AUM

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

**WINTER 2027**



# reINVENT RETIREMENT!

## 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**



# Winter Class Schedule

## January 25 – March 11, 2027

| MONDAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| **10:00-11:30 AM** | **12:45-2:15 PM** | **2:30-4:00 PM** |
| Tai Chi for Pain Management,<br>Ruth DeRamus | Writing (and Printing) Your Favorite Family Memories,<br>Nancy Grisham Anderson | |
| Near-Death Experiences (Part 2),<br>Gary Kennington | Arts and Crafts Time | Arts and Crafts Time |
| | Game Time | Game Time |

| TUESDAY | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **9:00 AM -Indefinite** | **10:00-11:30 AM** | **12:45-2:15 PM** | **2:30-4:00 PM** |
| Intermediate Hiking,<br>Dottie Blair | Brain Bowl,<br>Lynda Smitherman | Zentangle Medley,<br>Suzie Smith and Muffin Hand | Connections (continued),<br>Jim Barber and Herb Shivers |
| | Pop-Up Books for Beginners,<br>Muffin Hand | Beginner Watercolor, (double period),<br>Jill Manly | Beginner Watercolor, (double period),<br>Jill Manly |
| | | | Introduction to Modern Bridge,<br>Dale Baskett |

| WEDNESDAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| **10:00-11:30 AM** | **12:45-2:15 PM** | **2:30-4:00 PM** |
| Backyard Garden Series,<br>Master Gardeners in the Central Alabama Region | Line Dancing for Fun and Flexibility,<br>Krista Leamon | World War II,<br>Daniel L. Haulman |
| | The Psychology of Social Dominance,<br>Otto J. Arnoscht | Themes and Variations in Classical Music,<br>Mark Benson |
| | Game Time | Game Time |

| THURSDAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| **10:00-11:30 AM** | **12:45-2:15 PM** | **2:30-4:00 PM** |
| | Arts and Crafts Time | Arts and Crafts Time |
| | Game Time | Game Time |

**Registration for Winter 2027- December 03, 2026, online and in person 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.,**
**Holiday Market – December 03, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – noon, Center of Lifelong Learning**
**Holiday Potluck – December 03, 2026, noon to 1:30 p.m.,**
**Center of Lifelong Learning (Please Register)**
**Reception for Art Show and Sale – December 03, 2026, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.,**
**Cason McDermott Art Gallery, Goodwyn Hall, AUM Campus**
**(See Bonus Opportunities for description.)**

# Workshops
## (Please Register)

### One-day Photography Workshop

Warren Simons practices the art of seeing. Photographs can come from a place where we let go of our expectations and preconceived ideas and instead open to curious exploration, letting the visual surprises in the everyday world find us.

Simons's images express moments of clear, fresh connection with the visual world, creating beautiful, original compositions where eye, mind, and heart converge. He follows his own road of study, learning from photographers, painters, art teachers, writers, potters, and poets. Simons has won numerous awards for his photos. He has practiced the art of seeing with the camera for over 20 years.

This is a workshop that will cover how to use the camera on your cell phone, and then how to slow down and see the glory of what's out there in the visual world. Since this is a one-day workshop, bring a lunch, and the workshop will take a break for lunch and then continue as soon as everyone finishes, making the most of the time.

**Thursday, February 25, 2026**
**10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Warren Simons

# Field Trips
## (Please Register)

**Note: This event is scheduled just before the Winter Term begins. Pay attention to date:**

### AUM OLLI Goes to Basketball Games

AUM OLLI has scheduled a Saturday afternoon at the AUM Physical Education Complex to attend a double-header of women's and men's basketball games. The women's game begins at 2:00 p.m. followed at 4:00 p.m. by the men's game, with supper served between the games (about 3:45 p.m.). With convenient parking, OLLI members have free admission, complimentary courtside with chair-back seating, and supper. Begin the Winter Term by sharing a meal with fellow AUM OLLI members and cheering for the Warhawk basketball teams.

This is a good time for OLLI members to get sports-minded relatives and friends involved in the AUM OLLI program.

**Fee for supper (non-refundable):** $15.00

**Deadline for registration:** Monday, January 18, 2027

**Saturday, January 23, 2027**
**2:00 – 6:30 p.m.**
**AUM Physical Education Complex**



# Bonus Opportunities
## (Please Register)

### Art Show and Sale

**December 03, 2026, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.,**
**Cason McDermott Art Gallery,**
**Goodwyn Hall, AUM Campus**

Upon her death in 2025, AUM OLLI member Faith Delevante left her paintings to AUM OLLI to sell to benefit the AUM OLLI program. An exhibition of her works will be hanging in the AUM Art Gallery in Goodwyn Hall on the AUM campus from November 30 – December 11, 2026. Nearly all of these works are professionally framed and matted, and several were prize-winners in art exhibitions with the ribbons still attached. There is a reception on December 03, from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. for OLLI members to view the works, if they have not already done so. They may purchase (check or credit card) the works for unique holiday gifts. They will be available for pick up the week of December 14.

### Weil Fellowship

In 1995, Auburn University at Montgomery established the Weil Fellowship for the purpose of bringing distinguished individuals in the arts and humanities to the campus to work with students and make presentations to the community. Between 1995 and 2012, the Weil Committee brought 14 Fellows to campus – musicians and composers, writers and journalists, actors and artists, and scholars.

The Weil Committee has now named the 2027 Weil Fellow and invited her to campus: Jesmyn Ward, author of many books and winner of numerous awards. Watch for announcements for her appearances in February of 2027.

### 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 one or all of the sessions.

Winter reading list:

February 02 – Jesmyn Ward, *Sing, Unburied, Sing*

February 16 – Louise Erdrich, *The Night Watchman*

March 02 – Vanessa Diffenbaugh, *The Language of Flowers*

**First and Third Tuesdays of each month during the Winter Term, 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 one or all of the sessions.

January 12 – Brendan Slocumb, *The Violin Conspiracy*

February 09 – Richard Yates, *Easter Parade*

March 09 – Alyson Richman, *The Time Keepers*

**Second Tuesday of each month during the Winter Term, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Discussion Leader:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

# Lunch Presentations
## (Please Register)

### How to Enroll and Pay Online for AUM OLLI

Come learn how to enroll and pay online for your OLLI courses. This presentation will prepare you for registration.

**Monday, November 30, 2026**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

Kelly Davis, Coordinator, Continuing Education

# Lunch Presentations
## (Please Register)

### Alabama Crater Week – February 28 – March 06, 2027

The Wetumpka Impact Crater is a rare geological treasure that tells the story of a dramatic asteroid strike roughly 85 million years ago. Measuring nearly five miles wide, it is located near Wetumpka's historic downtown. Discovered in 1969 - 70, conclusive evidence was verified by shocked quartz in a core drilled near its center, and research was published. The site was internationally recognized as an impact crater (the only one in Alabama) in 2002. Come learn about this unique archeological site.

**Monday, February 01, 2027**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

Andrew Stieh, Chairman/Director of Communications and Tourism for Wetumpka

### Introduction to Central Alabama Skywarn

This lunch presentation has two parts. In the first part, I will present some basic information about how tornadoes form and what makes the difference between ordinary summer thunderstorms and severe tornadic cells. In the second part, I will describe the organization Central Alabama Skywarn and the volunteers, and the way we work with the National Weather Service.

**Wednesday, February 10, 2027**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

Otto J. Arnoscht

### Tell Me A Story

Every family has a story to tell, and the Alabama Genealogical Society (AGS) invites you to share yours with "Tell Me A Story." Family trees are great, but it's the stories that people want to hear that draw us all together. These stories are recorded on a cell phone and should be four minutes about one ancestor. AGS will add an additional ten seconds for a total of 250 seconds in celebration of America's 250th. Come and learn how to share your story, and we'll record it! Completed videos are shared across social media and YouTube.

**Wednesday, February 17, 2026**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

Jean Bradley, President, Alabama Genealogical Society

### Who Gets to Decide What We Read? A Conversation About Banned Books

Why have books inspired fear, sparked controversy, and faced suppression? This presentation explores the history of banned books through selected stories from Europe and the United States, from forbidden Bible translations and church indexes to obscenity trials, Nazi book burnings, and Cold War censorship. Familiar works, including *Huckleberry Finn*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *Doctor Zhivago*, reveal how objections to reading have changed over time. Historical images and discussion invite participants to consider what these controversies tell us about authority, cultural values, and the power of books.

**Wednesday, February 24, 2027**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

Phill Johnson, Dean of the AUM Library

### A Trip to Costa Rica

Costa Rica, a beautiful country in Latin America, offers a great variety of natural beauties, from five volcanoes and tropical forests to a large variety of animals. The presenter lived there for seven years and returns often to visit.

**Monday, March 01, 2027**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

Maria Luisa Ardon

### War in Ukraine 2022 – Today

This talk will discuss the background of the Russia - Ukraine conflict and the Russian invasion. The use of drone and air power will be explained. The general impact on Europe from the war will be studied as well as lessons learned.

**Monday, March 08, 2027**
**11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.**

William Dean

# 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 16-ounce filled water bottles. The class improves balance, posture, strength flexibility, circulation, and calmness.

**Limited enrollment:** 16 participants

**January 25 – March 08, 2027**
**Mondays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Ruth DeRamus

### Near-Death Experiences

This course is a continuation of our fall course (2026) involving the science of near-death experiences. What happens when we die? Is it the end of existence, or is there something more? Thanks to advances in modern medicine and some miraculous recoveries, there are thousands of people who have died, seen the afterlife, and returned. Their incredible testimonies reveal a non-judgmental creator of light and infinite love beyond what human language is capable of describing. What does it feel like to die? What exactly is a life review? We intend to explore the nature of our existence and humanity's future.

**January 25 – March 08, 2027**
**Mondays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Gary Kennington

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

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

**January 25 – March 08, 2027**
**Mondays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Nancy Grisham Anderson

### Arts and Crafts Time

For AUM OLLI members wanting a space – and company – to work on individual projects, we are offering a way to do that. Members can register (as they would for a class) for ARTS AND CRAFTS TIME from 12:45 – 4:00 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. That registration allows them to come to Room 153 (no carpet) or 155 (carpet) to work on any project of their choosing. On occasions, instructors of the arts and crafts classes may be there to answer questions and offer guidance. Participants must be AUM OLLI members and must be registered for the current term – or for the most recent past term, if between terms. Everyone who participates is responsible for leaving the rooms straightened up.

**January 25- March 11, 2027**
**Mondays and Thursdays, 12:45- 4:00 p.m.**

### Game Time

AUM OLLI members who register for this "course" will have access to Room 220 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 12:45 to 4:00 p.m. to play any game of their choosing – Bridge, Mah Jongg, Monopoly, Scrabble, Canasta, Chess, or any other. Members are responsible for organizing their own group (all participants must be AUM OLLI members and must be registered for the "course" in the current or most recent past term), 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

**January 25- March 11, 2027**
**Mondays, Wednesdays, and**
**Thursdays, 12:45- 4:00 p.m.**



# Class Descriptions
## (Please Register)




### Intermediate Hiking

Participants meet at the Center for Lifelong Learning parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Tuesdays to carpool to hikes. They can also meet at the trailhead at 9:45 a.m. if they don't want to carpool. Hikes are 2.5 to 4 miles, and all are around the Lake Martin area. Participants must bring at least one, preferably two, hiking poles, plenty of water, and a light snack like fruit or nuts. Hiking shoes/boots are preferred but not required. We stop for lunch on the way home (also not required). Everyone should be back in Montgomery between 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. - between 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Dottie Blair

### Brain Bowl

Come join the Brain Bowl fun. Are you a happy thinker and guesser? Do you love a good challenge? How about a little friendly competition and lots of laughter? Then Brain Bowl is for YOU! It's a lot like *Jeopardy* – but more fun and not nearly so hard. We don't even keep score. We exercise our minds, enjoy great fellowship, share plenty of laughs, and top it off with optional lunch together after class each week. Come for the questions, stay for the friendships, and leave with a smile!

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Lynda Smitherman

### Pop-up Book Class for Beginners

The books made by OLLI members who register for this class will have a hard cover, several double-page spreads, and five mechanical pop-ups. We are looking for good listeners able to follow several instructions at a time. Being able to measure accurately, cut paper, and use glue are must-have skills. Individuals must be committed to the class and attend regularly as I will not be able to go back to catch individuals with missed sessions.

**Limited enrollment:** 8 participants

**Material Fee:** $15.00 (paid to the instructor on the first day of class)

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Instructor:** Muffin Hand

### Zentangle Medley

This course will combine new and favorite Zentangle patterns on different papers using black and white and colored pens. (Previous Zentangle classes taken preferred.)

**Limited enrollment:** 15 Participants

**Material Fee:** $20.00 (cash to be paid to the instructor at the first class)

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 12:45 – 2:15 p.m.**

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

### 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, i.e., washes, glazes, wet-on-wet, and more. These will be used in the paintings you complete in class. The $85.00 fee will cover all the supplies needed for this class.

**Limited enrollment:** 10 participants

**Materials Fee:** $85.00 (to be paid to the instructor at the first class)

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 12:45 – 4:00 p.m. (double period)**

**Instructor:** Jill Manly

# Class Descriptions
## (Please Register)

### Connections (continued)

"Connections" is a BBC science education television series created, written, and presented by British science historian James Burke. This course will complete Connections Season 4 (2023) and begin "The Day the Universe Changed (1985)," which will carry over and be finished in the Spring Term. The series of presentations discuss the history of science and invention and demonstrates how various discoveries, scientific achievements, and historical world events were built from one another and 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.

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 2:30- 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructors:** Jim Barber and Herb Shivers

### Introduction to Modern Bridge

This beginning course in contract bridge for the 21st 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. It is designed as a starter course but can also help those who wish a basic refresher for the game of bridge.

**Limited enrollment:** 16

**January 26 – March 09, 2027**
**Tuesdays, 2:30- 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Dale Baskett



### Backyard Garden Series

Each week will be a different speaker on a different garden topic from butterflies, vegetables, herbs, pruning, and more.

**January 27 – March 10, 2027**
**Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

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



### Line Dancing for Fun and Flexibility

This class will present the basics of line dance and will draw on a variety of musical styles and rhythms. We will begin each session with a gentle warm-up and then learn dance steps, which will be used in several dances. Each class will end with a set of easy seated stretches. Students should wear comfortable clothes and flat shoes. Mobility without assistance is required for this class.

**Limited enrollment:** 16 participants

**January 27 – March 10, 2027**
**Wednesdays, 12:45 – 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Krista Leamon

# Class Descriptions
## (Please Register)

### The Psychology of Social Dominance

In this course we will explore subtle methods by which people assert dominance in social situations and establish social status. This course will involve demonstrations and role-playing techniques and will focus on the practical applications of principles derived from social psychology research. We will demonstrate techniques to neutralize "power plays" and use proven methods to assert yourself without conflict or confrontation. We will learn how to deal with zealous proselytizers, used car sales staff, family members who insist on their way, and presumptuous acquaintances. We will demonstrate and practice techniques to increase the value of your statements to others.

**January 27 – March 10, 2027**
**Wednesdays, 12:45– 2:15 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Otto J. Arnoscht

### World War II

This course will focus on World War II's most significant causes, events, battles, leaders, weapons, alliances, and results, with emphasis on how World War II revolutionized the world as we know it. It will include slide-illustrated lectures and also discussions analyzing key issues of the largest war in history. I plan to cover the war by year, one session for each year from 1939 through 1945, covering the European, Mediterranean, African, and SW Asian theaters in the first half of each session, and the eastern Asian, southeastern Asian, and Pacific theaters in the second half of each session. I will also stress those issues of the war that still threaten the peace of the world, because if history teaches us anything, it is that what happened before can happen again.

**January 27 – March 10, 2026**
**Wednesdays, 2:30– 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Daniel L. Haulman

### Themes and Variations in Classical Music

Symphonies, sonatas, and other types of classical instrumental music need methods to structure their materials. One of the easiest methods to hear is a form called "Theme and Variations." In this type of piece, a melody—i.e., a theme—is presented simply and then varied in increasingly complex ways. A Theme and Variations might be an independent piece standing by itself, or it may serve as one of several movements in a larger work, like a symphony. All of the great composers in Western classical music have written Variation movements, and this class will provide a survey of their music. We will cover works by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Rachmaninov, and several others.

**January 27 – March 10, 2027**
**Wednesdays, 2:30– 4:00 p.m.**

**Instructor:** Mark Benson

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