

# AUM

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

**SPRING/SUMMER 2026**



# reINVENT RETIREMENT!

[www.aum.edu/OLLI](http://www.aum.edu/OLLI)

# AUM

AUBURN UNIVERSITY  
AT MONTGOMERY

CONTINUING EDUCATION

# About OLLI at AUM

Research on aging stresses the importance of keeping your body and mind moving to slow the growth of diseases of all kinds. That is where OLLI at Auburn University at Montgomery plays an instrumental part. The **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)** is part of a national network of 120 institutes connected to major colleges or universities across the country. The program is now serving more than 100,000 senior adults each year who want to remain lifelong learners.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Auburn University at Montgomery is a membership program designed especially for retirees/senior adults. Membership benefits include:

- AUM library borrowing privileges
- Invitation to attend AUM OLLI lunch presentations and bonus opportunities
- Eligibility to join the AUM Wellness Center at a discounted rate
- Free admission to AUM athletic events
- Opportunity to attend OLLI at AUM field trips
- Free admission to Theatre AUM productions
- Discount on single tickets at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival

- Free AUM OLLI ID card

**Fees:**

Membership Fees per year: \$40.00

Course Fees per term: \$50.00

Summer Mini-term Fee: \$25.00

**REGISTER ONLINE**  
[WWW.AUM.EDU/OLLI](http://WWW.AUM.EDU/OLLI)



# Spring Class Schedule

March 30 – May 14, 2026

MONDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
Pain Management with Tai Chi, Ruth DeRamus and Elaine Ward	Writing Workshop, Nancy Grisham Anderson	Making Jewelry with Beads, Albert and Sue Medina
Religion in America, Gary Kennington	Meet Me at the Met!, Donnie Nobles	Exercising Your Brain for Powerful Problem Solving, Rick Diggs
Backyard Garden Series, Master Gardeners in the Central Alabama Region	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)

TUESDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
Brain Bowl, Lynda Smitherman	Zentangle in Bloom, Suzie Smith and Muffin Hand	Introduction to Modern Bridge, Dale Baskett
Caring Cards, Muffin Hand	Beginner Watercolor, Jill Manly (12:45 - 3:30 pm)	Beginner Watercolor, Jill Manly (12:45 - 3:30 pm)
		Going for Baroque: Classical Music in the 17th and 18th Centuries, Mark Benson
		Connections 2, Herb Shivers and Jim Barber

WEDNESDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
The Exploration of Art and Sound at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Tiiwon Siaway	Beauty at Every Age: Senior Edition, Natalie P. Mason (3-week course)	
Tales of Discovery, Plunder, and Colonization: History and Adventures from the Caribbean and Alaska, Lawrence Grinter	Mah Jongg for Beginners I, Vicky Benton and Jackie Armstrong	Mah Jongg for Beginners II, Vicky Benton and Jackie Armstrong

THURSDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
Bunco, Lynda Smitherman	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)

**Registration for Spring and Summer 2026 Terms - Monday, March 23, 2026**

# AUBURN OLLI SHARES (ZOOM ONLY)

(Note that dates and times of classes are not the same as AUM OLLI)

Courses offered in collaboration with Auburn Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, featuring shared instruction and discussion via Zoom.  
March 30 – May 8, 2026

## England, Scotland, and the Stuart Kings

**Instructor:** Joseph Kicklighter

**Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 PM | Zoom**

This course examines the 17th century and the development of Great Britain through the union of England and Scotland under the Stuart monarchy. The class will consider the growing power of Parliament, the English Civil War, the execution of Charles I, and the brief establishment of a republic. The course will also address Britain's continued expansion as a developing world empire during this period.

## How America Became Great

**Instructor:** Michael Baker

**Thursdays, 2:30 - 4:00 PM | Zoom**

The twentieth century has often been called the "American Century." During this period, the United States emerged from two world wars as a dominant global power, shaped international economic systems, advanced scientific innovation, and influenced global norms. This course examines the political, economic, and institutional factors that contributed to America's rise. It will also consider current challenges, including political division, institutional strain, and questions of global leadership. Lectures will explore the elements that support national effectiveness and discuss areas that may strengthen democratic institutions and international influence moving forward.

## Introduction to Islam

**Instructor:** Hammad Ahmad

**Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 PM | April 1, 8, 15 | Zoom**

This course provides an overview of the religion of Islam. Topics include the basic tenets of Islam; its primary sources (Quran, Sunnah, and Hadith); the life of Muhammad; and a brief history of the development of the faith. The course will also examine major Islamic sects and their origins, the concept of jihad, and Islamic perspectives on Jesus, Mary, and the People of the Book. The class will address common questions and consider Islam's role in the contemporary world. Designed for beginners, the course supports informed discussion and greater understanding of Islam within a global and interfaith context.

## Local Naturalists

**Coordinator:** Gary Wagoner

**Mondays, 2:00 - 3:30 PM | Zoom**

A team of local naturalists will guide this multi-disciplinary course, exploring topics such as botany, ichthyology, ornithology, geology, and ecology. Each instructor will share their unique expertise and observations, offering insights into our region's remarkable natural diversity. This course provides a deep dive into the natural world through the eyes of those who have spent years studying and appreciating the environment around us.

# AUBURN OLLI SHARES (ZOOM ONLY)

(Note that dates and times of classes are not the same as AUM OLLI)

## Wagner, Nietzsche and the Rise of Nazi Fascism

**Instructor:** Jay West

**Tuesdays, 9:00 - 10:30 AM | Zoom**

With Liberal Democracy under pressure from anti-democratic movements rising in many countries, it may be timely to examine the most extreme form of authoritarianism, Nazi Fascism. This class will follow the Grand Narrative of German cultural and political history, examining the origins of the Third Reich. We used to think that this path was unique to Germany, but today it seems clear that similar things can happen in established democracies as well. Along the way, we will take a look at Putin's authoritarian ideology and conclude by speculating on the anti-democratic tendencies in the contemporary world.

## Whatever Happened to Folk Music?

**Instructor:** Mike Reinke

**Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 PM |  
March 31 - May 5, 2026 | Zoom**

Discover the origins and evolution of American folk and roots music, with special attention to African-American folk traditions and their commercial separation from Anglo-American folk music. This course also explores the folk music of Alabama, the structure and composition of traditional folk, roots, and blues music, as well as the lasting cultural impact of influential musicians.

## Bookends (SIG)

**Facilitator:** Cathy Buckhalt

**Wednesdays | 9:00 - 10:30 AM | Zoom**

Bookends is a long-standing, discussion-based book group that meets via Zoom and welcomes both returning members and new participants. The group does not focus on any particular genre, allowing members to explore a wide range of literature together. Each participant is encouraged to lead a discussion on a book of their choice, with guidance available for first-time facilitators. The group typically spends two weeks on a standard-length novel, creating time for thoughtful reflection and conversation. Bookends is a friendly, small-group setting where members enjoy discovering new authors, sharing perspectives, and reading books they might not have chosen on their own.

**Materials:** Students are required to provide their own books for reading and discussion.

## One-Day Workshop (Please Register)

### One-day Workshop: Getting to Know Your iPhone Better

This hands-on workshop is designed to help participants learn more about how the iPhone can keep them connected and provide access to convenient tools. Participants will learn essential skills and tips for commonly used iPhone functions such as calling, texting, taking and sharing photos, customizing settings, using helpful apps, and staying safe online.

In the session, we will welcome questions and give participants opportunity to practice. Participants should bring their iPhone to the session.

**Limited enrollment:** 25 participants

**Friday, April 10, 2026  
10:00 a.m. - Noon**

**Instructors:** Lynn Stallings and AUM Honors Students Taylor McGill and Aaliyah Dunklin

# Bonus Opportunities

## (Please Register)

### AUM OLLI Book Discussion Group

Readers gather to discuss a designated book. Sometimes discussions and references carry over from one session to another, but OLLI members may attend one or all of the sessions.

2026 Spring reading list:

- April 07 - Susan Heywood, *Wavewalker*
- April 21 - Eric Motley, *Madison Park*
- May 05 - Allen Levi, *Theo of Golden*

**Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Discussion Leader:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

### Selma - Dallas County Book Group

Readers gather at the Selma - Dallas County Library to discuss a designated book. Sometimes discussions and references carry over from one session to another, but OLLI members may attend one or both of the sessions.

- April 14 - Charles Whitaker, *All The Colors of the Dark*
- May 12 - Kerri Maher, *The Girl in White Gloves*

**Second Tuesday of each month, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Discussion Leader:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

## Lunch Presentations

### (Please Register)

#### How to Enroll and Pay Online

Come learn how to enroll and pay online for OLLI courses. This presentation will be before the registration opens for next term so members will be able to register online.

**Limited enrollment:** 16 participants

**Tuesday, March 17, 2026**

**11:35 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.**

Kelly Davis, Coordinator, Continuing Education

#### Russia in Africa

This presentation will cover the role of Russia in Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It will discuss the role of Russians helping African governments fighting various jihadist terrorists. It will demonstrate how the Russians are replacing American and French influence in Africa. The use of the Wagner Group will be explored in detail and its relationship with African armed forces and governments. This talk will discuss the role of their military there as an extension of the Russian government that is trying to secure natural and economic sources and political influence. Further, the discussion will cover the impact of the Ukraine War on Russian Operations in Africa.

**Monday, April 13, 2026**

**11:35 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.**

William Dean

#### Navigating the Current Real Estate Market

This session will cover current real estate trends, both national and local: property values in the area, appreciable rates, and closing costs for selling and buying in this market, either trading down or up in size, improvements that will or will not improve value, and other subjects.

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026**

**11:35 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.**

Bo Goodson, Real Estate Agent

#### History of Immigration in the United States

This presentation will focus on the history of immigration worldwide but specifically focus on treatment of immigrants in the United States. Groups that we will focus on are Europeans, Asians, Africans, African-Americans, and Hispanics. We will also review the history of Ellis Island (East Coast) and Angel Island (West Coast).

**Wednesday, April 22, 2026**

**11:35 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.**

Denise Carr-DeRamus

# Lunch Presentations

(Please Register)

## Bridge Collapses (Miami and Baltimore)

FIU - Sweetwater University Pedestrian Bridge collapsed (Miami), lifting a prebuilt main span bridge section when rigging failed.

Frances Scott Key Bridge collapsed when a fully loaded

container ship hit it. This caused a huge mess!

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026**

**11:35 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.**

Jim Barber

## Field Trip

(Please Register)

### AUM's Campus Natural and Cultural Land Usage

Join AUM faculty members for a leisurely tour of AUM's walking trails to learn about the natural and cultural resources of the land. During the walk, faculty will discuss the native and introduced plants and animals that occupy the 250-acre wooded area of the AUM campus. The tour will also include an overview of the land's recent history, focusing on the families that lived and worked on it during the 20th century.

You will also learn about current research being conducted by AUM faculty and students, as well as plans for future land restoration and research.

Meet at the bridge across the road from the baseball field. Participants will be walking on uneven dirt trails so wear comfortable shoes.

**Friday, April 10, 2026**

**2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Chelsea Ward and Kim Pyszka



# Class Descriptions

## (Please Register)

### Pain Management with Tai Chi

This course is designed using specific adaptive moves that have been developed over centuries to deal with pain relief. Individuals will engage in standing, sitting, and walking adaptive activities. Please wear comfortable clothes and flat shoes, and bring two one-pound weights or two water bottles filled with water. The class improves balance, posture, strength, flexibility, circulation, and calmness.

**Limited enrollment:** 15 participants

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**

**Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructors:** Ruth DeRamus and Elaine Ward

### Religion in America

This course emphasizes sociologists' views of religion in America "as undergoing a significant shift, characterized by the decline of traditional, organized, mainline Christianity, yet sustained by high levels of individual spirituality, re-enchantment through alternative practices, and persistent, though changing, cultural influence." For example, "is it true that a majority of Americans believe that their religious views are at odds with mainstream culture?" A careful review of the data conducted by the Pew Research Center is an essential component of our study.

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**

**Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Gary Kennington

### Backyard Garden Series

Come learn knowledge and skills to help your garden grow. From vegetables, fruits, flowers and herbs, each week a different speaker will cover subjects ranging from diseases, insects, best management practices, and more for garden success.

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**

**Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructors:** Master Gardeners in the Central Alabama Region

### Writing Workshop: Writing (and Printing) Your Favorite Family Memories

Are there family stories you need to preserve and share with members of your family? Get started on collecting your family stories. Illustrate them with family pictures and print them for special gifts or other special occasions. Participate in this informal writing workshop to start your collection.

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**

**Mondays, 12:45 - 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

### Meet Me at the Met!

In *All the Beauty in the World*, Patrick Bringley uses his ten years as a guard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art to reference eleventy gozillion works of art from the Met's two million square feet. In this class, we'll look at pieces from the collection for the narratives they reveal to us and how they speak specifically to us now. Count on this being an interactive class with discussions rather than lectures. There might be nekkidity and (gasp) contemporary work on display. Participants are encouraged to spend some time at the Met's excellent and user-friendly website and to bring a list of works they would like discussed to the first class meeting: [www.metmuseum.org/art/collection](http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection)

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**

**Mondays, 12:45 - 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Donald Nobles

### Game Time

AUM OLLI members who register for this "course" will have access to Room 220 - The Game Room - on Mondays and Thursdays from 12:45 to 4:00 p.m. to play any game of their choosing - Bridge, Mah Jongg, Monopoly, Scrabble, Canasta, or any other. Members are responsible for organizing their own group (all participants must be AUM OLLI members registered for the "course"), and they must bring their own game equipment. The card tables will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Limited enrollment:** 24 participants

**March 30 - May 14, 2026**

**Mondays and Thursdays, 12:45 - 4:00 p.m.**

# Class Descriptions

(Please Register)

## Making Jewelry with Beads

This is an introductory course in the basics of designing bead necklaces, bracelets, and earrings. Participants will learn about selecting beads, basic bead thread knotting, attaching clasps, and other basic jewelry elements. Participants must bring to the first class a bath towel, ruler, and scissors. The materials fee covers bracelet, necklace, and earring kits.

**Limited enrollment:** 15 participants

**Materials fee:** \$20.00 (due to the instructors at the first class meeting)

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**  
**Mondays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Albert and Sue Medina

## Exercising Your Brain for Powerful Problem Solving

In this course, participants will explore proven strategies and recent research to help them tap into their brains' full potential and achieve more with better results. They will take a practical journey into key areas like Strategic Attention, Integrated Reasoning, Critical Thinking, Decision Making, Innovation & Creativity, and Emotional Intelligence. They will walk away with simple, actionable techniques they can start using right away - no gym membership required - to boost their mental performance and enhance their day-to-day effectiveness at work and at home.

**March 30 - May 11, 2026**  
**Mondays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Rick Diggs

## Brain Bowl

Welcome to Brain Bowl where curiosity gets a white board and every question is an invitation to play. No timers ticking, and no pressure buzzing - just big ideas, bold guesses, and the pure joy of wondering out loud. History, science, pop culture, wild facts, surprising truths - if it makes your brain stretch, it belongs here. Whether you are a trivia titan or a professional guessologist, there's a seat at the table for you.

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**  
**Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Lynda Smitherman

## Caring Cards

We will be using skills learned in our prior paper classes to make "caring cards" to share with nursing homes, churches, the children's home, etc.

**Limited enrollment:** 8 participants

**Materials fee:** \$5.00 (due to the instructor at the first class meeting)

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**  
**Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Muffin Hand



## Zentangle in Bloom

The Spring Term zentangle course will feature zentangle drawing patterns that offer students the opportunity to learn and use a variety of organic patterns to make beautiful flowery zentangle art. (Previous class experience is preferred.)

**Limited enrollment:** 15 participants

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**  
**Tuesdays, 12:45 - 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Suzie R. Smith, CZT14, and Muffin Hand

# Class Descriptions

## (Please Register)

### Beginner Watercolor

This class is for students who desire a basic knowledge of painting with watercolor. No previous experience is required. We will explore techniques used in painting with watercolor paints such as washes, glazes, wet-in-wet, and more. These will be used in the paintings you complete in class. The materials fee will cover the costs of supplies that will be provided for you to use in class (watercolor paint, paper, brushes, etc.); you do not need to buy anything beforehand.

**Limited enrollment:** 10 participants

**Materials fee:** \$85.00 (due to the instructor at the first class meeting)

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**

**Tuesdays, 12:45 - 3:00 p.m. (note extended time of class)**

**Instructor:** Jill Manly

### Introduction to Modern Bridge

This is a beginning course in contract bridge for the 21<sup>st</sup> century designed to allow participants to play with any partner and in any type of bridge game, such as home style, Chicago, Duplicate, and On-Line. Basic foundations of the game from hand evaluation, auctions, and play techniques will be the focus of the course as they apply to all styles of the game. This is designed as a starter course but can also help those who wish a basic refresher for the game of bridge.

**Limited enrollment:** 16 participants

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**

**Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Dale Baskett

### Going for Baroque: Classical Music in the 17th and 18th Centuries

Western classical music history is generally divided into six stylistic periods. The Baroque era, lasting from about 1600-1750, is one of the most important. It contains such notable figures as Antonio Vivaldi, George Friderick Handel, and Johan Sebastian Bach. It was also the period in which our modern system of harmony was developed and saw the creation of many genres of classical music that are still being created today. Concertos, cantatas, sonatas, operas and many other types of pieces were first conceived in those years. In this music appreciation class, we will survey the music of the composers mentioned above, as well as several others who contributed much to the tradition of Western Classical Music.

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**

**Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Mark Benson

### Connections 2

This course continues the course begun in the Spring 2025 Semester, "Connections," which is a BBC science education television series created, written, and presented by British science historian James Burke. This course will finish Season 2 and cover the first part of Season 3. We will finish the series of Connections classes in the Fall Semester.

The series of presentations discusses the history of science and invention and demonstrates how various discoveries, scientific achievements, and historical world events were built from one another, how in a sort of ripple effect, modern technology and things we take for granted while living our lives today evolved from a very modest beginning, hundreds or thousands of years ago.

**March 31 - May 12, 2026**

**Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Herb Shivers and Jim Barber

# Class Descriptions

(Please Register)



## The Exploration of Art and Sound at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts

Join us at the intersection of art and sound as we explore the galleries of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. The spring OLLI class will offer gallery tours, artmaking in the studio, and relevant soundscapes to tie together the experience. These sessions will be led by MMFA staff, docents, and local artists. The class meets at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts (1 Museum Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117).

**Limited Enrollment:** 25 Participants

**April 01 - May 13, 2026**  
**Wednesdays, 10:00- 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Tiiwon Siaway

## Tales of Discovery, Plunder, and Colonization: History and Adventures from the Caribbean and Alaska

The course compares and contrasts key episodes in the discovery and development of the Caribbean and Alaska. Topics include Columbus's voyages, the Spanish Main, the Atlantic slave trade, piracy, Cuba, native settlements in Alaska, Russia's colonization of Alaska's Inside Passage, Seward's Folly, and the Klondike gold rush.

**April 01 - May 13, 2026**  
**Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Lawrence Grinter

## Beauty at Every Age: Senior Edition

Who said beauty has an expiration date? Beauty At Any Age: Senior Edition is an educational, interactive class. Participants will learn how to choose skin and hair care products based on product knowledge, not advertisements or trends. They will develop or enhance their skin care and hair care routines, and they will learn simple, natural makeup applications to enhance their appearance. This class emphasizes self-expression, confidence, and embracing natural beauty at every stage of life.

**Limited enrollment:** 15 participants

**Materials fee:** \$10.00 (due to the instructor at the first class meeting)

**April 01 - April 15, 2026 (Three-week course)**  
**Wednesdays, 12:45 - 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Natalie P. Mason

## Mah Jongg for Beginners I

The game of Mah Jongg originated in China and came to the U. S. in the 1920s. It is a game of both skill and chance that uses decorative tiles to construct "hands" developed yearly by the National Mah Jongg League (NMJL). It takes time to learn, but it is social and rewarding. In this class, participants will learn rules and etiquette with an introduction to the NMJL. To be successful in learning the basics, class attendance is strongly encouraged.

**Limited enrollment:** 8 participants

**April 01 - May 13, 2026**  
**Wednesdays, 12:45 - 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Vicky Benton and Jackie Armstrong

# Class Descriptions

(Please Register)

## Mah Jongg for Beginners II

This course is designed exclusively for beginners who have not yet played with the National Mah Jongg League (NMJL) card. Participants will continue to gain an understanding of how to read the NMJL card, how to choose a hand to play, and the rules governing play of the game. Students must provide their own 2026 large print card, available at [nationalmahjonggleague.org](http://nationalmahjonggleague.org). This course builds upon each session so attendance is strongly encouraged. The 2025 cards will be provided to those whose 2026 cards have not arrived.

**Limited enrollment:** 8 participants

**April 01 - May 13, 2026**

**Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Vicky Benton and Jackie Armstrong

## Bunco

Grab the dice, gather your giggles, and come join Bunco, where luck, laughter, and lighthearted competition collide. It's easy to learn, impossible to take too seriously, and a good way to make new friends or reconnect with old ones. No experience required, no pressure to win - just good company, quick rounds, and plenty of cheers when the bell rings. If your calendar could use more fun and your week could use a spark, Bunco is calling your name.

**Limited enrollment:** 12 participants

**April 02 - May 14, 2026**

**Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Lynda Smitherman



# Summer Class Schedule

June 1 – June 25, 2026

MONDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
Bunco, Lynda Smitherman	War in Film, William Dean and John Martello (12:45 - 4:00 pm)	War in Film, William Dean and John Martello (12:45 - 4:00 pm)
Writing Tutorial, Nancy Grisham Anderson	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)
Pain Management with Tai Chi, Ruth DeRamus		

TUESDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
Brain Bowl, Lynda Smitherman		Water Music, Mark Benson

THURSDAY		
10:00-11:30 AM	12:45-2:15 PM	2:30-4:00 PM
	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)	Game Time (12:45 - 4:00 pm)

Registration for Spring and Summer 2026 Terms - Monday, March 23, 2026

## Workshops (Please Register)

### Three-day Workshop: Beginning Microsoft Word for Seniors

Have you wanted to learn to use Microsoft Word? Are you interested in designing letters, reports, simple flyers, signs, and more? This class is especially designed for students who have not previously used Microsoft Word. Participants will need to have access to a computer outside of class, in order to practice and build skills. Each participant should bring a thumb/flash drive of 32 to 64 GB to every class to save his/her work weekly. Also bring a notepad and pen for notetaking/reminders.

**Limited enrollment:** 8 participants

**Thursdays, June 04, 18, and 25, 2026**

**10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Jeanne Sellers

### One-day Workshop: Wearable Art: Cricut Crafting Made Easy

Ready to get crafty? In this fun, hands-on class, you'll learn how to use a Cricut cutting machine to bring your creative ideas to life with iron-on vinyl! We'll walk you through designing a simple graphic in Canva, cutting and weeding your vinyl, and applying your finished design to a t-shirt and tote bag. No experience needed—just bring your imagination, a cotton t-shirt, a towel, and a household iron. We'll provide the tote bags and vinyl. Perfect for beginners and DIY enthusiasts alike!

**Materials fee:** \$12.00 (due to the instructor at the workshop)

**Limited enrollment:** 10 participants

**Thursday, June 11, 2026**

**9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Kathryn Strom

# Bonus Opportunities

(Please Register)

## AUM OLLI Book Discussion Group

Readers gather to discuss a designated book. Sometimes discussions and references carry over from one session to another, but OLLI members may attend any of the sessions.

2026 Summer Reading List:

- June 02 - Donna Everhart, *The Saints of Swallow Hill*
- June 16 - Charles Whitaker, *All the Colors of the Dark*

**Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Discussion Leader:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

## Selma - Dallas County Book Group

Readers gather at the Selma - Dallas County Library to discuss a designated book. Sometimes discussions and references carry over from one session to another, but OLLI members may attend any of the sessions.

Schedule and reading selections - to be announced

**Second Tuesday of each month, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Discussion Leader:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

# Class Descriptions

(Please Register)

## Bunco

Grab the dice, gather your giggles, and come join Bunco, where luck, laughter, and lighthearted competition collide. It's easy to learn, impossible to take too seriously, and a good way to make new friends or reconnect with old ones. No experience required, no pressure to win - just good company, quick rounds, and plenty of cheers when the bell rings. If your calendar could use more fun and your week could use a spark, Bunco is calling your name.

**Limited enrollment:** 12 participants

**June 01 - June 22, 2026**

**Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Lynda Smitherman



## Writing Tutorial

Are you working on a writing project? Do you have a few questions that can be answered in a short amount of time? Register for the Writing Tutorial in the summer term. For any Monday session, you can email the instructor (nanderso@aum.edu) ahead of time, send a draft of the project, and request a twenty-minute session between 10:00 and 11:30 for a tutorial session to work on the project. This will be useful for participants in the memoir writing class who want to continue their work into the summer.

**June 01 - June 22, 2026**

**Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

## Pain Management with Tai Chi

This course is designed using specific adaptive moves that have been developed over centuries to deal with pain relief. Individuals will engage in standing, sitting, and walking adaptive activities. Please wear comfortable clothes and flat shoes, and bring two one-pound weights or two water bottles filled with water. The class improves balance, posture, strength, flexibility, circulation, and calmness.

**Limited enrollment:** 15 participants

**June 01 - June 22, 2026**

**Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Ruth DeRamus

# Class Descriptions

(Please Register)

## War in Film

The first part of this course, which will meet in double session, will discuss the film of the day and its historical context and a discussion of the Hollywood context and importance as a film. In the course, four American war films will be examined, from the Frontier Wars until the Vietnam War. We will examine how filmmaking has evolved and how the various approaches to history and war have changed. After the film, there will also be time to continue the discussion about the film view and forecast the next film.

**June 01 - June 22, 2026**

**Mondays, 12:45 - 4:00 p.m. (note: double period)**

**Instructors:** William Dean and John Martello

## Game Time

AUM OLLI members who register for this "course" will have access to Room 220 - The Game Room - on Mondays and Thursdays from 12:45 to 4:00 p.m. to play any game of their choosing - Bridge, Mah Jongg, Monopoly, Scrabble, Canasta, or any other. Members are responsible for organizing their own group (all participants must be AUM OLLI members registered for the "course"), and they must bring their own game equipment. The card tables will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Limited enrollment:** 24 participants

**June 01 - June 25, 2026**

**Mondays and Thursdays, 12:45 - 4:00 p.m.**

## Brain Bowl

Welcome to Brain Bowl where curiosity gets a white board and every question is an invitation to play. No timers ticking, and no pressure buzzing - just big ideas, bold guesses, and the pure joy of wondering out loud. History, science, pop culture, wild facts, surprising truths - if it makes your brain stretch, it belongs here. Whether you are a trivia titan or a professional guessologist, there's a seat at the table for you.

**June 02 - June 23, 2026**

**Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Lynda Smitherman

## Water Music

This music appreciation class will feature classical music inspired by and/or illustrating a body of water. Composers will include George Friderick Handel, Ludwig van Beethoven, Claude Debussy, and others.

**June 02 - June 23, 2026**

**Tuesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 pm**

**Instructor:** Mark Benson



**AUM**

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