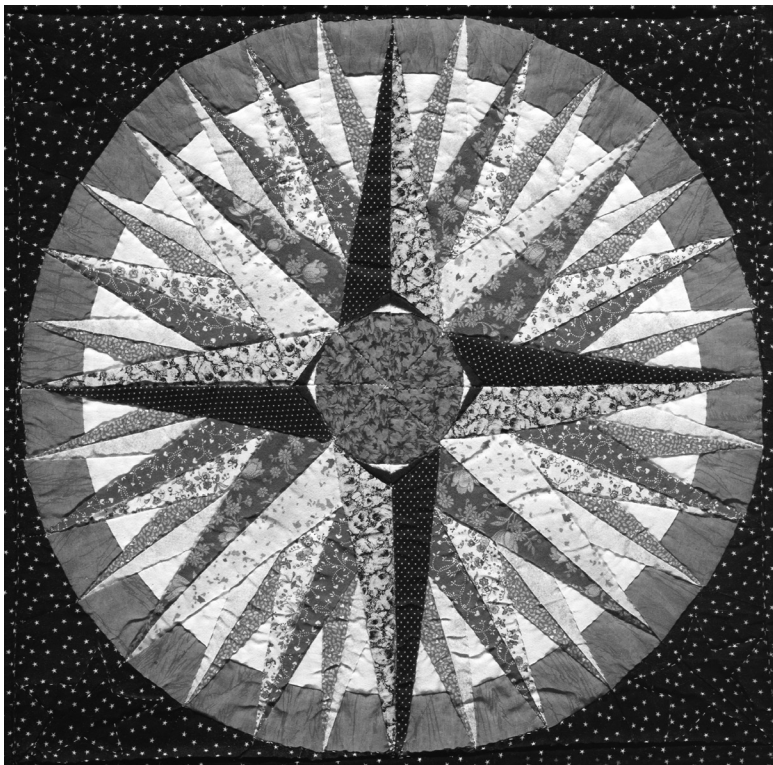


Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute

Spring Semester 2025



Affiliated with



**EXPLORERS LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
OF SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
10 FEDERAL STREET, SUITE 10, SALEM, MA 01970
978.744.0804**

Spring Semester 2025

The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) is a member-directed learning group, one of over 400 such organizations in the United States and Canada. Since 1992, seniors in the greater Salem community, with diverse backgrounds, have joined Explorers by paying a membership fee.

Members and presenters join in active peer learning to share their knowledge and experience by creating, coordinating and participating in courses on a voluntary basis. We provide programs that are challenging, thought-provoking, sometimes controversial and frequently interactive. These vary in length from a day to a semester; range in format from lectures and discussions to hands-on workshops and cover diverse topics..

The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute offers two semesters a year, beginning in September and March. **Members may enroll in up to eight courses per semester.** Classes meet for one and one half to two hours, either mornings or afternoons. Classes are held Monday through Thursday. Between semesters there are Intersession programs which are presented each Wednesday and are open to members and the general public, free of charge.

WELCOME TO EXPLORERS

Growing older in America is characterized by rapid changes. We are discarding negative stereotypes and seizing control of our lives. New social innovations are now the expected not the exception. The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute is such an innovation. When we retire, we may miss the intellectual challenges and interpersonal relationships that made our lives interesting during our careers. Like our muscles, our minds need exercise to stay young. The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute recognizes this need and invites people 50 years or older to join us in exercising our minds and keeping vital.

As older adults, we can be intense, self-motivated learners. We explore new subjects and share our collective knowledge and experiences. The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute encourages us to continue learning, to expand our horizons, and to enhance our personal development. There are no academic admissions requirements, examinations, no grades; learning is its own reward. Our greatest resource is the exuberant wisdom of our membership.

On the cover: Mariner Compass Design by Kay Piemonte.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The **6 month, non-refundable** single membership fee of **\$175** or married or domestic partnership **non-refundable** membership of **\$305**, admits members from **March-August**.

Send completed form and check to:

Explorers LLI,
10 Federal Street, Suite 10
Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Register with credit card or PayPal online: **explorerslli.org**

Notification will be sent to those confirmed; all others will be placed on a waiting list.

Fee reductions are available based on need. Your request will remain confidential and should be mailed to:

Fee Reduction Committee, c/o Explorers LLI
10 Federal Street, Suite 10
Salem, MA 01970

Explorers Center

Telephone: 978.744.0804 **Email: explorers@verizon.net**

Complete catalogue online: explorerslli.org

Office Manager: Dawn Plona

Webmaster: Marian Aylward

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ZOOM ONLY CLASSES:

Book Club, Roz Eschelbacher

101 Everyday Law for Successful Living, Andrea Witt, Christine Hurley

206 Opera 101, Margie Satinsky

501 Supreme Court, Michael Eschelbacher, Tom Mela

502 What's next for Democracy?, Dean Wasserman

IN-PERSON/ZOOM CLASSES:

103 The History of Photography: A Cultural Survey, Michael Chiusano

106 Evolution in the Age of Climate Change and Extinction, Bill Grover

201 Lessons Learned from the 2024 Presidential Election, Herb Selesnick

204 History of China, Bob Hooker

302 Gustav Mahler and Boston Philharmonic Concerts, Dr. Peter Sheckman

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402 Current Events, Robert Hooker, David and Claire Helfman and
Anne Waymouth

403 Spanish Conversation, John and Judy Arnold

2025 SPRING SCHEDULE

Only Members Are Eligible to Register for Courses.

BOOK CLUB

Monday 10-11 am

ZOOM

Coordinator: Roz Eschelbacher

Book Club will not be counted as one of your eight courses. It is limited to members only. (Please register in order to receive link)

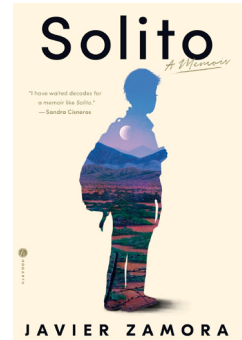
March 3

Solito

by Javier Zamora

2023, 416 pages, Non-fiction Memoir

The Spanish word “solito” means alone, and in his memoir, “Solito,” Javier Zamora shares the perilous journey the author made as a fairly sheltered nine-year-old child from a rural town in El Salvador, through Guatemala and Mexico, to the US.



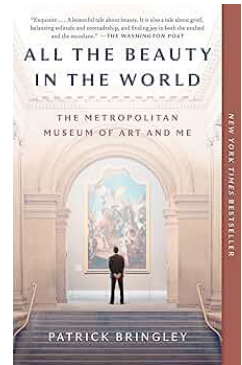
April 7

All The Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Arts and Me

by Patrick Brinkley

2023, 239 Pages, Non Fiction

More than just a portrait of an iconic NYC locale and its treasures by a former New Yorker staffer who spent a decade as a museum guard, this book is also a memoir about grief, healing, art, and reinvention.



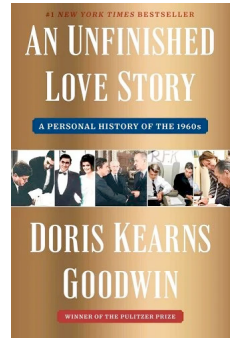
May 5

An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 60's

by Doris Kearns Goodwin

2024, 480 pages

The renowned presidential historian delves into the Kennedy and Johnson eras, drawing from the archives and personal insights of her husband, a former speech writer for both leaders.



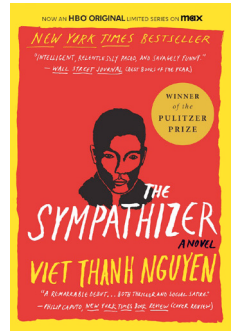
June 2

The Sympathizer

by Viet Thanh Nguyen

2015, 416 pages

Pulitzer Prize for Fiction 2016 The dual identity of the narrator, as a mole and immigrant, and the Americanization of the Vietnam War in international literature are central themes in the novel.



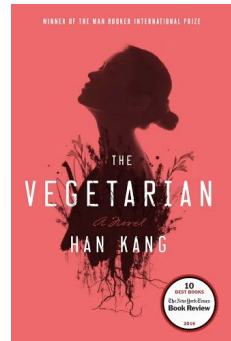
July 7

The Vegetarian

by Han Kang

2016, 208 pages

2024 Pulitzer Prize Novel, *THE VEGETARIAN* is moving, powerful and sad. The story of a young woman in Korea, the harsh reception accorded her vegetarianism, with an unfolding of the neglect and cruelty she has experience, how it influences her decision, and how her attempts to heal are turned against her."



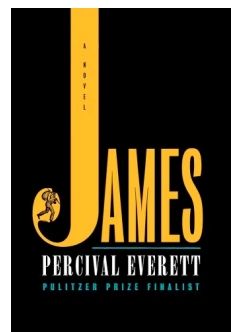
August 4

James

by Percival Everett

2024, 304 pages, Novel

A gripping yet beautiful re-telling of the Huckleberry Finn story, but this time a description of the hardships and tragedies of a slave close to Huck. Please review *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Course listings are in-person unless specified as a remote offering by the course's facilitator.

Members may register for up to 8 courses both in-person and remote offerings, as the schedule permits.

Remote links will be sent along with registration confirmations.

MONDAY

101 Everyday Law for Successful Living

Monday 9-11 am

ZOOM ONLY

Class Leaders: **Andrea A.J. Witt, Esq., CELA and Christine Hurley, Esq. (Spano Dawicki & Witt, LLC)**

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 14, 21

This seminar focuses on everyday legal issues and solutions that seniors should reflect upon and consider to ensure that they remain in control of their financial and health care decisions, and to protect themselves and their assets. Each 2-hour long session will offer lecture, group discussion and case presentation with detailed focus on a particular area.

1. Essential Estate Planning Documents
2. Trusts: What They Are, What They Can and Cannot Accomplish, and How They Can be an indispensable Part of Your Estate Plan
3. So, You've Drafted an Estate Plan....Now What?
4. Administering and Estate Through Probate, and Why and How to Avoid the Process Entirely
5. Real Estate 101: Best Tips and Practices for Both the Buyer and the Seller
6. Navigating the Guardianship and Conservatorship Processes
7. The Spend-Down Scheme: What the Nursing Home Won't Tell You About Protecting Your Assets
8. Asset Protection: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Participants should finish the course with a better understanding of their legal rights, estate planning options, and how to protect their loved ones and their assets.

Course Format: Lecture with slides, group discussion and dialogue.

102 The History of Major Transportation

Monday 9:30-11 am

Limited to 30

Class Leader: **James Rose**

March 3, 10, 17, 24

The History of major transportation projects in Boston and New England.

Course Format: Power Point

Required books or supplies: *People Before Highways* – Karilyn Crockett

Required reading for first class:
People Before Highways



103 The History of Photography: A Cultural Survey

Monday 9:30-11 am

Simulcast

Class Leader: **Michael Chiusano**

March 3, 10, 17, 24

This course will explain the history of photography with an emphasis on its cultural impact rather than its technology. By the end of the course, attendees will understand how images rather than words have brought profound change to Western society.

Course Format: Lecture with extensive slides and illustrations.

104 Amtrak and VIA Rail

Monday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

March 3, 10, 17, 24

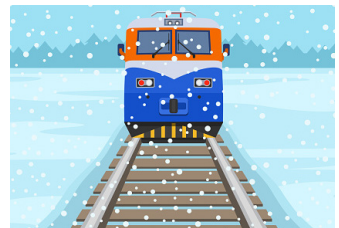
Class Leader: **Edward Finglas**

Since 1971, Amtrak and later, VIA Rail Canada, have been transforming railroad passenger service in North America. This course will discuss historical and technical aspects of this development, as well as the more interesting travel possibilities on both systems.

Course Format: lecture/discussion

Required books or supplies: Loomis, Jim. *All Aboard: The Complete North American Train Travel Guide* ISBN 978-1-56976-176-2

Required reading for first class: Loomis, Chapters 1-3



105 Play Reading

Monday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Limited to 15

Class Leader: **John Archer**

April 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19; June 2

How do our 3 plays (that we will be reading out loud, dissect, and discuss) affect us today in our lives, or do they?

Course Format: We will be reading 3 plays and watching some videos.

Play: *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare



106 Evolution in the Age of Climate Change and Extinction

Monday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Simulcast

Class Leader: **Bill Grover**

May 12, 19

A review of the Introduction to a future book of the same title. It is a summary of humanity's role in Earth's sixth extinction, which will cover climate change, extinction, evolution, and other concepts based on the discussions following the presentation

Course Format: Presentation of intent for a book with discussion follow-up

Required books: *Cosmogenesis* by Brian Swimme, Published by Counterpoint www.counterpointpress.com

Required Reading for the First Class: Prologue and Epilogue of the above books.

Suggested Reading and other books of interest: All chapters in between the Prologue and Epilogue of *Cosmogenesis*. *Return to Creation* by Manitonquat (Medicine Story) Published by Bear Tribe Publishing *The Great Remembering* by Peter Forbes Chelsea Green Publishing Company.



107 Wine: 103 A Mixed Bag

Monday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: **Bertil Wolf**

April 28; May 5, 19; June 9

Wine Topics:

A survey of wines from Costco and Trader Joes

Appreciating Bubbly of all types

Same grapes make very different wines

Rose's from around the world.

Course Format: Lecture, Tasting, Discussion. Cost - \$40.00/per participant

Required books or supplies: I will supply data notes.



TUESDAY

201 Lessons Learned from the 2024 Presidential Election

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Dr. Herbert L. Selesnick**

March 4, 11, 18, 25

Limited to 20

Simulcast

A wide-ranging evaluation of how well the election challenges of 2024 were met, from the way the two parties selected their candidates for the presidency to the last vote counted, examining the strategies and technologies employed, the resulting costs and consequences, and the confidence voters ultimately had in the results.

Course Format: A facilitated group discussion

Required reading for first class: A handout the facilitator will distribute to the registered participants before the first class.

202 And the Winner Is.....

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Marilyn Day**

March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8

Let's examine seven major literary prizes for fiction like the Nobel, Pulitzer, and Booker, looking at their history, criteria, and past winners. Then we will delve into the work of the 2024 winners and discuss our responses. Class members are asked to choose at least three titles to read.

Course Format: Presentation of background material and discussion

Required books or supplies: The selections are listed in order of length, shortest to longest. All can be found at the library.

Jericho Brown: *The Tradition*, 110 pages (poetry)

T. Kingfisher: *Thornhedge*, 128 pages

Justin Torres: *We, The Animals*, 156 pages

Ananda Devi: *Eve Out of her Ruins*, 160 pages

Han Kang: *The Vegetarian*, 208 pages

Samantha Harvey: *Orbital*, 215 pages

VV Ganeshananthan: *Love and Marriage*, 302 pages

Jayne Anne Phillips: *Night Watch*, 305 pages



203 Film Club

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Limited to 20

Class Leaders: **Rick Cacace, Mary Jo Wagner**

**March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29;
May 6, 13, 20**

This 12 week course will view and discuss six movies. One week to view the movie in class, the second week to discuss. Participants will share in selection of movie and lead the discussion.





Course and Intersession Referral

Do you know someone who has special knowledge or talent who may be an interesting presenter for an Explorers program?

Name: _____

Subject: _____

Spring 2025 Explorers Membership/Registration Form

*Course listings are in-person unless specified as a remote offering by the course's facilitator.

*Members may register for both in-person and remote offerings as the schedule permits.

Name _____ Date _____
Last First M.I. Nickname (for name tag)

Address _____ ZIP _____
Street City/State

Home Phone (_____) _____ Other Phone (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone (_____) _____ Relationship _____

Procedure for Registration

Courses will be assigned on a space available basis. Applicants not admitted will be placed on a waiting list.

Your first course choice will be given assignment priority. If first choice courses become oversubscribed class participants will be selected in the following order: **1. New member, 2. Members who have selected the course as their first choice.**

COURSE SELECTIONS: LIST THE COURSES IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE.

You may enroll in up to eight courses per semester, exclusive of Book Club.

Spring 2025 Semester

Course Number	Course Title
1. <input type="text"/>	_____
2. <input type="text"/>	_____

3.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	_____
4.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	_____
5.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	_____
6.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	_____
7.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	_____
8.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	_____

BOOK CLUB

PLEASE NOTE:

6 Month Non-Refundable Membership Fee

January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025

1/2 Year March to August

• Single Membership \$175 \$ _____

1/2 Year March to August

• Married or Domestic

Partner Membership \$305 \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Make check payable to:

Explorers LLI

Send completed form and check to:

Explorers LLI

10 Federal Street, Suite 10,

Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Register with credit card or PayPal

online: explorerslli.org

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Received by: _____ Date: _____

Amount Received: Half Year _____ Date Entered in Computer: _____

Cash: _____ Check: _____ Credit Card/PP: _____

PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE.

Contact Information

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

_____ Course

_____ Intersession

Your Name: _____

Thank you for completing this form!

204 History of China

Tuesday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Simulcast

Class Leader: **Bob Hooker**

March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1

An update of last year's Making of Modern China course with more current information and addition of more reading and viewing recommendations.



Course Format: Lecture with PowerPoints, discussion

Required books or supplies: None, although many will be recommended

Suggested books or supplies: *River Town and Other Rivers* by Peter Hessler.

205 The Rise and Fall of the Athenian Empire, 5th Century BCE

Tuesday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Limited to 35

Class Leader: **Dr. Linda M. Medwid**

May 6, 13, 20, 27; June 3, 10

We will study Athens' meteoric rise to become the leading power in ancient Greece, its role as the founder of Western civilization, and the events which led Athens into the Peloponnesian War; this failed endeavor, a 27 year-long war against its Greek neighbor. Sparta, eventually led to Athens' defeat in 404 BCE.

We will look at some key events in the Persian Wars (490-479 BCE) in which Greece fought against overwhelming odds to become the victor. Thereafter, Athens came to the fore as the most powerful city-state in Greece and, at the same time became a democracy that ruled an empire.

It was during the period following the Persian Wars that we also see Athens develop into a center for art, architecture, drama, and philosophy, to name just a few of its achievements. Thus Athens created the cultural institutions which were to become the bedrock of western civilization.

Special attention will be given to the strengths which brought about the creation of "Classical" Athens and the weaknesses that led to its downfall. Topics to be covered in this regard will be the democratic system of government in Athens, Athens' relationship to its subject states, the rise of the demagogue in Athenian politics, the effect of war on human behavior, and the fateful decisions which were made at several points by Athens during the Peloponnesian War.

Course Format: Lecture, class discussions, slides.

Required books or supplies: Required Text: *Greek Realities: Life and Thought in Ancient Greece* by Finley Hooper. Wayne State University Press, 1968. Paperback, ISBN: 0246973765 this book has been through many printings but has never been revised – so any edition will do! The cost is just under \$30 new, and from about \$10 used. Widely available.

Required reading for first class: Introduction, pp. 1-10 and Chapter VI The Formative Years at Athens

206 Opera 101

Tuesday 1:30-3 pm

ZOOM ONLY

Class Leader: **Margie Satinsky**

April 1, 8, 15, 22

This course will begin with information about opera's history, collaborative approach to production, and different voice types. Operas on which we will focus are from different countries and time periods and will include Mozart's *The Magic Flute and the Marriage of Figaro*. Verdi's *Don Carlo*, Wagner's *Tannhauser*, Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* and Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*.

Course Format: The class will be by Zoom and include both lecture and music.

Required reading for first class: The first few chapters of *Opera 101* are recommended, not required.

Suggested books or supplies: Recommended but not required (1) *Opera 101* by Fred Plotkin. 1994. ISBN: 13:978-0-7868-8025-6 published by Hachette Books (2) *Verdi with a Vengeance* by William Berger. 2000. ISBN: 0-375-70518-X. Random House, Inc. (3) *Understanding the Women of Mozart's Operas* by Kirisi Brown-Montesano. 2027. ISBN:13978-0-520-38579-5. The Regents of the University of California. (4) *The life and Times of Porgy and Bess* by Hollis Alpert. 1990, ISBN: 0-394-58339-6. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.

207 Writers Group

Tuesday 1-3 pm

Limited to 10

Class Leader: **Gay Porter**

March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27

The Writers Group meets weekly on Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 pm throughout the year. This group functions to support intermediate and above level writers as they develop their voice and broaden their skill set.

Course Format: Writers compose their writings at home, read during group and critique each other's writings.



WEDNESDAY

301 Ironing Out Madeleine L'Engle's *A WRINKLE IN TIME*

Wednesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Dr. Rose Wolf**

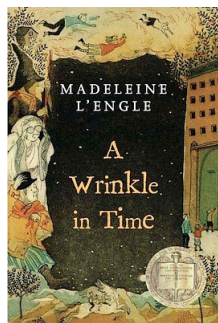
March 5, 12, 19

It was a dark and stormy flight when three earthly children and three unearthly women set out on a madcap mission to save a distinguished scientist. Using dangerous time-folding travel, the human seekers seize him from a Shadowed planet—but discover that they must first conquer the darkness within themselves.

Course Format: Lecture and discussion with AV presentation

Required books or supplies: Numerous paperback editions of *Wrinkle* are available through Ebay or Amazon for a modest price. One attractive offering is the edition from Square Fish (ISBN #978-0-312: Farrar Strauss Giroux, 2007). This version offers an interview with the author at the end of the book.

Required reading for first class: Please have read Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* in its entirety before the first class. Like many of the YA classics we've examined, this work is short, and I suspect it will prove so gripping that you'll want to finish it in a sitting or two. Its author had to search for ten years to find a publisher who would offer her unique story and nearly gave up writing after this "decade of rejection." Thankfully, *Wrinkle* was finally brought out in 1962, and it quickly garnered the prestigious Newbury Medal.



Limited to 12

302 Gustav Mahler and Boston Philharmonic Concerts

Wednesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Dr. Peter Sheckman**

March 26; April 2, 9, 16

An in depth look at the music and times of the late Romantic period through the life of Gustav Mahler. The last class will focus on the second symphony of Mahler to be performed on April 18 at Symphony Hall – attend in person or live stream the concert.

Course Format: in person and virtual, lecture, listening, discussion.

Simulcast

303 Fate or Free Will: Do We Have A Choice?

Wednesday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Limited to 20

Class Leader: **Linda Andros, JD. LLM**

Simulcast

April 9, 16, 23

Let's explore whether fate controls our actions and purpose in life or whether we are free to create our own life and purpose.

Course Format: Discussion of novels with a short break within the two hour period.

Required Books:

1. *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, by John Irving, 1989 Harper Publishing
2. *The Dream of Scipio*, by Iain Pears, 2022, Riverhead Books, NY

ISBN 1-57322-202-X

Required reading for first class: Both novels should be read entirely by the first class.

304 Masterworks of Twentieth-Century Music

Wednesday 2-4 pm

Limited to 20

Class Leader: **Edward Lundergan**

March 5, 12, 19, 26

One-quarter of the way through the 21st century, many great works of music from the previous century are still not well-understood or fully integrated into the repertoire. We will examine some of these works in their cultural, historical and biographical context, including Stravinsky, *The Rite of Spring*; Ives, "Concord" Sonata; Berg, *Violin Concerto*; Bartok, *Concerto for Orchestra*; and Britten, *War Requiem*

Course Format: Lecture and discussion, including selected YouTube videos.

Required books or supplies: None required; a list of recommended videos will be posted and distributed.

Required reading

for first class:

Recommended:

Michael Tilson Thomas and Sand Francisco Symphony, *Keeping Score*, episode on *The Rite of Spring*, available on YouTube.



305 Continuing Spanish

Wednesday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: Marilyn Cassidy

March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30;
May 7, 14, 21

A solid base in Spanish/a genuine desire to learn and/or improve/a dedication to studying and participating/a good sense of humor.

Course Format: conversation and reading

Required books or supplies: TBD



306 Adventures with Huckleberry Finn

Wednesday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: Claire Keyes

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7

*Limited to 30
Repeat Course*

Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* has been a classic of American literature since its publication in the 19th Century. In 2024, Percival Everett re-imagines this novel as told from the point of view of the enslaved Jim, Huck's companion on the Mississippi. We will read and explore both novels to measure the achievement of each. Does the modern critique succeed? Does Twain really say it all?

Course Format: this course will be part lecture, part discussion.

Topics to be covered: our topics will evolve out of our discussions of the novels, especially the malady of racism in our country.

Texts: Mark Twain,
*Adventures of
Huckleberry Finn*,
Norton Critical Editions
(Search ABE books.com)
Percival Everett, **James
Doubleday, 2024**

**Required reading for
first class:** *Huckleberry
Finn*, Chapters 1-15.

**Recommended
background reading:**
The Norton Critical
Edition of *Huckleberry
Finn*.



307 My Favorite Lecture

Wednesday 2-4 pm

Simulcast

Class Leader: **Dr. Stephen Young**

April 23, 30; May 7, 14, 21

April 23 Geographic Curiosities

Stephen Young (Geography and Sustainability Department)

April 30 Walking at High Altitude: Stories from the Mountains

Stephenie Young (English Department and Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies)

**May 7 From Oral Histories to Cutting-edge Science:
The Revival of Salem's Historic Cemetery Arboretum**

Lisa Delissio (Biology Department)

May 14 Exploring Morocco: Changes in Culture and Land Use

Lorri Krebs (Geography and Sustainability Department and Center for Economic Development and Sustainability)

May 21 It's About Time

Erkan Toraman (Geological Sciences Department)

THURSDAY

401 Find Your Green Thumb: Indoor and Outdoor Gardening

Thursday 9:30-11 am

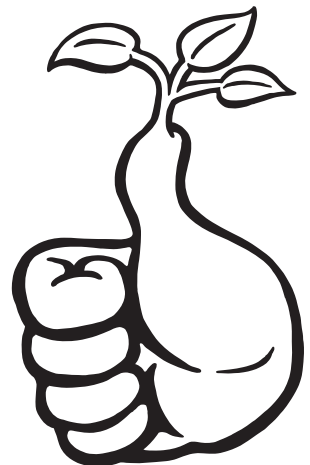
Simulcast

Class Leader: **Dr. Peter Barker**

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Find your green thumb! This class will address gardening in small spaces. We will discuss growing plants from seed, principles of botany, propagation and Feng Shui. Learn how to garden in your home and on your patio.

Course Format: Lecture/Discussion



402 Current Events

Thursday 9:30-11 am

Limited to 30

Class Leaders: **Robert Hooker, David and Claire Helfman and Anne Waymouth**

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8, 15, 22

In-person discussion of current events.

Course Format: Discussion

403 Spanish Conversation

Thursday 11:30 am- 1:00 pm

Limited to 10

Class Leaders: **John and Judy Arnold**

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8, 15, 22

A conversation course for previously enrolled students with intermediate mastery of Spanish or with approval of presenters.

Course Format: Selected readings and sharing of life experiences.

Required books or supplies: All texts will be available online.

Required reading for first class: Review your week/month/recent experiences and prepare to share with others.



404 Boston Re-done, or Is It Done?

Thursday 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Repeat Course

Class Leader: **Hannah Diozzi**

Simulcast

March 27; April 3, 10

Let's take a photo trip back to a Boston that existed in some/most of our lifetimes and has been removed/upgraded/reimagined/marvelously improved/ruined/transformed/you decide. We will visit an area behind North Station once known as the Potato Sheds, now North Point Park combined with the waterfront piece of the North End as well as the old West End; the Fitzgerald Expressway that gave way to the Greenway and its neighboring Fort Point waterfront area; the proposed eight lane Route 195 to Providence, now the verdant and charming Southwest Corridor Park, and its neighbors, the Christian Science complex, and the finally completed Prudential Center.

Course Format: slide lecture with Q and A.

405 Things That Matter

Thursday 2-4 pm

Simulcast

Class Leader: **Michael Goldman**

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10

Each year things that matter go unseen by most people. From the death of a little known but important person to a discovery that changes what we think about something we thought we knew, this course will make sure we are aware and updated.

Course Format: Lecture

FRIDAY

501 What's Next for Democracy?

Friday 9:30-11 am

ZOOM

Class Leader: **Dr. Dean Wasserman**

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 30

You don't have to be immersed in political science to know that liberal democracies have retreated worldwide over the last decade with the United States the most stunning recent example. These sessions will offer some varying opinions of possible explanations of our imperiled democracy, and though there will be some including of other nations, the focus will be on the United States.

Is the problem the American system, a constitution that is not sufficiently robust to sustain a liberal democracy? Is the problem of a loss of leadership with our elected officials more interested in amassing personal wealth than serving the national interest? Has unrestrained capitalism taken over the levels of power of government? Is it the disinformation that has undermined truth and trust in government?

Or is it us, we the people, who have abrogated our civic responsibility to ensure a stable republic?

We will discuss all these possibilities in five sessions with some supplemental readings, and what I hope will be lively input from participants.



502 Supreme Court

Friday 9:30-11 am

Limited to 40

Class Leaders: **Michael Eschelbacher, Tom Mela**

ZOOM ONLY

June 6, 13, 20, 27

An ongoing discussion of the cases to be heard by the Supreme Court during the Court's October 2024 session (10-24-6/25), as well as any other developments affecting the Court which may arise. While the facilitators will provide historical background and context, the success of the course is wholly dependent on participation by the class.

Course Format: Remote (Zoom). Discussion

Required books or supplies: Relevant readings will be provided prior to each class.





Salem State University Concerts

Two classical music concerts will be presented by Explorers. The Jewish Community Center and Salem State University at the Salem State University Recital Hall located at 71 Loring Avenue. Gratis and on a 'first come first served' basis.

The concerts will take place at 3:00 PM with an introduction by Dr. Peter Sheckman followed by the music. Parking is available across the street from the building entrance.

February 9, 2025 – The OKO Trio – Mina Kim, cello – Emma Powell, Violin – and Charles Overton Harp

March 9, 2025 – A Duo: Eliko Akahori, Piano - Joshua Perkins, Violin

BULLETIN BOARD & CANCELLATIONS

Bulletin Board: There is a bulletin board at the Explorers Office at 10 Federal Street, Salem for all the schedule updates, coming events, special Salem State events and other pertinent information.

Cancellations: If Salem State University cancels classes, Explorers classes will also be cancelled. If SSU classes are delayed, Explorers classes will be cancelled. Tune in to the following for updates: **TV:** Channels 4, 5, 7 and 25.

There is also a recorded message on the Explorers telephone: 978-744-0804.

Handicapped Information: Our quarters at 10 Federal Street are handicapped accessible. Please use the side entrance near the parking lot.

Explorers Center Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am – 4 pm

Telephone: (978) 744-0804 **Email:** explorers@verizon.net

Websites: salemstate.edu/explorers

(Complete catalogue online) explorerslli.org

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Carol Damon

Sandra Lawson

Susan Crowley

Jonathan Leamon

Harriet Flashenberg

Ted Novakowski

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

When the directive comes for the building to be evacuated, you should leave the building immediately.

Do not stop for coats or personal belongings.

Turn right and exit to St. Peter Street (side door).

Stay with your classmates because it will be necessary to take attendance to determine that everyone is safely out of the building. Do not re-enter the building until receiving the all clear information.

If you are handicapped and unable to negotiate the steps to St. Peter Street, it is your responsibility to arrange with someone to assist your evacuation. You must exit via the Federal Street exit. Upon exit from building please notify emergency personnel of your safe exit.

Explorers LLI
Salem State University
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Salem, MA 01970

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SPRING 2025

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