



LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
at VIRGINIA TECH™



Online learning adventures for curious adults

SPRING 2021 CALENDAR

Visit www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning for details and updates

Week of	Detailed course and event	January 21	Zoom Preview of Spring Program, 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. Zoom webinar link will be emailed.
January 11	descriptions available on LLI website		
	Catalog in pdf format available for viewing or download	January 25	Online registration opens at 10:00 a.m.



En Plein Air watercolor class, Fall 2020. Photo credit: Terry Wildman

Spring 2021
COURSE CATALOG

Welcome to LLI at Virginia Tech Online!

Spring 2021 programming will be delivered online using free Zoom video conferencing software. Wine tasting and watercolor painting are the two exceptions; these classes will meet in person with COVID safety precautions in place. The Sampler and Great Decisions classes and the free virtual lectures will have unlimited enrollment. Online learning has some distinct advantages: it is easier to hear and see presentations, you can join in classes even when you travel, and people more distant or less mobile can easily participate from home. Based on feedback from enrolled members during Fall 2020, the vast majority of participants found Zoom easy to use and their learning experiences rewarding. Join us!

Zoom Basics training will again be available in January for new users. Check the LLI website for dates. Download free Zoom software at zoom.us. And don't miss the Spring Preview on January 21!

Catalog Contents

Courses	1
Free Virtual Events	15
Registration Procedures	17
Fees and Policies	18
Learning with Zoom	19

The Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech

The Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) at Virginia Tech is a member-driven, volunteer organization that draws on the wealth of academic and community resources in the New River Valley to provide intellectual, cultural, and social experiences for curious adults 50 and older.

We welcome all who are interested in the mission and goals of the Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech. Membership entails no prerequisites, educational or otherwise—only a desire to join others in intellectual exploration. The people, courses, stimulating discussions, events, and special access to university resources all add up to a fun and rewarding experience.

Support the Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech

LLI has become an important part of the quality of life for retirees in the New River Valley and an effective outreach program for Virginia Tech. Your support will allow the LLI at Virginia Tech to grow this important community resource.

The Lifelong Learning Institute is an entity of the Division of Outreach and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. All gifts to LLI (excluding membership and course/event-related fees) are fully tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Designated gifts are received and managed by the Virginia Tech Foundation for the purpose of growing and sustaining the Lifelong Learning Institute.

Payment Options: Online Please go to the www.givingto.vt.edu. Complete the form and click "Give Now."

By Check Make checks payable to Virginia Tech Foundation, Lifelong Learning Institute in Memo Line. Mail to: Virginia Tech Foundation, 902 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061

Contact information

Heidi Dickens, LLI registrar, 540-231-4364, heidi1@vt.edu

General Registration Phone: 540-231-5182

LLI webpage:

<http://www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning/>

LLI email address: lifelonglearning@vt.edu

LLI Zoom Resources:

<https://tinyurl.com/lli-vt-zoom>

LLI facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/vtlifelonglearning/>

Board of Directors

Tamara Hodsdon, Chair

Penny Tully, Vice-Chair

Pat Hyer, Chair, Program Committee

Judy Ridinger, Chair, Social Committee

Bev Walters, Chair, Instructional Support Committee

Paul French, Chair, Membership Committee

Diane Akers, At-large Member

John Hillison, At-large Member

Mary Jones, At-large Member

Jerry Niles, At-large Member

Dean Spader, At-large Member

Linda Woodard, At-large Member

Susan Short, Associate VP for Engagement

Jeanette Cooper, CPE LLI Program Director

Heidi Dickens, CPE Assistant Program Director and Recording Secretary



TED Talks

TED talks are short, well-prepared, understandable presentations by remarkable, innovative, articulate persons on over 2,500 topics in almost every area of life. We'll watch and discuss three different talks in each class session, chosen initially by the instructor and then by volunteer class members who select a TED talk of interest to initiate discussion. TED talks broaden exposure to new ideas and initiatives, prompting lively conversation and debate.

Want to see what kinds of talks we might choose? Visit www.TED.com. TED talks are "ideas worth spreading."

Mondays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
6 weeks: Feb 15, 22, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22
Class limit: 20
Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Dean Spader is an Emeritus Professor at the University of South Dakota where he taught ethics of criminal justice and administrative law. Dean has facilitated numerous discussion classes for LLI.

Financial Strategies for Retirees

The noise around finances, investments, and the stock market seems to grow louder every day. In this class, we will cut through the clutter of the 24/7 news cycle and present participants with straightforward and actionable strategies, helping them to manage their wealth, reduce the stress of their investing, and take care of those they care about.

The course assumes a basic understanding of investing and financial planning, but everyone is welcome. Question and answer periods at the end of each session will allow the instructors to go in greater depth, if requested, and, also to add further topics to the next session.

CLASS SESSIONS

1. **Advanced planning:** How much is enough? Life mapping; building a financial projection; choosing and working with financial professionals
2. **Types, risks and uses of common investment asset classes:** Stocks and bonds; mutual funds and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs); alternative investments; fixed investments, savings accounts, CDs; annuities
3. **Investing:** Investment decision models and concepts for financial success; the hidden costs of investing and ways to minimize; common types of accounts (401(k)s and 403(b)s); IRAs, traditional and Roth; Required Minimum Distributions and Qualified Charitable Distributions; college savings plans
4. **Estate planning** (with Bettye Ackerman): Estate planning tools; wills and trusts; using beneficiary designations; special needs trusts; elder care strategies

Mondays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
4 weeks: Feb 22, Mar 1, 8, 15
Class limit: 23
Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTORS

Paul French, CFS, is a co-founder of Plott & French Financial Advisors. He has broad international experience in senior company management.

Chris French, CFA, worked in banking investments in New York before joining Plott & French Financial Advisors in 2014.

Bettye Ackerman is an attorney representing clients primarily in estate planning and family law.

From the Heart: Appliqué Quilting

Create this heart warming and charming wall quilt for a favorite loved one. In this hand appliqué class you will learn seven methods of preparing your fabric hearts for hand stitching. Basic quilt construction knowledge is required as this class will focus on the appliqué process only. The size of the wall quilt will be determined by the number of hearts appliquéd and the setting style. Invisible hand appliqué stitch will be demonstrated.

SUPPLIES

- Basic Sewing Kit
- Thread to match fabrics selected for hearts
- 5" x 5" 100 % cotton quilting quality fabric scraps (a charm pack from your local quilt shop works perfectly)
- ½ yard 100% quilting quality fabric for background of appliquéd hearts.
- Glue stick
- Iron
- Spray starch / fabric sizing
- Sewing machine for one time use

The instructor will provide additional materials.

Mondays, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
5 weeks: Feb 8, 15, Mar 8, 15, 22
(skip Feb 22, Mar 1)

Class limit: 12

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Paula Golden has had a passion for all aspects of quilting for 40 years. She teaches nationally and internationally, has published patterns widely, and has displayed her quilts in private and public collections.

Taste of Technology

This course introduces LLI members to technology options and helps them understand and manage a rapidly changing digital environment.

CLASS SESSIONS AND INSTRUCTORS

1. Fitness apps

This session covers exercise applications for tracking steps and other exercise, how to log calories and track weight changes, how to sign up for online classes using the MindBody app, and tips for finding exercise ideas online.

Jennifer McDonald is an ACE certified personal trainer with specialized training in senior fitness.

Nicole LaFon is owner of In Balance Yoga and Kunga Faculty for Yoga Teacher Training.

Keala Mason is Studio Manager of In Balance Yoga and teacher.

2. How is your digital legacy?

You may have a legacy plan for your material belongings, but what about your digital assets—the life you have built online? Can your loved ones access your accounts?

Join Dr. Moorefield-Lang to discuss how to protect digital legacies, how to prepare them, and how to share them safely.

Heather Morefield-Lang is associate professor of library and information science at the Univ. of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Mondays, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
3 weeks: Feb 15, 22, Mar 1

Class limit: 35

Course fee: \$30

COURSE COORDINATORS

Diana George, Sandy Hagman, and Carolyn Meier

3. Can you send me money?

This presentation covers trends in scams and frauds circulating in our area that target senior citizens or those not familiar with current technology.

Doug Adkins is a general investigator with the Montgomery Department Sheriff's office who specializes in fraud and scam case investigations.

Exploring the Power of Short Stories

In this course, we'll share some of our favorite short stories and ask participants to do the same. Jane, Molly, and Paul will use stories available online or make copies so no purchase is required.

Join us for an interactive exploration of the power of short stories and the camaraderie created by lively conversation.

Mondays, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

6 weeks: Feb 22, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Class limit: 15

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTORS

Jane Goette, Molly McClintock, and Paul Metz are avid readers who love to discover new stories and authors. We believe discussing stories enhances the experience and understanding of reading.

Appreciating South American Wines (an onsite class)

Wines from Argentina and Chile will be featured in this on-site tasting class at Vintage Cellar. Argentinian Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon, Bonarda, Chardonnay, and Torrontes will be on the menu. Chilean Cabernet Sauvignon, Carmenere, Pinot Noir, and Sauvignon Blanc will be included. Some Uruguayan wines will be tasted such as Tannat and Albarino.

Class size is limited to ensure appropriate social distancing in the space. Masks will be worn until seated; staff will carefully clean between sessions. Have concerns? Feel free to visit Vintage Cellar to see the new tasting section arrangements they have created.

Mail a separate check for the wine fee only (\$125) to Vintage Cellar, 1338 South Main Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Note on your check that it is payment for the LLI Wine Appreciation course. Credit card payment also accepted in advance (call 540-953-2675) or at the first class session.

Two sessions (choose one)

Mondays, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. **OR** 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

6 weeks: Feb 15, 22, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22

Class limit: 12 **per session**

Course fee: \$30

Wine fee: \$125 (payable to Vintage Cellar)

Course meets at the Vintage Cellar

INSTRUCTOR

Randall Horst has served as wine buyer at the Vintage Cellar for 25 years. He has visited many wineries in the major wine producing regions and shares his experiences while teaching in a highly personalized manner. He has taught an LLI wine appreciation course since 2016.

Policing and Criminal Justice Reform

This course will provide background on the history, strategies, and changing responsibilities for American law enforcement to allow exploration of the political, practical, and social implications in current legislative criminal justice reform efforts. Recommended readings will help students understand the changing role of police in society. Classes will combine lecture, interactive group exercises, group discussion, and presentations by a panel of experts.

TOPICS

- British antecedents and American development of policing practices
- Daily operations and priorities of law enforcement
- Police responses to calls involving mental health and substance abuse disorder
- Impact of trauma and mental health issues in the law enforcement ranks
- An expert panel's perspectives on criminal justice and police reform

Mondays, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

5 weeks: Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Class limit: 25

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTORS

Stephen Owen is Professor of Criminal Justice at Radford University

Tod Burke is a former law enforcement officer and a retired Professor of Criminal Justice at Radford University.

Sampler

This Sampler lineup includes highly rated speakers from other lifelong learning programs in Virginia. We appreciate the sharing of talent and welcome these speakers to the LLI at Virginia Tech via the magic of Zoom.

COURSE COORDINATOR

Molly McClintock

Feb 16. America's first leadership crisis and the story of George Wythe

After America's divorce from England in 1776, the young nation's greatest problem was a severe "deficit of adequate statesmen," James Madison warned. This talk is about the Power of One—the ability of one person, Founding Father George Wythe, to change history. The nation's first law professor, Wythe turned his law school at William & Mary into a leadership training school for future statesmen. At his death in 1806, his former pupils were virtually running the country.

Suzanne Munson wrote the George Wythe biography, *Jefferson's Godfather: The Man Behind the Man*. She has taught on the Wythe-Jefferson legacy at Virginia universities, Chautauqua, and other venues.

Feb 23. The internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII

Approximately 112,000 Japanese-Americans (70% were U.S. citizens) living on the west coast were interned during World War II. This lecture traces the history of Japanese immigration and discrimination in the United States, events of World War II, legal issues and Supreme Court cases, and politics during the war. The lecture also reviews the efforts to compensate those interned and the legal cases to reverse the convictions.

Robert Finkelstein has extensively researched and studied the Internment.

Mar 2. Hamilton: Man and musical (9:00 – 11:00 a.m.)

Alexander Hamilton was a central player in America's early history, but the smash Broadway musical *Hamilton* has focused new attention on his life and career.

This multimedia class will draw on both Hamilton's biography and his depiction on stage to examine his accomplishments, his relationship with Aaron Burr, and the accuracy of the musical. Participants may wish to read Ron Chernow's biography of Hamilton and listen to the show's soundtrack before attending.

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

6 weeks: Feb 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23

No class size limit

Course fee: \$30

Dan Sherman has given adult education courses and talks on theatre and opera to social and university groups throughout the Washington, DC area and Williamsburg.

Mar 9. Soundtrack of a revolution: Pop music and the protest tradition

Through an examination of such pioneering artists as Sam Cooke, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, John Coltrane, Nina Simone, and Curtis Mayfield, among others, this lecture highlights how popular African American music reflected the political impulses of both the Civil Rights and Black Power movements.

Claudrena Harold is Chair, Department of History, and Professor of African-American History and Studies at the University of Virginia.

Mar 16. Shirley Chisholm, Unbought and unbossed

When Shirley Chisholm, the first Black female member of the U.S. House of Representatives, announced her candidacy for the 1972 Democratic nomination for President, she advanced the hope that one day a multi-racial, multi-ethnic political coalition capable of cutting across class and geography could be formed. This talk presents an overview of Ms. Chisolm's life, her achievements, and the provocative challenge she issued to the nation to live up to its ideals.

Betty Jean Wolfe is an independent management consultant and freelance writer living in the Roanoke Valley.

Mar 23. Operation Glowing Symphony: America's only acknowledged cyber attack

To destroy ISIS, the Islamic State, the U.S. forces had first to destroy their logistics and communications. Using the combined cyber assets of the U.S. government, CYBERCOM hacked and phished, and social media scammed ISIS out of their bank accounts and password protected communications. Unable to move or communicate within their former domain, both land and internet, ISIS was destroyed. This presentation covers the successful operation of CYBERCOM to eliminate the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq.

Michael Richardson graduated from the United States Military Academy. After military service as an engineer, he transitioned to Diplomatic Security.

Photographic Creations: Creating Cards from your Digital Photos

In this offering within the series “Photographic Creations,” we will focus on creating beautiful personalized cards from your digital photos. Over four sessions, we’ll cover how to choose your photos and select the right application and materials for creating cards. Then we’ll work through your project in a virtual session and share the results with each other.

CLASS SESSIONS

- Making choices/finding your audience/sharing your treasures
- Choosing the right app for you
- Virtual hands-on workshop
- Share your project



Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

4 weeks: Mar 9, 16, 23, Apr 6 (skip Mar 30)

Class limit: 15

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTORS

Diana George is a retired professor of rhetoric and writing.

Sandy Hagman is a retired technical writer and software trainer.

Carolyn Meier is retired from Virginia Tech University Libraries.

The Man Who Planted Trees: A Conversation with New York Times Science and Environmental Reporter, Jim Robbins

Discussion with acclaimed science and environmental author, Jim Robbins, about his 2015 book, *The Man Who Planted Trees: A Story of Lost Groves, The Science of Trees, and A Plan to Save the Planet*. Participants are expected to read the book in advance, offer questions, and join the moderated discussion with the author.

The author of six books, Jim discussed his 2017 book, *The Wonder of Birds*, with LLI participants in November 2020.

INSTRUCTOR

Jim Robbins has written for the *New York Times*, *Audubon*, *Smithsonian*, and many other magazines for 35 years. His other books include *The Wonder of Birds: What They Tell Us About Ourselves, The World, and A Better Future*, and *A Plan to Save the Planet*. He recently appeared on *CBS This Morning* to discuss the links among humanity, nature, and pandemics.

MODERATOR

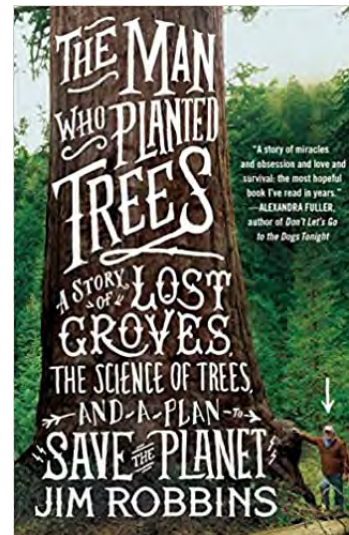
Katherine Allen is Professor Emerita of Human Development and Family Science at Virginia Tech.

Tuesday, April 6 (one session)

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Class limit: 35

Course fee: \$10



Modern Africa: Challenges of Nation Building

A general misconception of Africa is that this huge continent is one country. Yet the continent includes 54 countries, differing in language, history, and culture in part reflecting the European countries that colonized them. This course explores European imperialism and colonization 1885–1975 and division into European spheres of influence following the Berlin Conference (1884–1885). It also explores the African quest for independence and nation building in the 1950s and 1960s and the quest for African unity and regional integration. Participants will learn about the unique cultures, histories, geography, and political development of African countries and Africa’s development agenda in education and economics.

CLASS SESSIONS

1. Geography, history, political and cultural heritage, pre-colonial period
2. Partitioning of Africa—the Berlin Conference (1884 – 1885)
3. Colonial rule 1885 – 1975; quest for independence 1950s – 1960s
4. The quest for nation building and African unity and Africa’s role at the United Nations
5. Challenges of achieving African unity through regional integration
6. Political agenda for development in education and economics to achieve unity

Tuesdays, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

6 weeks: Mar 2, 9 16, 23, 30, Apr 6

Class limit: 30

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTORS

Josiah Tlou is Professor Emeritus at Virginia Tech, where he taught in International Education from 1978 to 2004.

Joseph Mukuni teaches career and technical education at Virginia Tech, including courses in communication skills and methods of teaching in Zambian colleges.

Lessons for the Economy from the Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a wake-up call for our economy, challenging long and tightly-held beliefs about how U.S. capitalism functions, who it serves, and how it might function to better serve a larger share of the population. Our economic model was built on the concept of the “rational economic man,” stemming from Adam Smith’s writings. That theory of market behavior posits that human beings are independent, autonomous, rational economic individuals acting to maximize their satisfaction with a minimum of costs. Yet this one-dimensional view of human beings does not take into account that people have emotions, moral conscience, and live in social contexts, not as isolated individuals.

The economic fall-out of the pandemic has laid bare the disproportionate impact of the unpaid or poorly paid “caring economy” on women, people of color, and self-employed and freelance workers. The current crisis opens up alternative approaches and new business models, and demands a more responsive and sustainable economy. We’ll talk about the emergence of the “caring economy” that places the care of human beings and the environment at the center and what that might mean for important shifts in policy and behavior.

Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

2 weeks: Feb 16, 23

Class limit: 50

Course fee: \$20

INSTRUCTOR

Mike Ellerbrock is a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech.

Living Well to the End of Life: Creating a Better End-of-Life Path

Each of us would like our life story to end on our own terms. Modern technological advances and hyper-medicalization of the end-of-life choices have made reaching that goal more complicated and, in some cases, elusive. Informed behavior and active conversation can provide an essential tool for us to increase the probability that we will live on our own terms to the end. This course seeks to encourage and empower participants by learning EOL facts and discussing how those facts and options will impact our preparation for the EOL.

TOPICS

1. Critically analyze end-of-life care in the US.
2. Understand what matters most to individuals in their EOL planning as it is related to documents, selection of a healthcare agent, and conversations with one's healthcare team, family and friends.
3. Learn what a "typical" death looks like including how our bodies convey information when words leave us.
4. Discuss how the losses through our lives help prepare us for the EOL.
5. Share our stories as a way to teach one another about life and the EOL.

Wednesdays, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

6 weeks: Feb 17, 24, Mar 13, 10, 17, 24

Class limit: 20

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTORS

Marian Silverman, a nurse and industrial psychologist, was clinical director of Hospice of Northwest Ohio for 12 years.

Jerry Niles is a Professor Emeritus of Education at Virginia Tech where he spent 33 years on the faculty preparing teachers.

Richard Shepherd was an emergency room physician for 20 years and then a family physician with Carilion Family Practice in Blacksburg for 15 years.

Anne J. Campbell spent 25 years as a women's health nurse practitioner in Blacksburg. She is active with the Sojourn Center for Hospice Care project to establish a hospice facility in the New River Valley.



“Create Your Plan for Aging in Place” will be offered in Zoom format for Spring 2021 on Fridays at 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. See details on page 12. This photo was taken at the Spring 2020 Aging in Place class by Pat Hyer.

Great Decisions

Great Decisions is a community discussion program on world affairs. The Foreign Policy Association develops background information and policy options for eight critical issues facing America and provides text and videos for discussion groups across the country. Participants prepare for class by reading a 10-page overview for each topic in a Briefing Book. Each meeting begins with a 30-minute video with information on the issues. A local resource person provides additional information and guides discussion via Zoom Webinar's Q/A option.

Briefing books: available from fpa.org/great_decisions/
E-book version available from online sellers.

Feb 10. Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic

The early response to the COVID-19 pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) left many experts wanting more from the WHO. What can be done to improve the WHO's response to future global health crises?

Andy Muelenaer and **Penny Muelenaer**, resource persons

Feb 17. China's Role in Africa

The COVID-19 crisis has strained the economic and political relationship between China and Africa. As Chinese President Xi Jinping's "Belt and Road initiative" continues to expand Chinese power, the spread of COVID-19, as well as the African government's growing debt to China, has seen pushback. What are some of the economic and political issues between China and Africa?

Paige Tan, resource person

Feb 24. Brexit and the European Union

The United Kingdom will leave the European Union at the start of 2021. With negotiations between the two entities continuing to stall, what does the future of Europe and the UK look like? Will the UK survive a possible Scottish vote to leave? Who will take command of Europe now that Angela Merkel is out of the spotlight?

David Bieri, resource person

Mar 3. Global Supply Chains and National Security

Broken global supply chains due to the COVID-19 pandemic revealed global economic interdependence: what happens when one country is the main source for, say, face masks, but can no longer supply the item? Countries unable to meet the demand for supplies are faced with calls for economic nationalism. What lasting effects could the pandemic have on global supply chains and trade? How would this affect national security?

Barbara Fraticelli, resource person

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

8 weeks: Feb 10, 17, 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

No class size limit

Course fee: \$30

COURSE COORDINATORS

Kathie Sewall, Joan Hirt

Presented in partnership with the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, VA

Mar 10. Persian Gulf Security

The rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran continues. Tensions escalated in early 2020 as the U.S. began to intervene in the Gulf, launching an airstrike that killed two Iranian military commanders. What historical influences have led to these tensions? What role, if any, should the United States play? Is using military force a viable foreign policy option for 2021 and beyond?

Bill Ochsenwald, resource person

Mar 17. The Korean Peninsula

Attempts by South Korean President Moon Jae-in and U.S. President Donald Trump to repair the rift between North and South have lost momentum as Pyongyang continues to test long-range missiles. As the rift between the U.S. and China grows, South Korea may end up in the middle of the two superpowers. What does the future hold for the U.S. relationship with the ROK?

Paul Avey, resource person

Mar 24. Struggles over the Melting Arctic

Donald Trump's attempt to purchase Greenland from Denmark shows the changing opinion of the U.S. government toward the Arctic region. Because of climate change, large sheets of arctic ice are melting, exposing vast stores of natural gas and oil. With Russia and China already miles ahead with their Arctic strategies, can the U.S. catch up?

Andrew Scerri, resource person

Mar 31. The End of Globalization

With the passing of the Brexit vote and Donald Trump's America First doctrine, protectionist policies have become more prevalent, challenging globalization. What is globalization and how will it be affected by protectionist trade policies? How will the United States and the world be affected by such policies? Is globalization really at an end, or in need of a refresh?

Joyce Barr, resource person

Opening Pandemic's Box: All about COVID-19

Have you wondered whether the vaccine against COVID-19 is safe and effective? How did companies develop it so rapidly and how does it work? The course will engage local and outside speakers to provide information on up-to-the-minute issues about the pandemic. It will cover basics of disease and immune responses, the latest developments in therapeutics and vaccines, and the potential for future outbreaks. Each 90-minute session will feature a 45–60 minute presentation followed by discussion and question and answer period.

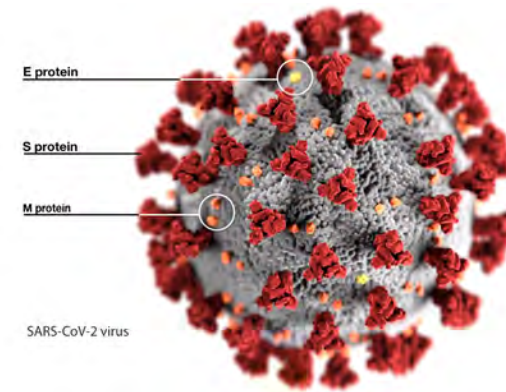
Wednesdays, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
 6 weeks: Feb 17, 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24
 Class limit: 30
Course fee: \$30

COURSE COORDINATOR

Beth Grabau

TOPICS

- Coronaviruses and SARS-CoV-2 basics
- COVID-19 disease and therapeutics
- Immune response to viral infection
- Role of CDC in combating viral pandemics, respiratory lab research
- Vaccine development and manufacture
- Spillover from animals and potential for future pandemics



www.cdc.gov/media/subtopic/images.htm (public domain)

Lights! Camera! Action! Movie Musicals Over the Years

In 1927, the film musical came to Hollywood with the Jazz Singer. Although the technology was initially crude, films quickly evolved through the 1930s to feature the great silver screen films of Fred and Ginger and Technicolor of the *Wizard of Oz*. Unlike later times, movies of this time primarily included songs written for films rather than the stage. During the first session, we'll sample great performances—both well-known and not—from film musicals of the 1930s that contributed to the Great American Songbook.

Some of the very best movie musicals came in the 1950s and after. In session 2, we'll explore films from *Singin' in the Rain* through *La La Land*. The class will highlight how some films (though not all) successfully use the medium of film to present an experience very different from stage.

The class will be two 2-hour sessions with a break. The format is lecture and Q&A. You'll have an opportunity to see clips from many favorite movies along our journey through the history of movie musicals.

Wednesdays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
 2 weeks: Mar 17, 24
 Unlimited class size
Course fee: \$20

INSTRUCTOR

Dan Sherman was an economist at the American Institutes for Research, now retired. He divides his time between Alexandria and Williamsburg. He found his passion in teaching adult education courses on theatre and opera to a wide variety of groups throughout the Washington, D.C. area and Williamsburg.

Issues in Criminal Law

This course introduces the basic issues of criminal law—sources of criminal law and the impact of the Constitution, elements of crimes and the requirement for concurrence and causation, law related to homicide and sexual assault, and general criminal defenses. Over six sessions, we’ll explore these criminal law issues and more in lecture and discussion. No prior background is required.

CLASS SESSIONS

1. Sources of criminal law
2. The impact of the Constitution on criminal law
3. Basic elements of crimes and the requirements of concurrence and causation
4. The law of homicide
5. The law of sexual assault
6. General defenses to crimes

Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

6 weeks: Feb 11, 18, 25, Mar 4, 11, 18

Class limit: 23

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Jack Call was on the faculty at Radford University for 34 years, retiring in 2020. He taught courses on Courts and the Criminal Process, Constitutional Rights of the Accused, and Criminal Law. He regularly writes on recent Supreme Court cases for the *Virginia Criminal Justice Bulletin*.

Learn to be Happier: Practice the New Science of Happiness

Happiness generally is considered one of the top values in life. Yet, only within the last two decades has the topic been the subject of careful scientific study. This course relies on the science of well-being and positive psychology to provide tools that lead to a happier and more fulfilling life. Special emphasis will be given to applying these tools for older adults who are engaged in efforts to age successfully.

Each class session will employ theory, exercises, and discussion and will be reinforced by homework assignments that provide opportunities for using skills learned. The class will have a digital workbook that the participants can print at home.

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

6 weeks: Feb 18, 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25

Class limit: 15

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Vicky Dierckx has a Ph.D. in Psychological Science (Ghent University, Belgium) and a Teaching degree (KU Leuven, Belgium). She teaches the class “Personal Well-being and Professional Success” for the Marketing Department and facilitates happiness groups in collaboration with Recreational Sports, both at Virginia Tech.

Prophetic Vision: James Baldwin in Contemporary Times

August 2, 2020 would have been the 96th birthday of the writer James Baldwin. Now, more than ever, the words and ideas of James Baldwin have resonance and shape the discourse on race and identity in the American nation. From Black Lives Matter, American democracy, to discussions on sexuality—James Baldwin is oft-quoted and consulted for his prophetic insight into the racial, cultural, and moral struggles of the American nation today.

This course will examine the resurgence of interest in the work of James Baldwin through select critical and imaginative works: two collections of essays: *Notes of a Native Son* (1955) and *The Fire Next Time* (1963); his 1956 novel *Giovanni's Room* (202 pp.); and his controversial short story “Going to Meet the Man” (1965). The class will also be in conversation with contemporary critical discussions and discourses around Baldwin, including Raoul Peck’s 2014 documentary *I Am Not Your Negro*.

TOPICS

1. James Baldwin on
 - The idea of the American nation
 - Race and democracy
 - Identity, with specific focus on American identity and sexuality
2. James Baldwin’s resurgence in contemporary times

REQUIRED READING

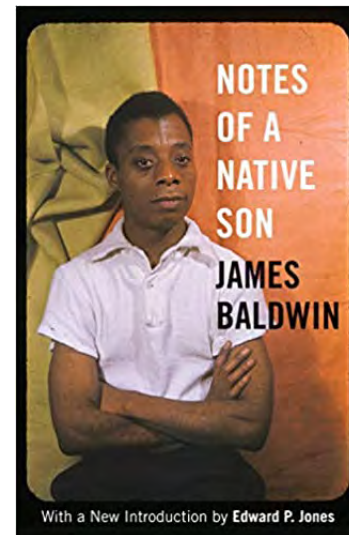
The Baldwin texts listed above are widely available as pdfs on the internet or in used copies available online. Any edition will do. Please acquire all texts before the class begins.

Prior to the first class meeting, read the essays: “Autobiographical Notes,” “Everybody’s Protest Novel,” “Notes of a Native Son,” and “Stranger in the Village” from the anthology *Notes of a Native Son*.

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
 6 weeks: Feb 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr 1
 Class limit: 25
Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Gena Chandler-Smith is an associate professor of English at Virginia Tech where she teaches African-American literature, among other things. She has won numerous teaching awards and is author of *The Wanderer in African American Literature*.



We will view clips from the documentary *I Am Not Your Negro* in class; the whole film is streamable from Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon Prime.

Federalist and Progressive Perspectives on the U.S. Constitution, Part 2 Enrollment in Part 1 is not a prerequisite.

The focus of this course is the science of politics that is the basis for constitutional interpretation. The organizing thesis is, that broadly speaking, there are two opposing traditions of constitutional interpretation; (1) the political science of *The Federalist*, sometimes referred to as “originalism,” and (2) the science of politics found in Woodrow Wilson’s *Constitutional Government in the United States*, sometimes referred to as the “living constitution” school of interpretation. This course will examine the institutions of the U.S. Government, legislative, executive and judicial from the Federalist and Progressive approaches.

Federalist (Papers) 51–85 and Wilson’s *Constitutional Government* will provide the basis for the comparison and contrast. Court cases will also be noted that reflect the political sciences that form the bases for the different approaches. We will continue to explore these “two constitutions” as part of an effort to untangle the principles and arguments that drive contemporary “Liberals” and “Conservatives.”

Thursdays, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
 6 weeks: Feb 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr 1
 Class limit: 20
Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Sydney (Al) Pearson is Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Radford University

REQUIRED READING

The Federalist Papers 51–85; Woodrow Wilson, *Constitutional Government in the United States* (available from Amazon)

Create Your Plan for Aging in Place

Like the majority of older Americans, you may intend to live in your current home for as long as possible. Your decision to age in place may seem like an obvious and logical choice. Yet, aging in place (AiP) is more than just planning to stay in your home. Your decision to age in place should be part of a process that includes personal reflection, conversations with people important to you, intentional planning, and action.

This class will explore the five essential aspects of an effective plan to age in place: housing, health and wellness, finances, transportation, and social relationships. As you work through the AiP workbook and talk with classmates in small groups, you will identify the areas where you need to seek more information; determine which legal, financial, or health issues you need to address; and outline conversations you need to initiate with family members or your support team/friends.

The AiP Workbook will be available for pick up in advance or mailed if needed.

Fridays, 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.
4 weeks: Feb 19, 26, Mar 5, 12
Class limit: 20
Course fee: \$30
Materials fee: \$12 (AiP workbook)

INSTRUCTORS

Carol Davis is Sustainability Manager for the Town of Blacksburg.

Pamela Ray is Population Health Community Coordinator for the Montgomery County Health Department.

Both are members of the NRV Aging in Place Leadership Team.

Intermediate Watercolor—Special Considerations (an onsite class)

Once you have mastered the basic techniques of watercolor and painted awhile, various and specific challenges often arise.

In this class we will address how to handle these special considerations as we explore a variety of subjects, including refraction, reflection, blending and edges, glazing and layering, mixing colors on the paper, real time value control, cropping, working loose, the need for sketching, and texturing.

Participants must follow prescribed COVID safety protocols, including wearing masks and maintaining social distance.

SUPPLIES

A list of supplies will be distributed in advance or at the first class meeting.

Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
6 weeks: Feb 19, 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 26
Class limit: 12
Course fee: \$30
Materials fee: \$35
Course meets at the Blacksburg Community Center, Community Room

INSTRUCTOR

Jesi Pace-Berkeley is a Professional Fellow of the Virginia Museum of Fine Art and Artist in Residence at the Don and Catherine Bryan Cultural Series, Outer Banks.

Jane Abraham, left, and Rhonda Janosik work on watercolor paintings in downtown Christiansburg as part of a Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech En Plein Air art class, fall 2020.

Photo courtesy of Matt Gentry, *The Roanoke Times*



Memoir Writing

Revision is the basis of literary art—it's where what people call "writing" (quality prose) happens. In this class, students will read innovative and award-winning essays, revise their own and compose new work, and share their writing with classmates. The instructor will provide exercises to stretch your range and offer ideas for developing your own self-editing process. Based on the richly collaborative workshop model—receiving peers' insights and commenting helpfully in turn—the class makes learning less narrowly instructor-based and brings more brainpower to each essay.

This class is suitable for both beginning and intermediate writers. Beginners may have written in the past, or yearn to write and want to tell a story. Intermediate writers have taken a previous class, compiled some fiction or nonfiction, or have begun a series of essays, a memoir, or a family history. Enthusiasm and a desire to read are the core prerequisites!

TOPICS

- Reviewing how to use diverse rhetorical moves to please sophisticated readers
- Strategies for developing an enhanced self-editing process
- Reading others' work with insight and giving helpful notes

Fridays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

6 weeks: Feb 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, Apr 2
skip Mar 26

Class limit: 12

Course fee: \$30

INSTRUCTOR

Richard Gilbert is the author of *Shepherd: A Memoir*, a finalist for the Ohioana Book Award, which concerns the decade he and his family lived on a farm in Appalachian Ohio. His recent essay "Animals Saved Me" won Hunger Mountain's 2017 Creative Nonfiction Prize; "That Day at Joe's" was first runner-up for the Proximity Narrative Journalism Award. He lives in Riner.

RECOMMENDED READING

Hope Jahren, *Lab Girl*

John Updike, *Self-Consciousness: Memoirs*

Organize and Maintain Your Photo Collection

What do you do with all those old photos lying around in boxes and on your phone and desktop? We will talk about sorting and organizing photos, both digital and physical. After that, what do you do with these organized photos? We will talk about digitizing photos and file management. Finally, what do you do with these digitized files? We will give you some creative options for displaying and sharing these photos.

PRESENTERS

Merrie Winfrey is an instructional designer at Radford University. She draws on her expertise in knowledge management as a communications specialist and her experience of sorting, organizing, and digitizing photos from her mother's side of the family. Photos from her father's side of the family sit waiting their turn in her garage.

Carolyn Meier has been an avid photographer for 55 years and has the boxes of photos to show for it! Having inherited her grandmother's and mother's albums, along with her large stash of albums, forced her into learning about organizing, digitizing, labeling, and preserving photos.

Fridays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

3 week: Feb 19, Mar 5, 19

Class limit: 20

Course fee: \$30



Cutting the Cable: Streaming Television

Are you confused by the different options for watching your favorite shows on television? What is the difference between cable and streaming? Why do I need a Roku box or Smart TV? These and other questions will be answered in this talk by Tim Lockridge.

This talk is a repeat of Tim's well-received presentation in Fall 2020.

Friday, February 12 (one session)

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Class limit: 35

Course fee: \$10

INSTRUCTOR

Tim Lockridge Associate Professor of English and Director of the Professional Writing program at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He teaches courses about writing with technology and about visual design. His co-authored book, *Writing Workflows*, examines how writers use technology and will be published in December 2020 by the University of Michigan Press.



LLI travelers to the Florida Keys January 2020

Free Virtual Events

Unlimited enrollment; register for each separately. Zoom webinar format. Participants will be invited to submit questions during or after the presentation.

Hamilton: Man and Musical

Tuesday, Mar 2, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This special event is also part of the Tuesday Sampler.

Alexander Hamilton was a central player in America's early history, but the smash Broadway musical *Hamilton* has focused new attention on his life and career. This multimedia class will draw on both Hamilton's biography and his depiction on stage to examine his accomplishments, his relationship with Aaron Burr, and the accuracy of the musical. Participants may wish to read Ron Chernow's biography of Hamilton and listen to the show's soundtrack before attending.

Dan Sherman has given adult education courses and talks on theatre and opera to social and university groups throughout the Washington, DC area and Williamsburg. He is pictured here with Ron Chernow, author of *Hamilton*, source for the musical.



Friday Lecture Series

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

6 sessions: Feb 19, 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 26

Register for each one separately.

SERIES COORDINATOR

Judith Jones

Feb 19. There Has Got to be a Better Way! The Electoral College and the National Popular Vote Bill

Critics have identified flaws in the way the Electoral College currently operates. Supporters of the National Popular Vote bill have proposed a key modification. States that pass the National Popular Vote bill will award all of their electoral votes to whomever wins the national popular vote instead of the winner of the popular vote in their state. We'll talk about the flaws of the current Electoral College system that led to the bill, but we'll also address several criticisms of the National Popular Vote bill.

Ted Fuller is professor emeritus of sociology at VT. Following retirement in 2017, he moved to Wilmington NC where he has pursued two of his passions—promoting the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact and working to curtail gerrymandering.



Feb 26. Protect Yourself and Your Pets from Ticks and Other Insects

We share our great outdoors with multitudes of insects and other wildlife some of which, like mosquitoes and ticks, we would prefer not to. This talk will cover how you can protect yourself and your pets, limit the presence of mosquitos and ticks in your outdoor living areas, and help protect our environment from unnecessary and ineffective pesticides.

Kasha Helget is an Extension Volunteer and a charter member of the Arlington Regional Master Naturalist organization. She is a resident of Alexandria and has been lecturing on this topic for four years.

Mar 5. Using the Harp in Therapeutic Settings for Comfort and Stress Relief

For centuries, music has been known to bring healing to the human soul and spirit. According to the International Harp Therapy Program, "Music played on the harp has several unique healing properties. The resonance from the strings, including the range of pitch and tonal color, set up an important relationship between the sound and the recipient. Historically, the harp has been a symbol of relief and comfort." This session will explore the healing that music brings, and the presenter will demonstrate her collection of lever and pedal harps.

Becky Coffey plays piano, harp, guitar, recorder, ukulele, and she is a vocalist. She loves to use her music to minister to others.



Mar 12. Continuing Conversation on Commemoration and Denial: *How Slavery and Racism Shape Our World Today*

A panel from the Smithfield-Preston Foundation will recap and continue their conversation from September 2020 on *Commemoration and Denial: How Slavery and Racism Shape Our World Today*. This thought-provoking topic warrants exploration in many contexts. Historic Smithfield is deeply engaged in this work and brings together expertise to research and interpret local history and connect it to our current world.

Kenna Jewell and **Historic Smithfield Foundation Board**



Mar 26. *The Wharton Letters and Other Artifacts at the Radford Glencoe Museum*

Surely a man who fought for Southwest Virginia's rail and industrial growth and helped lay the foundation for Virginia Tech would be a well-known figure? And his shrewd, entrepreneurial wife with a pedigree rooted in the development of the region would certainly be part of common knowledge. Surprisingly, the man and wife mentioned, Gen. Gabriel C. Wharton and Nannie Radford Wharton, have landed in obscurity in the very place they called home. However, this is changing as this couple's unparalleled collection of documents is coming to light. Join Scott Gardner as he discusses the Wharton Papers, especially their Civil War letters, and shows that there is so much yet to discover about Southwest Virginia's history.

Scott Gardner is the Director of the Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery in Radford, Virginia. A native of Southwest Virginia and author of *Radford: Then & Now*, Gardner is dedicated to bringing the region's history and culture to the public.



Mar 19. Musical Magic with the Maestro

Join our engaging and talented Maestro, Dr. David Stewart Wiley, for a program ranging from Bach to Billy Joel, making connections from the classics of the past to newer works like Wiley's film music, jazz, and even world musical influences. He has engaged audiences all over the world, his New York TV programs have reached tens of thousands, and his educational programs have won him the Yale Distinguished Music Educator Award.

David Stewart Wiley is Music Director and Conductor of the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra (VA) and Orchestra Long Island (NY). David has conducted and played piano solos with the Boston Pops, Minnesota Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, and numerous top orchestras on four continents.



Spring 2021 Registration



LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
at VIRGINIA TECH™

There are three ways to register this fall beginning at **10:00 a.m., Monday, January 25:**

- Online with a credit card *****best option*****
- On the phone using a credit card
- Mail-in with credit card information or check

Walk-in and drop-off registrations are not available this spring for safety reasons.

Please note that many classes have limited seats available. Early registration is recommended.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Familiarize yourself with the courses and virtual events before logging in to register. Note your preferences and have additional choices identified in case your preferred courses are sold out. You will have the opportunity to add your name to a wait list for sold-out courses at the end of the registration process.

Online registration opens **Monday, January 25 at 10:00 a.m.**

To register, go to the LLI homepage, www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning/, select **REGISTER**, click on the + sign to expand the online registration instructions, scroll down and click on the **Register Online** button to begin your registration.

1. Login page:
 - a. If you have an account, select **I have an account already** and enter your user name and password. Select **Login**. If you have forgotten either or both of these, click on “Forgot User Name” or “Forgot Password.” If you have forgotten your user name, your user name will be emailed to you. If you have forgotten your password, you will be emailed a link to reset your password (the link expires after four hours). Please make a note of this information for easy retrieval in the future.
 - b. If you are new to LLI, select **New User**. You will be asked to choose your user name, enter your information, select **Register**, and follow the directions.
2. Membership page: Spring term membership is required (annual membership is no longer available). No action is required on this page. Scroll to the bottom and **Continue**.
3. Course Selection page: select your classes by using the dropdown box and selecting “1” next to each desired class. When you have completed your class selections, click **Continue**.
4. If a desired class is “sold out,” you will be able to add your name to a wait list.
5. Additional Information page: respond to the required questions and click to agree that you will not share Zoom links.
6. Review and Pay page: review your course selections. Select your payment method, agree to the policy statements, then select **Pay and Register**.
7. Credit Card page: enter your credit card information as required.
8. Free Virtual Event Registration page: you may register for as many of the free Virtual Events as you wish and plan to attend.
9. Receipt and Confirmation page: the receipt will include confirmation of your courses and a link to Zoom instructions. Your Zoom links will be sent by email at a later date.

PHONE REGISTRATION

You may register by phone beginning at 10:00 a.m. on January 25. Please call 540-231-5182. You will need to give your credit card information to the registrar.

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION

A printed registration form can be downloaded in pdf format from the LLI website beginning Thursday, January 21. Mail the completed form with your check or credit card information to the LLI Registrar, Continuing and Professional Education, Virginia Tech Mailcode 0272, 702 University City Blvd, Blacksburg, VA 24061. Drop-off registrations cannot be accepted this term; the CPE building will be closed and locked for the safety of the staff.

NEED HELP?

Please contact CPE Registration at 540-231-5182. You will be routed to someone who can take your registration or assist with technical problems. Leave a detailed message if no one is available to answer your call.

Fees and Policies



LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
at VIRGINIA TECH™

FEES

Spring term membership is \$45. (An annual membership option is no longer available.) You *must* be a member to register for a course and to participate in free virtual events.

LLI courses are \$30 per course (a reduction reflecting the lack of venue rental costs). One-session classes are \$10; two-session classes are \$20. Some courses require an additional materials fee or purchase of a textbook or supplies. Additional fees or costs are noted in the course description. Virtual events are free to members.

FEE WAIVERS

The Lifelong Learning Institute is committed to accessible and affordable educational opportunities for NRV residents. Requests for fee waivers should be addressed to the LLI Registrar, phone 540-231-4364. All requests are confidential.

COURSE WAIT LISTS

If a desired course is full, you will have the opportunity to add your name to a wait list. When a registered student drops, the next student on the wait list will be notified of the opening via email or phone call.

GUESTS

LLI courses are intended for LLI members only. LLI students are not permitted to share Zoom access links for courses or virtual events with any unregistered person.

TO ADD A COURSE

If you are already registered for the term and wish to add another course, please contact the LLI Registrar at 540-231-4364 or heidil@vt.edu for assistance. If the course is not full, it may be added to your schedule.

TO DROP A COURSE OR EVENT

If you need to drop a course before it has begun or an event for which you registered, please notify the LLI Registrar (231-4364 or heidil@vt.edu)

REFUNDS

Membership fees are not refundable. However, if LLI cancels a course for any reason and the member has not enrolled for any other activity, the membership fee and the course fee may be refunded.

A member must cancel enrollment one week prior to the first session of the class to receive a refund of the course fee.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

All schedule changes and last-minute class cancellations will be communicated by email from the Zoom Class Assistant (or Instructor). Email is our primary means of communication. Please check your email regularly.

MAKEUP CLASSES

If a makeup class is scheduled because of a cancellation, you will be notified by email of the date and time.

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are an individual with a disability and desire accommodation or you have questions about the physical access provided at a location, please contact the LLI Registrar at 540-231-4364 or contact us by email at lifelonglearning@vt.edu at least 14 days in advance of the start of class or the event.

Learning with Zoom: A Member Guide



What is Zoom?

Zoom is a video conferencing software application that allows you to see and hear others in an engaging, interactive way.

How do I join a class in Zoom?

You will receive a Zoom link for your upcoming LLI at VT class(es) in an email about one week prior to your first class meeting, and in a reminder email prior to each class meeting. Click on the link (or copy and paste the link into your web browser). You will use the same link for every class session. You can attend a class session using your laptop or desktop (Windows or Mac), tablet, or smartphone (iPhone or Android).

If you haven't used Zoom before...

You can download the free Zoom application on your computer/laptop or device either by clicking on the link in a meeting invitation or by visiting zoom.us/download. If you are using the Zoom website, select Zoom Client for Meetings if you have a computer or laptop (either Apple or Windows). If you have a phone, iPad, or tablet, scroll down and select Zoom Mobile Apps.

What equipment do I need?

At the most basic level, all you need to use Zoom is a smartphone. However, if you have access to a computer or mobile device you can use the full capabilities of Zoom.

The following equipment will enhance your experience but is NOT necessary:

- **Web camera:** A camera will increase your connection with your instructor and your peers by allowing you to see each other face-to-face. If you do not have access to a web camera, you will still be able to see the instructor. Cameras are built into most computers, and you probably don't need a separate one. But use your preferences/settings to be sure it is turned on.
- **Headsets/earbuds/airpods with microphone.** These will let you hear and/or be heard more clearly. This does not need to be fancy equipment; it can be the same as the headphones you might use with your phone.
- **Charger:** Charging your device before and/or during class will ensure that you do not have an unexpected power outage interrupting your learning.

Help is available

Go to tinyurl.com/lli-vt-zoom to find Zoom Basics training along with additional tips and tricks to make your Zoom experience more enjoyable.

A Zoom Class Assistant will be assigned to every class to help class members with the technology as well as with other class management activities. If you're experiencing trouble connecting to Zoom, first contact your Zoom Class Assistant. You can also call 540-231-4364 or email heidil@vt.edu.

Volunteer!

The Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech thrives on the contributions of its volunteers. Please consider joining the ranks of those who contribute time, service, and expertise. Send a note with your interest to lifelonglearning@vt.edu or complete the volunteer interest form on the LLI website.

TEACHING

We welcome your suggestions for courses, lectures, and programs. Send your ideas directly to the Program Committee Chair, Pat Hyer (hyerp@vt.edu). We also invite you to teach a course in an area of your own expertise. Complete and submit the course proposal form online (under the Volunteer tab of the LLI website, www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning/).

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

We seek and train volunteers to serve as class assistants. Responsibilities may include distributing classroom information, setting up and restoring the room, introducing the instructor, and assisting with technology. Class assistants receive Zoom training to support online learning.

COMMITTEE WORK

We actively recruit new members to serve on our four LLI committees: Program Committee, Membership Committee, Instructional Support Committee, and Social Events Committee.

OCCASIONAL ASSISTANCE

We seek volunteers for a variety of tasks that do not require sustained commitment. Let us know, for example, if you have data entry, spreadsheet, or web skills, if you could take photographs of LLI events, drive a van for one of our field trips, or help out with classroom AV.

By their effort and talents, volunteers create the spirit and shape the experience of LLI. We look forward to welcoming newcomers into our vibrant community of support.

Donate!

Support the Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech

LLI has become an important part of the quality of life for retirees in the New River Valley and an effective outreach program for Virginia Tech. Your support will allow the LLI at Virginia Tech to grow this important community resource.

The Lifelong Learning Institute is an entity of the Division of Outreach and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. All gifts to LLI (excluding membership and course/event-related fees) are fully tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Designated gifts are received and managed by the Virginia Tech Foundation for the purpose of growing and sustaining the Lifelong Learning Institute.

Payment Options

Online Please go to the www.givingto.vt.edu. Complete the form and click "Give Now."

By check Make checks payable to Virginia Tech Foundation, Lifelong Learning Institute in Memo Line.

Mail to: Virginia Tech Foundation, 902 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061