



Renaissance Institute

**SPRING
2021**

NOTRE DAME
OF MARYLAND
UNIVERSITY

Life Long Learning



EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVER.

Trying something new can take you to places you've never investigated. Pursue your painting or photography passion. Join a writing workshop. View a film and share impressions.

Keeping the minds, bodies, and spirits of adults age 50+ flexible since 1989, the Renaissance Institute is a lifelong learning community housed on the main campus of Notre Dame of Maryland University.

Renaissance Institute offers two semesters of noncredit courses, designed and led primarily by the members themselves. As a member, you may take as many classes as you wish from our varied catalog of offerings and, when ready, share your acquired knowledge by teaching courses on subjects you are passionate about. Course topics have included literature, public affairs, philosophy, history, music, art, languages, tai chi, film, science, computers, yoga, acting, and more.

We also offer member-sponsored activities and travel opportunities. Past trips have included Costa Rica, the Canadian Maritimes, the Grand Tetons, and the Southwest U.S.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Take as many courses as you like each registered semester
- Audit one Notre Dame of Maryland University course for \$185
- Access the Notre Dame library, computer lab, dining hall and fitness center
- Receive a Notre Dame ID card that can be used for student discounts
- Apply for an Amazon Prime Student account through your Notre Dame student email account. See Amazon.com for details
- Enjoy free on-campus parking when NDMU reopens

COST: Membership for Spring Semester 2021: \$200

DATES AND TIMES: As stated in this catalog.
All Spring 2021 classes will be by remote delivery via Zoom

MORE INFORMATION: sbigley1@ndm.edu

TUESDAY CLASSES

1) THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

February 2–March 16 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: [Josef Nathanson](#)

Email: urbaninfo@comcast.net

Centering on the years 1954–1968, the course will attempt to capture the sights and sounds of a turbulent time in American history, that of the Civil Rights Movement. Key events taking place in Montgomery, Selma, Birmingham, and elsewhere in the South will be presented in talks and by guest speakers. Class participation is a feature of the class.

Josef Nathanson earned a B.Arch. from MIT and a city planning degree from Penn. He has worked in public agencies and as a private consultant. A lifelong interest in history and a tour of Civil Rights Movement sites in 2018 inspired this course.

2) SING ME A SONG: 1950s BALLADS

February 2-March 16 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: [Donna Bertling](#)

Email: dbertling49@gmail.com

This is a music-filled course on the slow songs of the '50s, ranging from big band, show tunes, jazz, country, and early rock' n roll. Learn the stories behind the songs and how they became so memorable. This is a lecture, PowerPoint and music course.

Donna Bertling presented this course several years ago and is bringing it back at a time when we need to fill our lives with beautiful music.

FEBRUARY 2–MAY 4

3) LEONARDO DA VINCI: HIS LIFE AND WORK

February 2 – March 16 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: [Joseph Cassar](#)

Email: joejad@comcast.net

This PowerPoint lecture course focuses on the art and life of Leonardo da Vinci, an enigmatic figure whose genius has bewildered historians up until today. The lectures will focus on his humble beginnings in the workshop of Andrea del Verrochio until his more successful years working for Ludovico Sforza and other patrons. We will look at his few paintings, cartoons, sketchbooks, anatomical studies, inventions, engineering skills and other curiosities.

Joseph Paul Cassar, Ph.D. is an artist, scholar, curator, educator, and author. He teaches art history, appreciation and studio art. He lectures at the Smithsonian Institution, Johns Hopkins, Towson University and others, and designs online art courses for The New York Times Knowledge Network and the University of Maryland Global Campus.

4) THEY ARE NOT THE ENEMY- TALKING TO PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS

March 23- May 4 6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: [Betty Loafmann](#)

Email: 4eastinn@gmail.com

In a never-ending attempt to help people converse constructively with people who have different ideas, this course will focus on shared values, major points of division, and how to hold the conversations that heal our divisions.

Betty Loafmann has taught a variety of classes at RI over the past 12 years. These include: I'm Right/ You're Wrong, Grace, and Why Do People Do What They Do? Her degree is in ministry.

TUESDAY CLASSES

5) LEONARDO DA VINCI: HIS LIFE AND WORK (Repeat)

March 23- May 4 6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Joseph Cassar
Email: joejad@comcast.net

See Course No. 3 for instructor bio & description

6) COVID 19: NOT OUR FIRST OR LAST PANDEMIC

March 23- May 4 6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Don Finkelstein
Email: dsfinkelstein55@gmail.com

Intermittent outbreaks of infectious diseases have had profound lasting effects on societies throughout history. This class is designed to introduce members of RI to some of the epidemics and pandemics that have occurred in the last 100 years as well as what we can expect in the future. Course will be presented via ZOOM using PowerPoints and videos accompanied by class discussions.

Donald Finkelstein was a Baltimore County Middle/High School teacher for 22 years implementing the State Common Core Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. He was School chairman of Green School Committee and schoolwide STEM program. He holds a B.A. in Biology (Bridgeport) and M.A. in Education from UMBC.

FEBRUARY 2–MAY 4

7) MEMORY PICTURES/Writers WORKSHOP

February 2-May 4 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Elizabeth Fanto
Email: efanto37@gmail.com

Writers will write on self-selected topics. This is a place to capture your life events, try some fiction, or even poetry. You can write weekly or when you choose, without pressure, and share stories. Beginners are welcome in this cooperative workshop atmosphere.

Elizabeth Fanto graduated from Towson University with a B.S. in Education and Master's in English. She taught high school English and Creative Writing in BCPS and sponsored Dulaney High School's Sequel literary/art magazine for 6 years. She was editor of Renaissance's Reflections Magazine for 6 years and has taught RI writing classes for 20 years.

LIMIT 15 STUDENTS

8) QI GONG

February 2- May 4 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Pamela Tanton
Email: pamelatanton@gmail.com

Participants will learn standing and seated Qigong movements. Qigong is gentle, and the standing movements may be done while sitting if desired. This ancient Chinese practice is beneficial for health: good for balance, relaxing, calms anxiety, and lifts the spirits! Pamela is a light-hearted teacher who wants her class members to feel super great at the end of each class.

Pamela Tanton has been teaching Qigong since 2004 (remotely since April 2020). She has studied extensively with Qigong master Li Junfeng, originally from China, and has taken thirteen 10-day teacher training courses with him. She is a graduate of Goucher College.

TUESDAY CLASSES

9) BEGINNING BIRDWATCHING

February 2- May 4 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: [Don Burggraf](#)

Email: donald.burggraf@gmail.com

This course will cover the basics of birdwatching – identification tips, optical equipment, local birding hot spots, etc. No previous knowledge of birds is necessary. The lectures will be illustrated with Power Point slides.

Don Burggraf is a retired minister who has taught this course twice before at RI. He has looked for birds in more than 30 states, and in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

10) EXPLORING A COURSE IN MIRACLES

February 2- March 16 7 weeks
11 a.m.-12:15p.m.

Instructor: [Nancy St. Pierre](#)

Email: nastp8@yahoo.com

This will be a discussion class where we explore some of the topics in *A Course in Miracles*. There may be videos and reading assignments from the book.

Prerequisites: Participants must be students of ACIM and must have the book, which is available online. Please contact the instructor if there are questions.

Nancy St. Pierre is a seven-year Renaissance member who has served on the council, various committees, and coordinated many classes. Her passion is teaching classes that inspire.

LIMIT 12 STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 2–MAY 4

11) HOW THE U.S. CONGRESS IS SUPPOSED TO WORK

February 2-March 16 7 weeks
11 a.m. -12:15 p.m.

Instructor: [Jane McConnell](#)

Email: jmcconnell2@gmail.com

This course will focus on US Congress, its history, legislative responsibilities, organizational structure, behavior, political parties and campaign financing. Part lecture with class participation expected.

Jane McConnell is a community activist in New York City and Baltimore. She has an RN from St. Vincent's Hospital, BS from Columbia University, MS and MPA from New York University and JD from Fordham University. In the past Jane has taught, "How and Why We Should Change the Constitution", "Constitutional Myths" and "History of the Supreme Court".

LIMIT 50 STUDENTS WITH \$10. MATERIALS FEE

12) INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC AND MATHEMATICAL THINKING

February 2-March 16 7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: [Janet Currotto](#)

Email: janet.currotto@comcast.net

Most of us experience math in school as a series of well-defined problems and procedures, which in adulthood can seem rather irrelevant to our daily lives. In this course we will take a step back and look at how we can use logical, unambiguous yet creative thinking to first define the real-world problems we need to solve, and only then develop meaningful solutions.

Janet Currotto spent her entire career as a Federal Financial IT developer/manager, after receiving a B.S. in Mathematics at UMD. Upon retirement, she earned an M.S. in Educational Studies at JHU, focusing on mathematics learning and the use of IT in education.

TUESDAY CLASSES

13) *BEOWULF*

March 23- May 4 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Sharon Harwood

Email: sharonharwood43@yahoo.com

Beowulf lives! Join the adventure as we savor the epic poem of a warrior hero who survived mortal combat only to be reduced to an excerpt in high school English texts. Buy or borrow Seamus Heaney's excellent 2020 translation of *Beowulf*, required for in-class guided reading, discussion, and PPT/lectures.

Sharon Harwood is a charter member of POEM, the Professional Organization of English Majors. She has been a Renaissance member/coordinator since 2007 and is a retired educator.

LIMIT 20 STUDENTS, Purchase book on your own: \$30

14) HISTORY OF THE 1950s IN AMERICA

March 23 – May 4 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Edward Berkowitz

Email: ber@gwu.edu

This lecture course, based on the instructor's current research, will present an overview of American life in the 1950s, touching on politics, economics, civil rights, television, and sports.

Edward Berkowitz is professor emeritus of history at George Washington University. He has taught at Renaissance for four semesters.

FEBRUARY 2–MAY 4

15) MUSICAL HISTORY, A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

March 23 – May 4 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: John Meredith

Email: johnmeredith1439@gmail.com

Each week we will learn about the history and development of a different instrument or musical style. Presentations will include the cello, the pipe organ, the hammered dulcimer, Broadway shows, vocalists, and others. The format will include lecture, PowerPoint, YouTube selections, and some personal performances.

John Meredith began music lessons at age seven and has had a lifelong interest in music. He has been a member of the Renaissance Singers since 2015 and will be joined in this course by other members of the Chorus and of the Music Fellowship Club.

16) THE NEW YORKER ROUNDTABLE

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Brian Young

Email: perwhit@aol.com

This course is a moderated discussion of articles from *The New Yorker* magazine. Each week, 4-5 articles are assigned in advance for discussion. The articles include current events, personal profiles, fiction, book reviews, and poetry among other topics. Participants discuss the subject matter, writing style, context, and author biases. A diversity of views is encouraged.

*Brian Young is a retired aerospace program manager who developed an interest in *The New Yorker* after his working career ended. He participated in a similar discussion group in Connecticut before moving to Baltimore.*

LIMIT 40 STUDENTS

TUESDAY CLASSES

17) THE ART OF DRAWING PEOPLE

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Alina Kurbiel
Email: akurbiel@ndm.edu

The workshop explores the simple techniques for drawing a variety of figures and portraits. We'll start with gesture drawings before using simple 3D shapes like the sphere, the cylinder, and the cube to create the more complex forms of the figure. At the end of this course we will draw portraits in varied poses. This course is designed for students who would like to learn how to draw people. Students provide their own materials.

Alina Kurbiel was born in Silesia, Poland. She was a software engineer and graphic designer in Maryland. She then switched careers to traditional art, mainly working in watercolors, ink and graphite pencils. She is a signature artist member of Baltimore Watercolor Society. Google Alina Kurbiel to see more of her beautiful art.

LIMIT 20 STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 2–MAY 4

18) YOGA SOMATICS

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Linda McGill
Email: laharte12@gmail.com

Yoga Somatics is a class for everyone, which teaches a new freedom of movement. It works on strengthening the posture and core, helping the body feel stronger and better aligned using simple movements, breath and relaxation. Other benefits include relieving neuromuscular pain, regaining voluntary control of habitually tight muscles, improving coordination, balance, and flexibility, while increasing self-awareness and mindfulness. Can be done in bed or on the floor.

Linda McGill is a certified 500-hour yoga teacher and has been teaching for the past 4 years at two Senior Centers, Church of the Nativity, JHH and JHU. She enjoys teaching yoga & meditation. She is a Roland Park resident for 30 years.

LIMIT 40 STUDENTS

19) SEASONS OF HOLLYWOOD: SILENT, PRE-CODE, GOLDEN AGE, AND NOIR

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Instructors: Amanda Joyce & Joann Bruni
Email: ajoyce@ecologixgroup.com

This interactive class will use clips, interviews, and entire films (as available) to show successive eras of Hollywood filmmaking. Focusing on the careers of Barbara Stanwyck, Joan Crawford and others whose careers span all four eras, we will discuss ways in which Hollywood influenced and reflected popular culture.

Joann Bruni and Amanda Joyce are cinema lovers who take a special interest in the history & evolution of the film industry.

TUESDAY CLASSES

20) TREES AND SHRUBS

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Instructor: Robert Poor

Email: Not listed per Instructor's request

In this course we will have lectures that look at the many genera of trees and shrubs that bloom in our area in their rough order of bloom. We will also have, as time permits, collateral lectures on related topics such as pest control, soil chemistry, annuals, perennials, tropicals, taxonomic aspects of plants, plant identification and virtual tours of some famous gardens.

Robert Poor has been a member of RI since 2006 and has taught a variety of classes and courses on horticulture, botany, chemistry, physics, math, history, and literature. He has a PhD in organic chemistry from Johns Hopkins and a JD from the Univ of MD School of Law.

21) WATERCOLORS

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Instructor: Alina Kurbiel

Email: akurbiel@ndm.edu

This program is for artists who tried watercolor painting before and for those who are new to this medium. We will use simple wet-on-wet, wet-on-dry and dry-on-dry techniques. We will also learn how to paint using negative painting techniques to build up layers of color and create stunning abstract watercolor art. We will draw from photographs and from observation of still life setups. Students provide their own materials.

See course No. 18 for instructor's bio

LIMIT 20 STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 2–MAY 4

22) POETRY WORKSHOP

February 2 – May 4 13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Instructor: Susan Marshall

Email: gibysue@comcast.net

In this course participants meet to share their work and to offer encouragement and gentle critique. Suggested assignments are guides but need not be followed.

Susan Marshall received her BA in English as a Continuing Student at Notre Dame, and returned to earn her Master's Degree in Liberal Studies. She has coordinated the poetry workshop for several years.

LIMIT 16 STUDENTS

THURSDAY CLASSES

27) AMERICA'S NATIONS: A HISTORY OF THE ELEVEN RIVAL REGIONAL NATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

March 25 – May 6 6 weeks
9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Instructor: John Danz

Email: john.danz123@gmail.com

We will examine and discuss how America is comprised of eleven "nations," each with its own unique historical roots dating back centuries. From the Deep South to the Far West, Yankeedom to El Norte, each region continues to sustain its distinguishing ideas today. The results can be seen in the composition of the U.S. Congress or on the county by county election maps of presidential elections.

John Danz holds a BS in History & Political Science from VA Tech. He has lectured frequently on a wide range of subjects in American & Maryland history within several adult education programs in the Baltimore area. He has also served as Vice-President for Program, Baltimore County Historical Society.

28) UNDERSTANDING AND LOVING YOUR COMPUTER(S)

March 25 – May 6 6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Janet Currotto

Email: janet.currotto@comcast.net

Computers have become so ingrained in our lives that we rarely think about how recently they came into being. We will look at major decisions that led to today's devices (including tablets and phones), and where "computers" may go in the future. We'll explore how we can (safely) make the most of the computing power on our desks, in our hands, and in the "cloud." (Lecture, discussion, optional group work)

See Course No. 12 for Instructor's Bio

FEBRUARY 4–MAY 6

29) THE SAINT AND THE SINNER: GERALD M. HOPKINS AND OSCAR WILDE

March 25 – May 6 7 weeks
9:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Dorian Borsella

Email: ghostgirl1649@gmail.com

Two men lived in Victorian England. Gerard Manley Hopkins converted to Roman Catholicism (against his parents' wishes), became a Jesuit Priest, and never fit in! His poetry touches the reader at a deep place. Famed playwright Oscar Wilde got jailed for "gross indecency". We will discuss their works and lives. Lecture/discussion

Dorian Borsella is a lifetime student and has taught numerous RI courses. She holds an MLA and MSW degrees.

LIMIT 40 STUDENTS

30) OPEN STUDIO FOR PROSE WRITERS

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Donna Bertling

Email: *Not listed per instructor's request*

This is a prose writing class for serious writers who want in-depth feedback. Students are encouraged to bring their short stories, memoirs or book chapters in progress or completed. Class size is limited to allow ample time for reading and critique.

Donna Bertling has a B.A. in English from Loyola University Maryland. Her first novel was published in 2017. The sequel will come out soon.

LIMIT 15 STUDENTS

THURSDAY CLASSES

31) CHAIR YOGA

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Linda McGill

Email: laharte12@gmail.com

Chair yoga is a great way to get the health benefits of yoga. Staying seated means that those who are not flexible can safely do the exercises. We will do some standing poses using the chair as support. Yoga loosens and stretches painful muscles, reduces stress, and improves circulation. It reduces anxiety, helps lower blood pressure, protects joints, strengthens lung capacity and builds strength and balance.

See course No. 19 for instructor's bio

LIMIT 40 STUDENTS

32) THE REVOLUTION IN PHYSICS (1900-1930)

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Robert Frey/Robert Poor

Email: Not listed at instructor's request

The early 20th century was a time of revolutionary change. We will discuss new physics in a non-mathematical way for us non-physicists. We will look at the atomic-molecular scale, space-time, gravity, and large-scale-structure of the universe while discussing some experiments and concepts that require participants to think hard about things that defy intuition. Lives of thinker-leaders of the revolution like Einstein will be discussed.

Robert Frey has a BA in physics (Duke) and a PhD in physical chemistry (Johns Hopkins). He spent the bulk of his career at Aberdeen Proving Ground working on technical projects of a military nature. He now resides in Fort Worth, Texas. Robert Poor's bio is in course # 21

FEBRUARY 4–MAY 6

33) SPANISH 101

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Frank Mullinix

Email: franklin.mullinix@gmail.com

This course is intended for students with little or no knowledge of the Spanish language. Students will develop communicative skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) and be exposed to Hispanic cultures through discussion, videos, conversation, and grammar explanation.

Frank Mullinix is a recent graduate of Goucher College with a BA in Spanish and a minor in Latin American Studies. Former college tennis player, avid skateboarder, and part-time buffalo farmer, Frank tunes in to teach on Zoom from a tiny lakeside cabin in New Hampshire.

LIMIT 20 STUDENTS

34) THE CONCEPTS OF CARL G. JUNG

February 4 – March 18 7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Dorian Borsella

Email: ghostgirl1649@gmail.com

Freud hoped Jung would be his successor but Jung's ideas are much richer. The pair had a huge falling out. We will discuss Jung's central concepts: archetypes, persona, ego, shadow, animus-anima, introversion-extroversion, spirituality, dreams, etc. Format is lecture-discussion.

Dorian Borsella has taught R.I. courses since 2014. She has MSW and MLA degrees. She took an informal course on Jung, has attended Jungian workshops.

LIMIT 25 STUDENTS

THURSDAY CLASSES

35) *UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS* CONTINUES

February 4 – March 18 7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructors: Peggy Egan and Ann Martin
Email: m_t_egan@yahoo.com

Upstairs Downstairs is a period drama set in London in the early 20th century. This video series depicts the successes and failures of the upper class and working-class residents of 165 Eaton Place. Their interactions reflect the social, cultural, economic and political attitudes of the haves and have-nots of British society. Class participation is encouraged.

Peggy Egan and Ann Martin are both Anglophiles, interested in English history and culture. Together they have coordinated many courses at RI. (Peggy would be at a loss without Ann's technical prowess!)

36) OUR FAVORITE THINGS

February 4 – March 18 7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Carol Daddazio
Email: cdaddazio42@gmail.com

This course will offer participants a chance to share their favorite artistic things: a building, a piece of music, an opera, painting, poem, statue, quilt and so on. Each week will feature a work of art taught by a different participant who will share some background with the group and why they love this work.

Carol Daddazio is a new member and retired teacher from Brookline, MA who enjoys all the arts and sharing with others.

FEBRUARY 4–MAY 6

37) DEALING WITH CHANGE

February 4 – March 18 7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Andrea Wilson
Email: ahbbwd16@gmail.com

Primarily a highly interactive workshop, this class will begin with theories of change and move toward discussion of the effects, personal experiences and ways that change has been dealt with in the past.

Andrea Wilson has a Master's Degree in training and has conducted courses for State and Federal agencies as well as over 40 private organizations. The current course on Dealing with Change has been presented many times at various sites.

LIMIT 12 STUDENTS

38) JANE AUSTEN'S *PERSUASION*

March 25 – May 6 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Betty Loafmann
Email: 4eastinn@gmail.com

Usually considered Jane Austen's most mature book, this, her last, enables readers to think about how much power another person should have over you. Through Jane, we see the strength of women even when society tries to limit them, and we laugh at her wry humor.

See Course No. 4 for instructor's bio

THURSDAY CLASSES

39) TWILIGHT OF VIENNA, The Final Years of the Habsburg Empire, PART II

March 25 – May 6 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Christine & Warren Bentley
Email: Frau.bentley@verizon.net

This is part two of a course that explores the sociological, political and cultural history of the Habsburg Empire as experienced in the capital city of Vienna from the beginning of the 19th century through the final years of the Empire. The final class will examine Vienna through the interwar years of the 1920's. The course will make use of lecture, film and discussion.

Christine Bentley holds a Master of Social Work from the UMD. She is a lover of history and the arts and has taught classes at Osher and CCBC.

Warren Bentley holds an MBA from Loyola University of Maryland. He is very interested in history and science and is also a student of military history. Both Bentleys have traveled to Vienna numerous times.

40) MEDITATION SIMPLIFIED

March 25 – May 6 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Nancy St. Pierre
Email: nastp@yahoo.com

This Basic class will explore the who, what, when, where, why, and how of meditation. Through the use of PowerPoint, lecture, videos, and discussion we will demystify meditation so that everyone can feel comfortable with the practice.

See course No. 10 for instructor's bio.

FEBRUARY 4–MAY 6

41) VIEWS OF THE NEWS

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Hollis Jackson
Email: Hollis1818@outlook.com

We will discuss current events worldwide. Participants are invited to share opinions, concerns and critiques of current items in newspapers, books and other media.

Hollis Jackson was a social worker for over 40 years. She has an MSW from the University of Maryland. She also has an MS in Education from the University of Miami

42) CLARINETISTS OF THE SWING ERA

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Seth Kibel
Email: seth.kibel@gmail.com

Once, the clarinet occupied a central role in jazz, especially during the "Swing Era," roughly late 1935 until the end of World War II. We will discuss clarinetists Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, Woody Herman, and their lasting impact on jazz history. We will examine many issues in the history of American music during the 20th century. Recordings, videos, and live performance will keep this class lively and engaging.

Seth Kibel is well known in the Washington Baltimore region and beyond. He is the featured performer with The Klezmet, Bay Jazz Project, Music Pilgrim Trio, The Natty Beaux, and more. He has won 28 Washington Area Music Awards including "Best World Music Instrumentalist" (2003-11) and "Best Jazz Instrumentalist" (2005, 2007-8, 2011 14).

THURSDAY CLASSES

43) SHORT STORY MASTERPIECES

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

The course offers a balance between well-known “classics” and works by new contemporary voices from the United States and abroad. Due to the need to duplicate materials, the class is limited to 25 to allow for optimal informal discussions by members. New stories are taught each semester. There will be a \$15 fee for printing the stories.

See Course No. 7 for Instructor’s Bio

LIMIT 25 STUDENTS with \$15. MATERIALS FEE

44) SPANISH 102

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Instructor: Frank Mullinix

Email: franklin.mullinix@gmail.com

This course is intended for students with some understanding of Spanish language. It is a continued development of the 4 basic language skills: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing within the context of Hispanic culture. The class includes discussion, videos, conversation, and grammar explanation.

See Course No. 33 for Instructor’s Bio

LIMIT 20 STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 4–MAY 6

45) FRENCH II

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Instructor: Peggy Beauvois

Email: peggylouhealy@gmail.com

This is a continuation of Beginning French offered Fall, 2020. Designed for adult learners, the class focuses on comprehension and communication. As a video based, context-rich course, students watch a video lesson each week as “work” at home. In class, we review the video, converse, review grammar/ vocabulary... and laugh a lot. New students need some background in French.

Peggy Beauvois is a long-term teacher of French who is very happy to have the opportunity to teach fellow members of RI. She has a BA and MA in French and a PhD in Applied Linguistics.

LIMIT 15 STUDENTS

46) INTRODUCTION TO BALLET

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Instructor: Susan Sklar

Email: ssklar3565@yahoo.com

This course is designed to use the technique of classical ballet to improve strength, flexibility, coordination, posture, range of motion and balance. Tap into your creative spirit, cultivate musicality, and experience the joy of movement.

Susan Sklar received classical ballet training at local studios, Goucher, and UMD. She has performed in productions of Giselle, Swan Lake, La Bayadere and The Nutcracker. Susan has been dancing all of her life and loves sharing her passion with a “new generation” of dancers. Absolute beginners welcome!

LIMIT 15 STUDENTS

THURSDAY CLASSES

47) LYRICAL FICTION

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Instructor: Dorothy Strohecker

Coordinator: Robert Poor

Email: not listed per instructor's request

This course focuses on the lyrical novel, one with less emphasis on narration of outer plotted events and more on the inner story. Using imagery, symbolism, and analogy through metaphor, the motivation of character and meaning of the work are enhanced. Authors selected are prose writers whose narrative is also poetic. Starting with Cather's *Song of the Lark*, readings may include Hawthorne's *The Marble Faun*, Melville's *Billy Budd*, Wharton's *Ethan Frome*, Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!*, or *The Sound and the Fury*, among others the class may suggest.

Dr. Dorothy Strohecker will provide interpretive guidance for course readings. She is an alumna of Notre Dame, an RI instructor for over 20 years, lecturer, literary expert, and active international Joseph Conrad scholar. Bob Poor will act as course administrator.

LIMIT 30 STUDENTS

FEBRUARY 4–MAY 6

48) ART COLLABORATIVE

February 4 – May 6 13 weeks
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Instructors: Paula Murphy & Josef Nathanson

Email: murphpgm@gmail.com

This is for artists of any experience. Work at your own pace, preferred medium, and chosen subject. Offering camaraderie, friendly critiques, encouragement, techniques, and online resources. Synergy that nurtures and lively incentive to keep working at home. Each week we present a piece of finished or ongoing work. Join us to awaken your dormant skills.

Josef Nathanson studied oil painting in high school in Philadelphia. Watercolor is new for him. He finds the Art Collaborative supportive and rewarding.

Paula Murphy is a retired math teacher and emergency nurse. She renewed her friendship with drawing and painting, mostly due to the opportunities at RI.

LIMIT 12 STUDENTS



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