remember, whether you're an OLLI member or not, you'll need to register in order to receive a Zoom link and attend. We are still finalizing details with guest speakers, and those details will be published here and on our website as they become available. Here are a few of the outstanding lecture topics you'll see this fall:

The Reverse Underground Railroad: Slavery & Kidnapping in Pre-Civil War America. Join historian and author of *Stolen*, Richard Bell, who will share the incredible story of five boys whose courage forever changed the fight against slavery in America.

Chilocco through the Years with Sarah Milligan. Review a documentary film about this American Indian boarding school which operated between 1883 and 1980. Described by some as a home and haven and by others as a reformatory and prison, this institution left an indelible mark on all who were sent there.

Four Hundred Years of Poetry in 90 Minutes with Matthew Vaughan. Do you think it's impossible to gain insight and understanding into poetry as it developed from the mid-1600s to the current day? Think again! This talk won't just expose you to poetry...it's designed to make you fall in love with it.



Your OLLI Membership

IT'S HOW WE MAKE THE MAGIC HAPPEN

OLLI staff work a lean program to keep costs, and therefore membership fees, low so as many people as possible can participate. We continue to grow, making improvements so you receive good value for your money while we maintain a sustainable program. For the fall, programming has grown to include:

- Twenty-five 90-minute courses running 6 to 8 weeks each
- Ten or more 90-minute lectures, free for all members & \$10 each for non-members
- TED Circles – small group discussions based on the wildly popular TED Talks series
- Evening courses
- Live concert performances
- Local and national experts serving as instructors and guest lecturers, all volunteers!
- Free online cognitive screening in collaboration with OSU's Dept. of Communication Sciences & Disorders

To get the most out of your membership, this is the very best time of year to join OLLI, renew your membership or give someone a gift membership. And, now...*ahem*...it's time to talk about how we do it. As a non-profit membership organization, in order to cover costs, we depend on the funds generated from your dues and course registration fees. We're delighted to let you know that we have not found it necessary to raise the price! We owe a great deal of gratitude to our volunteers who help run the program, to our instructors and lecturers, and to contributors whose donations through the OSU Foundation support the long-term sustainability of OLLI @ OSU. And, of course, we can't do this without you. Thanks for joining!

JOIN US



OLLI Online

ZOOMING AHEAD

If you haven't explored the potential of Zoom, we encourage you to give it a spin. It's free and easy to use. We've created a [tip sheet](#) and posted it on our web site to get you started or you can go directly to [Zoom's help resources](#), which are simple and straightforward. If you find yourself feeling overwhelmed, take a break, and when you're feeling better, call the OLLI office. We have people who can help. Once you're set up with Zoom you'll find all sorts of useful things to do with it. Best of all, you'll be able to join us for courses, discussions and social activities.

Covid-19

WHERE WE STAND

OSU is working diligently to implement a phased re-opening plan, which you can check out here: [Cowboys Coming Back: Plan at a Glance](#). This document is full of tips to help us navigate the new challenges we face both on and off campus. It's also a good reminder of what we all need to do to protect our health and well-being. As part of the OSU Cowboy community, OLLI is under obligation to follow their lead and do everything we can to protect our members, who typically are in higher risk categories. We'll continue to hold courses on Zoom through the fall semester and look forward to the time when we can safely meet in person. A decision will be made regarding courses for spring 2021 closer to the end of the year. We'll keep you posted.