

SPRING 2022

# OSHER

AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY



## ONLINE SPRING PREVIEW

FEBRUARY 14

View Preview Recording online by visiting  
[www.towson.edu/osher](http://www.towson.edu/osher)

## SESSION I

MARCH 7 - APRIL 1

## SESSION II

APRIL 11 - MAY 6

**TU**  
TOWSON  
UNIVERSITY™

OSHER  
LIFELONG  
LEARNING  
INSTITUTE

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# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Hello Lifelong Learners,

Many say that adults of a certain age reach a point when they become set in their ways and immutable toward change. To that, I say, “Poppycock!” If you know me, you know that I don’t say “Poppycock!” lightly. But I have seen our Osher community adapt, grow, learn, and change through these past couple of years as we have all had to adjust our lives around a pandemic. That has meant that those of us who never did an online class before now enjoy the convenience that they offer. It also means that those of us who seek the camaraderie and community that the classroom learning environment offers are willing to adapt to the new health and safety protocols.

I’m not saying that change comes easily. Of course, some take to it more quickly than others do, but change is part of life. This semester, we are seeing a few more changes—in people and places. We hope to have a new membership coordinator starting with Osher at some point very soon. In the meantime, please be patient while we work hard with limited staffing to make everything run as smoothly as possible. We will also have a change of scenery. Our in-person classes will no longer meet at 7400 York Road. This building is offline while it is being repurposed to become the new location for Towson University’s Institute for Well-Being, where TU students will train in specific health professions. In looking for new spaces to meet, we looked to places that are easy to get to, have excellent parking, have comfortable and up-to-date classroom facilities, and support the idea of community. Please give these locations a chance. I think that you will like them!

Whether you embrace change or accept it begrudgingly, we have all had quite an adventure over the past several years. Please enjoy the journey into this next semester with us—online, in-person, or a little bit of both!

Stay safe and healthy,



Tracy Jacobs

## Spring 2022 – Important Information

- **Spring 2022 classes will be a mixture of online and in-person classes**
- **In-person classes will be held at two separate physical locations**
- **Online only classes will be held on Mondays and Fridays**
- **The best way to reach Osher staff is by email: [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu) or by phone: 410-704-3535**
- **To receive all Osher announcements please make sure you are on the Osher email list. Please read the Osher News & Notes Newsletter which is emailed on a bi-weekly basis. If you are not receiving the newsletter, contact [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu) to notify Osher staff.**
- **Online course registration is strongly encouraged. If you wish to mail your registration and/or payment, you must also email [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu) to let us know that it has been sent by mail.**
- **We are unable to accept walk-in registrations**

EMAIL [OSHER@TOWSON.EDU](mailto:OSHER@TOWSON.EDU) FOR MORE INFORMATION

# SPRING 2022 SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

\*Please note course description for course start dates

Monday ONLINE ONLY	Tuesday IN-PERSON	Wednesday IN-PERSON	Thursday IN-PERSON	Friday ONLINE ONLY
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## SESSION I (MARCH 7 – APRIL 1)

9:30 a.m.	Spanish Civil War	J.S. Bach and Friends	Klezmer: American Music	Governors of Maryland	Anthropology of the Qur'an
	Abstract Expressionism	Polynesian Arts and Cultures	Bertolt Brecht		
11 a.m.	Henri Toulouse-Lautrec (11:15 a.m.)	Women in Glass Art	We Are What We Eat	Women in Math and Science	Secrets of the Sun
		A Short History of Modern Science	Humanitarian Engineering	Survey of the Bible	
1 p.m.	King Arthur and the Holy Grail	<b>CANCELED: "Ben-Hur"</b>	Eight Plays, 5th Ed.	Songwriter Signatures Movies of the Red Scare (1:30 p.m.)	Golden Age of Comic Heroes
2:15 p.m.					Inventing the Presidency

## SESSION II (APRIL 11 – MAY 6)

9:30 a.m.	Spanish Civil War	J.S. Bach and Friends	Klezmer: American Music	Governors of Maryland	Anthropology of the Qur'an
		Polynesian Arts and Cultures			
11 a.m.	Henri Toulouse-Lautrec (11:15 a.m.)	Wittgenstein	Baltimore In Changing Times	Heart of Darkness	Street Photography
		A Short History of Modern Science	American Minority Experience through Literature	Survey of the Bible	
1 p.m.	Capitalism in China	Women Who Changed the World <b>CANCELED: "Ben-Hur"</b>	Eight Plays, 5th Ed.	Musical Humor Movies of the Red Scare (1:30 p.m.)	Golden Age of Comic Heroes
2:15 p.m.					The Roaring Twenties



### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Participants in Osher in-person courses must follow the health and safety protocols such as masking, regardless of vaccination status. More information will be sent to registrants about specific guidelines for in-person locations.

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

## LOCATION OF CLASSES

Edenwald Senior Living: 800 Southerly Road, Towson, MD 21286

Loyola Graduate Center: 2034 Greenspring Drive, Lutherville-Timonium, MD 21093

Online: Zoom

## LOCATION OF OFFICES and OFFICE HOURS

Our Osher offices are located at 401 Washington Avenue, Towson, MD 21204.

9 a.m.–4 p.m. | Monday–Friday

**IMPORTANT: Office hours are by appointment only.**

## CONTACT US

Email: [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu)

Website: [www.towson.edu/osher](http://www.towson.edu/osher)

Phone: 410-704-3535 (Leave a message and you will receive a response as quickly as possible.)

Mailing Address: Osher at Towson University  
8000 York Road  
Towson, MD 21252-0001

## Staff

**Tracy Jacobs**, *director*  
410-704-3437, [tjacobs@towson.edu](mailto:tjacobs@towson.edu)

**Trish Roger**, *administrative assistant*  
410-704-3535, [proger@towson.edu](mailto:proger@towson.edu)

## Osher Advisory Board

**James Fish**, *chair*

**Robin Tress**, *secretary*

**Pam Windsor**, *planning/development committee*

**Tracy Jacobs**, *curriculum committee*

**Ilene Lewandowski**, *classroom facilitation committee*

**Ruth Spivak**, *philanthropy committee*

## At-Large Members

Charlene Couch

Sandy Goldberg

Sherrye Walker

Susan Woolhiser

Towson University's policies, programs and activities comply with federal and state laws and University System of Maryland regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex, disability and sexual orientation.

*Towson University is a smoke-free campus.*

*Your participation in Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University constitutes implied consent to be photographed, video recorded, and to have those images published in any manner, including use on web pages and social media outlets. Should you have questions, please contact the director.*

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

## SCHEDULE OF CLASS LOCATIONS

### MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS

Classes will meet online via Zoom

- Enjoy classes from your home or wherever you can connect
- Most online classes are recorded and available to registrants to view if they have missed a class or would like to review a lesson



### WEDNESDAYS

Classes will meet at Edenwald Senior living in Towson, located at **800 Southerly Road, Towson, MD 21286.**

- Enjoy the camaraderie of in-person learning
- Convenient location near the Towson Town Center mall
- Ample free and accessible parking
- Comfortable and welcoming atmosphere with auditorium and multipurpose classroom
- Stay for lunch—purchase a lunch (or brown bag it) and dine with friends in Edenwald’s dining room



### TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Classes will meet at the Loyola Graduate Center in Timonium, located at **2034 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD 21093.**

- Enjoy the camaraderie of in-person learning
- Convenient location with easy access from Route 83
- Spacious parking lot with free and accessible parking
- Comfortable and welcoming atmosphere with updated classrooms
- Nearby restaurants and businesses



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# ENDOWED BY THE BERNARD OSHER FOUNDATION

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## ABOUT OSHER AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

### HISTORY AND MISSION

Founded in 1999 with its first home in the historic Auburn House on the Towson University campus, the Auburn Society became the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University in the summer of 2006 when it was awarded its first grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation. Osher is part of the university's Division of Strategic Partnerships and Applied Research (SPAR).

The mission of Osher is to offer adults, age 50 and better, opportunities for continued learning along with programs and activities for social and cultural enrichment. The basic concept of the organization is that learning is a life-long process and is enhanced in a congenial atmosphere with others who share a love of learning. There are no educational prerequisites for membership and no grades or credits are given.

Osher is a self-funded, membership organization, endowed by the Bernard Osher Foundation since 2009. Its programs and activities are planned and carried out by staff and member volunteers through committees. These committees include: curriculum, outreach/membership, social/hospitality, art exhibit, philanthropy, and classroom facilitation.

### THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Osher has fall and spring semesters each year. Each semester is divided into two four-week sessions. **Some classes are only four weeks in length while others are eight weeks.** This catalog describes the academic program for the **SPRING 2022 SEMESTER.**

The dates are: Session I: March 7 – April 1  
Session II: April 11 – May 6

Classes are held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. unless stated otherwise. Each class meets once a week for one hour and 15 minutes unless stated otherwise in this catalog. **Spring 2022 courses will meet both in-person and online via Zoom. Online classes will be held on Mondays and Fridays, while in-person classes will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.**

In addition to the fall and spring semesters, Osher offers winter and summer lecture series.

### OTHER PROGRAMS

In addition to its academic programs, Osher at Towson University offers special lectures, book clubs, and interest groups. There will not be any Osher day trips during the fall 2021 semester.

## MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

### OSHER MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Osher is required to take classes. Membership is geared to individuals age 50 and better and their spouses. Annual dues, effective July 1–June 30, are \$50 per person. **Membership fees support operating costs of the organization.**

### TUITION

The fee for one four-week course is \$65. The fee for two four-week courses or one eight-week course is \$130. An unlimited number of courses may be taken during the semester for \$180.

### REGISTRATION

**Online registration will become available on Tuesday, February 16 at 12:01 a.m.**

Online registration is strongly encouraged. If you are unable to register online, you may **download and print out the registration form.** You must be a current member to register for classes.

**RENEW OR JOIN | REGISTER FOR SPRING 2022**

### INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In order to best ensure our members' safety, Osher will follow the guidelines below for delays and closures during inclement weather. Regardless of Osher's status, please use your best judgment regarding your safety in traveling during inclement weather.

**For Tuesday and Thursday classes, please follow these Emergency Closing/Inclement Weather guidelines**

**For Wednesday classes, please follow the Baltimore County Public School Delay/Cancellation policy below.**

**Baltimore County Schools CLOSED = Osher classes CANCELLED**

**Baltimore County Schools OPEN LATE = NO CHANGES to Osher Class Schedule unless Towson University is closed or opening late  
(refer to schedule above)**

**\*NOTE:** The 401 Washington Avenue building follows Towson University schedule as building closures may be in effect.

### OSHER REFUND POLICY

Your payment is being processed by the state of Maryland upon receipt. If you desire a refund and have paid by check, we are unable to issue a refund without your social security number and address on a signed and dated w9 form. If you paid with a credit card, a refund will be issued to that credit card. **PLEASE NOTE: No refunds will be issued once classes have begun.**

### CLASS MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE

Registration is required and attendance is monitored for the spring courses.

### OSHER'S POLICY ON JEWISH HOLIDAYS

The Osher Institute follows Towson University's general policy as related to Jewish holidays, which is to hold classes as scheduled. However, an individual teacher may reschedule his/her class if desired. If a class has been rescheduled, it will be stated in the catalog after the description of the particular course affected.

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# THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORTERS OF OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

## SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We are deeply grateful to our donors for supporting the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University. Philanthropic gifts to Osher at Towson University enrich the program in many ways. Donations to Osher at Towson University help to support technology, attract and retain great instructors, and keep tuition fees affordable. Thank you for demonstrating your belief in the importance of lifelong learning and your commitment to such a worthwhile program.

### STRENGTHEN THE FINANCIAL FOUNDATION OF OSHER AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY. [GIVE A GIFT!](#)

Tax-deductible contributions to Osher are greatly appreciated and are important to its current and future operations. There are six funds to which you may give.

**Osher Excellence Fund**, (formerly the Osher Sustaining Fund), established in 2015, supports special program-related expenses and insures the ongoing success of Osher for years to come.

**Endowment for Learning in Retirement**, established in 2004, provides a permanent and ongoing source of support to help maintain academic excellence in the lifelong learning program.

**Patty Beere Ruby Memorial Fund**, established in 2008 to honor the memory of Patty Beere Ruby, provides funding to celebrate and promote the Osher program.

**Lou Cedrone Memorial Fund**, established in 2015 to honor the memory of Lou Cedrone, Osher faculty member, 2000–2015, supports film courses at Osher.

**Osher Lifelong Learning Endowment**, awarded to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University in 2009 by the Bernard Osher Foundation, provides ongoing support for the Osher Institute.

**R. Rex Rehfeld Endowment**, established in 2016, sponsors Osher courses in honor of Osher faculty member, Rex Rehfeld.

### [VIEW DONOR LIST](#) | [GIVE A GIFT!](#)

*If you wish to donate by check, please indicate the fund to which you prefer to give. Please include notation that the gift is to Osher at Towson University. If you have no fund preference, your gift will go into the Osher Excellence Fund. Make check payable to **Towson University Foundation, Inc.** and mail to: **Towson University Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 17165, Baltimore, MD 21297-0219.***

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# **SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**

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Osher thrives with the help of our volunteers. Whether they participate on a committee, facilitate a book club or discussion group, or pitch in at a Preview, Osher volunteers are integral to the success of our program. Osher groups have remained active while we have been off-campus by holding meetings via Zoom. Keep an eye out for Osher emails for ways to stay involved.

Thank you to Father Bob Albright and Howard Cohen for teaching their courses this fall as volunteers.

**PLEASE CONTACT [OSHER@TOWSON.EDU](mailto:OSHER@TOWSON.EDU)  
to learn more about volunteer opportunities at Osher.**

ARTS, CULTURE & HUMANITIES



**J.S. BACH AND FRIENDS...THE MYSTERY OF THE BAROQUE**

Jonathan Palevsky

**Sessions I and II**

**Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 8)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

Between 1600 and 1750 a few things occurred in music: the orchestra was invented, the violin was perfected, and a brilliant style of vocal music, which we now call opera, was created. We have music written for the glory of God, music written for kings who thought they were gods, and music written for castrati who knew they were gods! This is the extraordinary time of Monteverdi, Corelli, Vivaldi, Handel, Lully Rameau, and all the various Bachs. The Baroque period gave us music of great complexity but also music that explored a range of emotions from the most sanguine to the most intense. Spending eight weeks exploring this seminal music of western civilization is time well spent. Consider yourselves invited!

Jonathan Palevsky, B.M., M.M., is program director for WBJC. His undergraduate studies focused on musicology and his graduate work at Baltimore's Peabody Institute on instrumental training in classical guitar performance. Jonathan can be heard as host of Face the Music, Past Masters, WBJC Opera Fest and regular afternoon classical programming on WBJC. He also hosts Cinema Sundays at the Charles Theater. Jonathan has been a regular of the Osher faculty since the former Auburn Society's first semester in spring 1999.

Make sure you are getting Osher emails and newsletter. Email [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu).



### SONGWRITER SIGNATURES

Julie Kurzava



### MAKE 'EM LAUGH - MUSICAL HUMOR

Julie Kurzava

#### Sessions I

**Thursday, 1:00 p.m. (begins March 10)**

**Fee: \$65**

You hear a passing comment such as “that sounds like a Gershwin song.” Really? How can you tell? In this course the instructor reveals the musician’s clues on how to identify great songwriters based on substance and style. Each session will look at classic songs from the Great American Songbook written by a master songwriter from the 1920s through the 1950s, digging in and identifying musical characteristics. Julie Kurzava explores the contrasting musical signatures of George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and Jerome Kern, listening to masterpieces that have stood the test of time.

#### Sessions II

**Thursday, 1:00 p.m. (begins April 14)**

**Fee: \$65**

They say that laughter is the best medicine, and comical songs have been known to cure a variety of illnesses, or at the very least, put us in a better mood! This class is dedicated to the serious pursuit of appreciating comedy. Julie Kurzava examines techniques and creative choices employed by songwriters to lighten our spirits and keep us entertained. Beginning with opera and operetta, she’ll also feature some of her favorite writers such as Porter, Gershwin, Sondheim, and Weird Al Yankovic, to name a few.

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Julie Kurzava is a versatile performer who has worked professionally throughout the United States in theater, concert and opera. A classically trained singer, she is a graduate of Northwestern University (B.M.) and the Peabody Conservatory (M.M.). Ms. Kurzava is co-founder and executive director of New Moon Theater, a touring theater for young audiences. Formerly a faculty member of the Peabody Road Scholar program, she is a popular lecturer on musical theater and the Great American Songbook. Ms. Kurzava is currently on the music faculty at Loyola University Maryland.



### **KLEZMER: AMERICAN MUSIC**

Seth Kibel



### **EIGHT PLAYS EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW, 5TH EDITION**

Greg Jones

#### **Session I and II**

**Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 9)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

Klezmer, which literally means “tool of song” in Yiddish, is the secular folk music of the Jews of Central and Eastern Europe. In the first decades of the 1900s, this music flourished not only in the Old World but also in the New World, in the immigrant community of New York City. There, the sounds of the European “fiddler on the roof” mixed with the sounds of early jazz and Tin Pan Alley. The result was a quintessentially American sound. These presentations will trace the history and evolution of this music, from the Old World to the New, up until the present day and the modern klezmer revival. Vintage audio clips and live performances from the instructor will make this program as exciting as the music itself.

Seth Kibel is one of the Mid-Atlantic’s premier woodwind specialists, working with some of the best bands in klezmer, jazz, swing, and more. Wowing audiences on clarinet, saxophone, and flute, Seth has made a name for himself in the Washington/Baltimore region, and beyond. He is the featured performer with The Klezmer, Bay Jazz Project, Music Pilgrim Trio, The Natty Beaux, and more. Winner of 28 Washington Area Music Awards (Wammies), including “Best World Music Instrumentalist” (2003–11) and “Best Jazz Instrumentalist” (2005, 2007–8, 2011–14). His most recent recording, “When You’re Smiling,” was released in 2018 on the Azalea City Recordings record label. His song “New Waltz” was the Grand Prize winner of 2016 Mid-Atlantic Song Contest (MASC), sponsored by the Songwriters’ Association of Washington (SAW). When he’s not performing, Seth frequently lectures on a variety of topics in music history for numerous institutions, including the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University and Towson University.

#### **Sessions I and II**

**Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. (begins March 9)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

Using a lively mix of lecture, video clips, live performance, and Q&A, this popular course returns, tracing connections and offering insights into the following plays: “Antigone,” “Dr. Faustus,” “The Merchant of Venice,” “Mother Courage and Her Children,” “Long Day’s Journey into Night,” “Cloud Nine,” “Arcadia,” and “Glengarry Glen Ross.” In addition to exploring each play’s unique literary qualities, the course will place each in its theatrical context, noting how it was produced and why it is still relevant. No prior reading is required, though students are sent a list of online sources for their own reference and research. This course does not require prior enrollment in the earlier “Eight Plays” courses.

Greg Jones holds a B.A. in drama from Catholic University and an M.A. in English from Salisbury University. An award-winning playwright and actor, he has also published essays on Langston Hughes’s dramatic monologue poems and profiles of playwrights Marsha Norman and Paul Zindel. He is a one-day Jeopardy! champion whose winning Final Jeopardy category was...Characters in Plays!

**BIG THANKS**  
to all Osher Volunteers who  
help to make Osher a success.



### Women in Glass Art

Howard Cohen

#### Sessions I

**Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 8)**

**Fee: \$65**

In this course we will explore the work, inspiration, and creative processes of six prominent American women glass artists. Relationships are important themes in their work. Each of these artists explores the wide range of human relationships that can be experienced. We will explore exquisitely colored vessels inspired by birds in flight, assemblages of spinning spheres resembling heavenly bodies, and provocative stained glass pieces depicting women caught between despair and hope, or disturbing images of nature run amok. You will learn about a myriad of techniques that are used to create glass art. German-born artist Sibylle Peretti describes how she tries “to create moments of solitude, spaces that stimulate the viewer’s senses and invite them to become part of a journey into undefined places of mystery and wonder.” In this class, we will take the journey into glass art and all its wonders.

Howard Cohen is a fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society who has a B.A. and M.A. in mathematics from Johns Hopkins University. Since his retirement, he has taught courses on contemporary glass art at Osher at Towson University, the Johns Hopkins University Osher program, at Beth El, the Myerberg Senior Center, and at the Community College of Baltimore County Senior Program. Howard has collected glass art for 25 years and is part of the tight-knit community of collectors, artists, gallery owners and members of institutions that support, produce, sell and exhibit glass art. He is on the board of the Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass Art. He has also led trips to artists’ studios, galleries and museums that exhibit glass art and has interviewed many artists for course content.



### INTRODUCTION TO POLYNESIAN ARTS AND CULTURES

Katharine Fernstrom

#### Sessions I and II

**Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 8)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

The region of the Pacific Ocean known as Polynesia was named by colonial explorers for its many islands spread across the eastern Pacific. People of these islands speak approximately 30 related languages and share cultural practices and stories emerging from shared ancestry in a place called Hawaiki in the Maori language. Western archaeologists view them as descendants of the Lapita: expert, migratory sailors who left east Asia in many and moved out through modern Melanesia to occupy the eastern, Polynesian Pacific. Topics will include ocean navigation strategies and technology, large scale architecture, sculpture, and dance, as well as small portable objects. Dance is important to Polynesian narratives and recorded examples will be included.

Katharine Fernstrom is an anthropologist and archaeologist teaching part-time at TU and MICA in anthropology and art history. Her research specialty is the role of visual art as communication within the context of economic transactions in Native American, Inuit, and Papua New Guinean cultures. Katharine is currently interim president of the Central Chapter of The Archeological Society of Maryland and is also an appraiser specializing in Native American art made for the market (no antiquities).

## ONLINE COURSE

**HENRI TOULOUSE-LAUTREC**

Joseph Cassar

**Sessions I and II****Monday 11:15 a.m. (begins March 7)****Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

This course focuses on the life and art of Henri Toulouse-Lautrec (1864–1901) and his times. It outlines his early training as well as his noted physical problems, how he coped with them, the venues he visited, life at the Moulin Rouge, and most importantly his contribution to drawing, painting, poster design, and lithographic printing. This online course will be enhanced by rich images throughout the presentation that invite discussion and questions. **Note: This course will not be recorded.**

Joseph Paul Cassar, Ph.D., is an artist, art historian, curator and educator. He studied at the Accademia di Belle Arti, Pietro Vannucci, Perugia, Italy, the School of Art in Malta (Europe) and at Charles Sturt University in NSW, Australia. He is the author of several books and monographs on the pioneers of modern art of the Mediterranean island of Malta, two of which have been awarded best prize for research in the Book Festival, Europe. He served as a free-lance art critic for “The Daily News” (1978–1981) and “The Times of Malta” (1997–2000). He has lectured at various educational institutions in Europe and the United States. He lectures at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, The Renaissance Institute, Notre Dame University, Towson University, York College of Pennsylvania, the Johns Hopkins University, Community College of Baltimore County among others. He currently designs online art courses for the New York Times Knowledge Network and for the University of Maryland University College. As an artist he has had two residencies: at Luther College, Decorah Iowa (2002) and at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (2003). He was curator for the international Art Center: St James Cavalier Center for Creativity between 1999–2003. Cassar exhibits his work regularly in the Baltimore-Washington area.

## ONLINE COURSE

**ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM:  
The Pivot of American Art**

Michael Salcman

**Sessions I****Monday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 7)****Fee: \$65**

Abstract expressionism is the most important art movement in the history of American art; it moved the capital of world art from Paris to New York and provided the basis for several succeeding movements (contemporary abstraction, Color Field Painting, performance art) and movements in opposition (pop art, minimalism, Hard-edge painting, Earth art). The first lecture covers its origin in French surrealism, the Mexican muralists, the Hudson River School, World War II, the Atomic Age and critics like Greenberg and Rosenberg. The second lecture covers gestural Ab-Ex artists like Gorky, Pollock, Hofmann, de Kooning, Kline and Joan Mitchell. The third lecture covers the Color Field Ab-Ex artists like Rothko, Newman, Still, Motherwell and Gottlieb. The fourth lecture briefly covers its aftershocks through artists like Guston, Grace Hartigan, Johns, Rauschenberg, Frankenthaler, Louis, Noland, Kaprow, and examples from recent artists like Richter, Polke, Oehlen, Gilliam, Whitten, Frank Bowling, Julie Mehretu etc. Ab-Ex had a distinct influence on art by women and African American artists. A lecture outline and a bibliography will be provided.

Michael Salcman, poet, physician, and art historian, was chairman of neurosurgery at the University of Maryland and president of the Contemporary Museum in Baltimore. He lectures widely about art and the brain. He has given courses on every modern and contemporary art movement from 1800 to the present. His cover articles on art and artists have appeared in many journals and catalogs including JAMA, Neurosurgery, World Neurosurgery and Little Patuxent Review. Abstraction and abstract expressionism are a particular focus in his writing and his own art collection. Many of his poems are about artists and artworks. Poems appear in Arts & Letters, The Café Review, Harvard Review, Hopkins Review, The Hudson Review, New Letters, and Poet Lore. His poems have received six nominations for a Pushcart Prize. In addition to six books on medical and scientific subjects, his poetry books include *The Clock Made of Confetti* (2007), nominated for The Poets' Prize, *The Enemy of Good is Better* (2011), and *Poetry in Medicine*, his popular anthology of classic and contemporary poems on doctors, patients, illness & healing (2015). *A Prague Spring, Before & After* (2016), won the Sinclair Poetry Prize. *Shades & Graces: New Poems*, (Spuyten Duyvil, New York, 2020), is the inaugural winner of The Daniel Hoffman Legacy Book Prize. Salcman is a poetry editor at the Baltimore Review and was art editor at the Little Patuxent Review.

**ONLINE COURSE****STREET PHOTOGRAPHY**

Steve Dembo

**Sessions II****Friday, 11:00 a.m. (begins April 15)****Fee: \$65**

Susan Sontag wrote in 1977, “The photographer is an armed version of the solitary walker reconnoitering, stalking, cruising the urban inferno, the voyeuristic stroller who discovers the city as a landscape of voluptuous extremes. Adept of the joys of watching, connoisseur of empathy, the flâneur finds the world ‘picturesque.’” The first “street photograph” (1838 or 1839) was taken by Louis Daguerre, the first of many photographers to do so. This survey will highlight other street photographers—many of them famous such as Atget, Stieglitz, Frank, Cartier-Bresson, and others—and many who are relatively unknown photographers such as Krull, Negre, and others. We will see the street images of Winogrand, Friedlander, and many more, and discuss style, technique, and equipment. We will briefly touch on some of the legal aspects of street photography and the differences between street photography, documentary, and photojournalism.

Steve Dembo received his M.F.A. from MICA. He is an adjunct professor at CCBC, where he teaches digital photography, digital imaging, and 2-D design. His photographic work has been critically acclaimed, has garnered numerous competitive awards and accolades, and has appeared in national publications and juried exhibitions. He has taught several courses at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University. He spent 30 years as a college administrator in Connecticut, New York, and Maryland. He has been an instructor in history at York College-CUNY, Norwalk Community College, Community College of Baltimore, and Howard Community College.

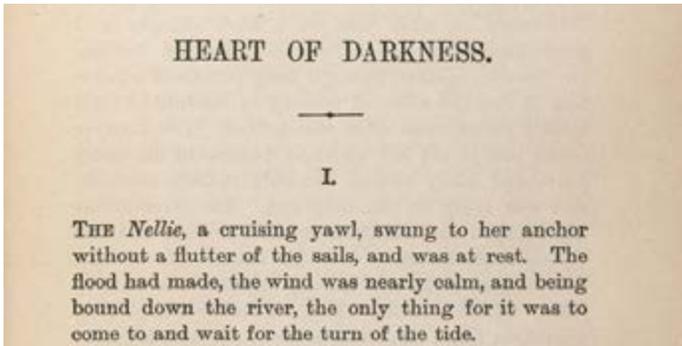
**BERTOLT BRECHT:  
Literature that Educates and Delights**

Thomas Dorsett

**Sessions I****Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 9)****Fee: \$65**

Brecht, perhaps the greatest playwright of the last century, is a must-read today. We live in a country where individualism is much prized; Brecht emphasized how society shapes every individual. We are determined by our surroundings more than we like to think. Brecht’s work is not only enjoyable, but it provides a good antidote to what I call the “toxic individualism” of our society. Participants are encouraged to read as many of the great plays, i.e. “Galileo,” “Mother Courage,” “The Three-penny Opera,” “The Good Woman of Setzuan” and, of course, the play we will discuss in depth, “The Caucasian Chalk Circle.” The plays are widely available; translations by Erich Bentley are especially recommended.

Thomas Dorsett has conducted many courses at Osher, including courses on Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, Rilke, Emily Dickinson, John Keats, Albert Camus and Gerard Manley Hopkins. Dorsett is a retired pediatrician and a published poet and essayist.



### A LOOK INTO THE HEART OF DARKNESS

Mikita Brottman



### THE AMERICAN (MINORITY) EXPERIENCE THROUGH LITERATURE

Saima Sitwat

#### Sessions II

**Thursday, 11:00 a.m. (begins April 14)**

**Fee: \$65**

Joseph Conrad's 1899 novella "Heart of Darkness" is widely considered to be one of the most important literary works of the twentieth century, and the foundation of literary modernism. On the surface, the story is about a man who takes a voyage down the Congo River to rescue an ivory trader who has gone mad. Beneath the surface, however, the novella is a psychological exploration into the uncharted territory of the unconscious mind. In this four-week course, students will be guided through the novella at a pace allowing for close attention to Conrad's language, and the themes and motifs he develops. We will also consider the novella's relation to colonization, imperialism, and existentialism, reading excerpts from Conrad's "Congo Diary" for context and comparison.

Mikita Brottman is an author and a psychoanalyst with a Ph.D. in English language and literature from Oxford University. She is a professor in the department of humanistic studies at the Maryland Institute College of Art, and a true crime writer.

#### Sessions II

**Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins April 13)**

**Fee: \$65**

This four-week course will explore the experiences of minorities in the United States through the lens of literature. The focus of our study will be the voice and themes in the works of some of the leading American writers as well as emerging voices, of our times. Together, using challenging literary pieces from Indigenous, Black, and immigrant authors and journalists, we will reflect on the experience of growing up as a minority in America. We will try to answer the most pertinent question of our times: Who gets to be an American?

Originally from Pakistan, Saima Adil Sitwat moved to Baltimore in 2020, from Pittsburgh, where she reported stories at the intersection of religion, identity politics and gun violence. Saima is an instructor at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University and University of Pittsburgh, and at the Renaissance Institute at Notre Dame of Maryland. She is the author of her memoir, "American Muslim: An Immigrant's Journey" which received an 'Honorable Mention' at the San Francisco Book Festival Awards. Her latest project "Becoming American" documents the lives of immigrant women in the United States. She is a recipient of grants through Maryland State Arts Council and serves on the Board of Directors for Maryland Humanities. Saima lives in Baltimore with her husband and their two daughters.

**ONLINE COURSE****THE GOLDEN AGE OF COMIC HEROES**

Arnold Blumberg

**Sessions I and II****Friday, 1:00 p.m. (begins March 11)****Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

Why are all those colorful, crusading comic book heroes more popular than ever? What do they tell us about ourselves as individuals and as a nation, from their arrival in the late 1930s to the present day? We'll look at the mythological and literary origins of superheroes and their evolution through comics, books, movies, television, and other media, with a particular focus on the strong Jewish connection through the many creative minds that shaped the genre. In so doing, we'll see why superheroes are some of the most powerful symbols in our culture today and a modern mythological chronicle of our high-flying aspirations and darkest fears.

Arnold T. Blumberg is a pop culture historian and a professor of multiple courses in media literacy and other cultural topics. He has taught at UMBC, the University of Baltimore, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University. He spent 15 years in the comic book industry as writer and editor of *The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide*, curated a pop culture museum for five years, and currently runs his own publishing company, ATB Publishing.

**MOVIES OF THE RED SCARE**

Bill Barry

**Sessions I and II****Thursday, 1:30–3:30 p.m. (begins March 10)****Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

The Red Scare that swept the U.S. after 1946 had an enormous impact on the movies including those that were produced at the time and the movies that looked back at the period. This class will show four movies from that era: "I Married a Communist (The Woman on Pier 13)," "I was A Communist for the FBI," "My Son John," and "Storm Center." Also shown will be four movies that provide a historical perspective of the period: "The Front," "Guilty by Suspicion," "Good Night and Good Luck," and "Trumbo."

Bill Barry is the retired director of labor studies at The Community College of Baltimore County-Dundalk. Bill has given lectures and taught courses at Osher on labor history, history and culture of the 1930s, and the history of slavery.



### WITTGENSTEIN: A Philosophical Madness

Ed Fotheringill

#### Session II

**Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins April 12)**

**Fee: \$65**

The 20<sup>th</sup> century philosopher, Ludwig Wittgenstein, is one of the more enigmatic figures in the history of Western philosophy. Both his life and his philosophical activity were fraught with false starts and misgivings. Some scholars asserted that he was the preeminent philosopher of the 20th century, while others seriously wondered if Wittgenstein was doing philosophy at all. There was one point, however, that everyone, including Wittgenstein, agreed upon: *No one really understood what he was saying*. In this course, we will examine the life and philosophical activity of Ludwig Wittgenstein in an honest attempt at making some sense of what he said. One curious fact must be noted: Wittgenstein hated philosophy and encouraged his students to stay away from it. That being said, he could not stop philosophizing. It was an obsession that took him down the rabbit hole of philosophical madness.

Edward Fotheringill has taught philosophy at the college level for 40 years. He held the position of senior lecturer of philosophy at Towson University and Goucher College before ending his formal teaching career as adjunct professor of philosophy at the Maryland Institute College of Art.



### SURVEY OF THE BIBLE: A Scholarly Approach

Father Bob Albright

#### Session I and II

**Thursday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 10)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

Moving through the Old Testament and into the New Testament of the Bible we will encounter very interesting topics, such as, learning that Moses did not write the first five books of the Bible, and who did; many of the prophets were school teachers with students; the kings of Israel were not kings, but “Messiahs;” Paul did not write all the letters attributed to him, and who did; Matthew and Luke copied Mark’s Gospel; the Gospel of John had at least three authors; the Book of Revelation, contrary to modern preachers, has nothing to do with today’s world; and finally, how the Bible is organized. Bring a Bible with you as you join in this rapid, but thorough trip through the “greatest story ever told.”

Rev. Robert E. Albright is a retired Catholic Priest of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He served as the Catholic Campus Minister at Towson University for the 26 years before his retirement in July 2006. Through teaching a scholarly approach to the Bible over the past 50 years, Father Bob has explored greater interfaith issues at the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies of Baltimore. He has studied twice in Israel at the International Center for Holocaust Studies and has been to Israel over 18 times leading study tours and retreats and doing private research in Biblical sites and studying the Palestinian/Israeli situation. Father Bob is engaged in numerous Catholic/Jewish endeavors including a funded program to educate Jewish and Catholic high school students in each other’s tradition.

## ONLINE COURSE



### **CAPITALISM IN CHINA**

Mark Yourek

#### **Session II**

**Monday, 1:00 p.m. (begins April 11)**

**Fee: \$65**

Many Americans are only dimly aware that capitalism is alive and well in 'communist' China. But China is now an overwhelmingly capitalist country and emerging as a formidable rival to the United States. How is China doing it? In this course, we compare the U.S. and Chinese models of capitalism and government, their respective strengths and weaknesses, and the factors that may determine the long-term future of each country. Will the U.S. or China be stronger over the long run? Which country will be more stable? Which will be more influential in the world? In this course, we will take a serious look at these questions while we look to find the answers.

Mark Yourek is a business professional who has worked for major corporations in the United States and around the world. He is a student of economics and international relations and holds an M.B.A. from UCLA and a B.A. in international relations from USC.

## ONLINE COURSE



### **SPANISH CIVIL WAR**

Rex Rehfeld

#### **Session I and II**

**Monday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 7)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

The Spanish Civil war is probably one of the most misunderstood wars of all times. It is often characterized as a fight between democracy and fascism. Ernest Hemingway notwithstanding, there was little if any democracy on the one side and little fascism on the other. Nor, as often considered, was it the precursor and rehearsal for World War II. The origins of the war start in 1812 with the promulgation of Spain's first constitution, and its final chapter closes with Spain's completion of its transition to Democracy in 1981. We will discuss the early attempts to create a republic, along with the first autocracy. We will look at the flip-flops between a popular front and an autocratic government as well as a rebellion in 1936, which ended in April 1939 with Francisco Franco's victory. Then we will discuss how Spain was transformed from an autocracy to a democracy.

Rex Rehfeld has a B.S. from the University of California and a J.D. from the University of Maryland. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the U.S. Army in the Korean War and for several years afterward. After leaving the service he worked as an investment advisor until retiring in 2014. Rex's avocation is the study and teaching of history. He has presented courses and lectures at local university senior learning programs as well as lectures at retirement centers.

## ONLINE COURSE



### ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE QUR'AN

Ahmed Achrafi

#### Session I and II

**Friday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 11)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

This course presents an anthropological study of the Qur'an, focusing on the representation of God in the Qur'an and the conception of the divine in Islamic thinking and practices. Combining primary textual materials and anthropological analysis, the course identifies various Islamic attitudes towards the transcendence of Allah and explores their possible root-causes. These are 1) the ambiguity of the Qur'anic text, 2) the inherent instability of the concept of transcendence, 3) human inclinations toward contradiction, doubt, and skepticism, and 4) human hierarchical and authoritarian tendencies and susceptibility to the lure of power. The course then examines how the misunderstanding of God's transcendence has affected Islamic thinking and practices, especially as it relates to gender, ethics, art, and economy.

Ahmed Achrafi holds an LL.B from the University of Oran, Algeria, an LL.M from New York University School of Law, and a Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania. He continues to do research in anthropology and prehistoric rock art. He has extensive teaching experience, and his writing spans a wide range of topics. His latest publication is "An Anthropology of the Qur'an," London, New York: Routledge, 2021.



### WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

Barbara Blumberg

#### Session II

**Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. (begins April 12)**

**Fee: \$65**

They came from diverse backgrounds, races and religions, education, countries and training. These women accomplished what they did many, many decades ago, and in some instances, well over a century ago. From Kevlar vests to coffee filters, from life rafts to fire escapes, and from automatic dishwashers, car windshield wipers/heaters to refrigerators and penicillin, these women inventors achieved what their male counterparts could not. They did this at a time when women were expected to stay in the kitchen and bedroom only; when they couldn't vote or get an education. You may not know them, but they changed your lives for the better.

Barbara Blumberg, having earned a B.S from Towson University, spent three years teaching in Baltimore City schools and 25 years teaching at Beth Tfiloh Community Day School. She was an adjunct faculty member at Florida Gulf State University and at the Community College of Baltimore County.

Thank you for being part of the Osher community!



## **WE ARE WHAT WE EAT: The Interplay of Food and Culture in the U.S.**

Margaret Algren

### **Session I**

**Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 9)**

**Fee: \$65**

What is American cuisine? This course is designed as a fun and informative trip of exploration to discover American food preferences and trends and how we developed them. The course will focus on the interplay of food quality, convenience, variety, and special effects, lifestyle, and our culture.

A retired professor, Margaret, taught a similar class during her tenure at Towson University. How people create culture and how it, in turn, makes us who we are has been a focus of her studies. Additionally, Margaret loves creating in the kitchen resulting in a wide range of outcomes. Food and culture combine two of her favorite topics.



## **BALTIMORE IN CHANGING TIMES: The Beginning of the Modern Era**

Jack Burkert

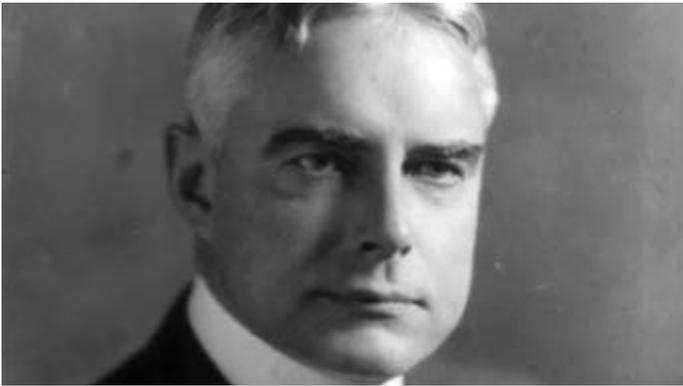
### **Session II**

**Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins April 13)**

**Fee: \$65**

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Baltimore and her citizens underwent unprecedented change. The citizenry re-invented itself as technology and industry grew and changed their lives. It was the era of electrification, where businesses, then homes joined a new power grid. Here too were the beginnings of mass communication via radio, the opening of a Golden Age of information and entertainment. Baltimoreans became more mobile as rail networks were joined by automobiles, then airplanes, not only operated, but built in the city as well. And finally, heavy industry and the jobs it could create left tradition behind as a new remarkable steel mill appeared on the banks of the Patapsco River. This is the story of the citizens of a city adapting to, then adopting change.

A 1969 graduate of the University of Maryland, Jack Burkert graduated with honors with a degree in history and education. His working life, some 40+ years, was spent in various educator roles, beginning with five years in the Baltimore City Public School system, later at the Pennsylvania State University, through private employers in Washington and New York City, and until his retirement a few years ago, in his own consulting firm. Jack's interest in history led to a number of programs and information about Baltimore history that inform and entertain both adults and young people on topics such as the Port of Baltimore, Baltimore's people and its businesses.



### **GOVERNORS OF MARYLAND: From Ritchie to the Present**

Bill Thompson

#### **Sessions I and II**

**Thursday, 9:30 a.m. (begins March 10)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

Since 1919, Maryland has elected an assortment of interesting individuals (all white men thus far) as governor. Most were consequential, often colorful, and sometimes controversial; all those elected contributed greatly to the history of the state. Although Maryland has been primarily a Democratic state over the past 100 years (albeit in different ideological forms), state voters have elected six Republican governors in its history. In this course, we will examine and discuss those who have served as Maryland's chief executive, focusing on their backgrounds, electoral history, accomplishments in office, and their legacies to the state and its history.

William J. "Bill" Thompson, a native Baltimorean, graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1982 with a major in history. He earned a graduate degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 1989; writing his thesis on Maryland politics in the 1960s. He has taught history for the last 25 years at colleges and universities in Maryland, including Cecil College, Community College of Baltimore County, Howard Community College, UMBC, and Stevenson University. He has written op-ed essays on politics and sports for the Baltimore Sun and the Washington Post, as well as contributing essays to encyclopedia volumes on civil rights, the New Deal era, and sports in the post-World War II era, and scholarly article in the Maryland Historical Magazine.

#### **ONLINE COURSE**



### **KING ARTHUR AND THE HOLY GRAIL IN MYTH AND HISTORY**

Bob Baer

#### **Sessions I**

**Monday, 1:00 p.m. (begins March 7)**

**Fee: \$65**

The stories of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table have fascinated people worldwide since the Middle Ages. Equally captivating have been the myths associated with the Holy Grail, that object of marvel and mystery interwoven with the Arthurian romances and Celtic lore. Both have been major inspirations for the literature of Western civilization. This class will explore the legacy and historical development of these two enduring legends.

Robert Baer holds a B.A. in history from Towson University, an M.L.A. in the history of ideas from Johns Hopkins University, and a D.Ed. in higher education from Morgan State University. He spent 30 years as a college administrator in Connecticut, New York, and Maryland. He has been an instructor in history at York College-CUNY, Norwalk Community College, Community College of Baltimore, and Howard Community College.

## ONLINE COURSE



### **INVENTING THE PRESIDENCY: Washington, Adams, and Jefferson**

Jared Day

#### **Session I**

**Friday, 2:15 p.m. (begins March 11)**

**Fee: \$65**

This course will examine the lives of America's first three presidents with special emphasis on their administrations covering the crucial formative years of 1789 to 1809. We will explore the challenges that Washington faced as the first president, the critical precedents set by all three, the foreign and domestic challenges each faced, and the long-term legacies they left both in the institution of the presidency as well as in the broad course of American history generally.

## ONLINE COURSE



### **CHALLENGING 'NORMALCY': The Roaring Twenties**

Jared Day

#### **Session II**

**Friday, 2:15 p.m. (begins April 15)**

**Fee: \$65**

This course will explore three presidents of the 1920s: Warren Harding, Calvin Coolidge, and Herbert Hoover during this critical decade of Republican Party dominance. We will examine key events such as the advent of prohibition, the Tea Pot Dome scandal, as well as the popularity of "Silent Cal," the progressive career of Hoover, and finally the coming of the Great Depression in 1929. We will also consider some of the key technological developments of the era, such as the proliferation of radio, the automobile, and cultural icons such as Henry Ford.

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Jared Day, Ph.D., taught American history at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh for sixteen years. His areas of specialization are U.S. political, urban, and cultural history as well as world history from the fifteenth century to the present. He is the author of several books along with numerous other popular and peer-reviewed articles. He now teaches at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, CT.



## **HUMANITARIAN ENGINEERING: Challenges and Accomplishments**

Guillermo Warley

### **Session I**

**Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 9)**

**Fee: \$65**

This course will explore the engineering disciplines, projects, challenges, and accomplishments of what is lumped together as “humanitarian engineering.” The name refers mainly to the involvement of engineers and their work for the purpose of advancing humanity and solving difficult problems associated with water, air, climate change, and other existential issues faced by people around the globe. The course will address sustainability concerns and the efforts of international organizations to promote it as a basic principle of engineering undertakings. Examples of successful and not-so successful attempts in many parts of the world will be presented and discussed. The presence (or absence) of the idea of humanitarian and ethical concepts in current engineering education programs will be examined.

Guillermo Warley is an electrical engineer with graduate degrees in electronics and signal processing. He has 35 years of experience designing technology products for several industries. He is a Senior Life Member of the IEEE (Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers), and the SSIT (Society for the Social Implications of Technology). Guillermo has taught technology subjects at various Osher programs, including Towson University and Johns Hopkins University, and has teaching experience at both graduate and undergraduate levels in electrical engineering topics.



## **WOMEN IN MATH AND SCIENCE**

Greg Pevzner

### **Session I**

**Thursday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 10)**

**Fee: \$65**

This course recounts the stories of lives and professional achievements of eight remarkable women from antiquity to modern times who fought tremendous odds to advance our understanding of math and science. We travel to ancient Alexandria to witness brilliant life and tragic death of Hypatia, visit the Versailles Court of Loui XV where Emilie du Chatelet advanced Newtonian mechanics, encounter struggles and achievements in math of two Sophies—Sophie Germain in Napoleonic France and Sophia Kowalevski in tzarist Russia. Finally, we witness fates of women scientists in the 20th century—Emma Noether, Lisa Meitner, Marie Curie and her daughter Irene.

Greg Pevzner is a retired software engineer/manager. He was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Russia, where he received a graduate degree in physics from the Polytechnical University. After immigrating to the U.S., he also received an M.S. degree in computer science from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Prior to his retirement, he worked for over 30 years in AT&T Bell Laboratories in N.J., first as a software developer and later as a manager of an engineering team. Greg always had a keen interest in science, mathematics, and history. He is eager to share his knowledge and enthusiasm of these subjects with Osher students.

## ONLINE COURSE



### SECRETS OF THE SUN

Jim O'Leary

#### Session I

**Friday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 11)**

**Fee: \$65**

Explore our life-giving star with the latest images from the most advanced ground and space observatories, including ones taken each day of class. Investigate the Sun's birth and eventual death, how we came to understand its inner workings, and how it compares to other stars in our galaxy. Explore some of the world's Sun-inspired art, the Sun's role through history in many cultures, even how it influenced the famous Stradivarius violins. We will meet the scientists, artists and philosophers that revealed the Sun to us. We will feature sunspots, prominences and flares, and the Sun's effects on Earth—eclipses, auroras, and tremendous solar storms that disrupt satellites, cause power failures and threaten the health and lives of astronauts as they venture out into the Solar System.

Jim served as chief astronomy specialist for the Maryland Science Center, producing programs for the Davis Planetarium and films for the IMAX 3D Theater. He also oversaw renovation of the rooftop observatory and its 1927-era telescope. He has received education grants from NASA, NSF, NOAA and Johns Hopkins University, hosted Skywatch on WYPR for 12 years, and received the Excellence in Outreach Award from NASA.



### A SHORT HISTORY OF MODERN SCIENCE

John Spears

#### Sessions I and II

**Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins March 8)**

**Fee: \$130 (\$65 for each session)**

It's all around us, and much of it doesn't satisfy common sense anymore, right? Science, that is. A useful way to understand where we are is to see how we got here, to track developments from the common sense, "I can see that" level into the realms of the very small, the very complex and the very large and distant. This course will survey the development of some of the more important and mystifying parts of our modern intellectual landscape, reviewing the development of astronomy, physics, biology, chemistry and medicine, along with some review of the debates about how science really works. This course aims to make you a little more comfortable with a range of scientific topics and to pave your way to further investigation.

John Spears received his Ph.D. in European History from Johns Hopkins University in 1978 but taught only sporadically over a long and varied career, which he finished with 20 years as a consultant at Towson University's Regional Economic Studies Institute. With retirement came the rekindling of his passion for history. He has taught "A Quick History of Humans" and "Modernity" at Osher at Towson University, but his "A Short History of Modern Science" is a new project for him. He finds that the life experiences and available time of seniors make them a wonderful group to teach.

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### OSHER FAQs:

#### HOW CAN I GET IN TOUCH WITH OSHER STAFF?

The best way to reach the staff is to email [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu). If you are not receiving emails from Osher, please let us know and we can include you on our email distribution list.

#### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BE AN OSHER MEMBER?

Membership runs from July 1 through June 30 and is \$50 per person. Courses are open to current members. [Join or renew your membership today](#). Your membership not only allows access to courses, it helps to sustain our lifelong learning community.

#### WHAT ELSE DOES OSHER OFFER?

Osher offers a wide variety of book clubs, discussion groups, and special interest groups. Announcements for these happenings are sent via our Osher email list.

#### HOW LONG ARE OSHER CLASSES?

Classes typically last for an hour and 15 minutes, unless otherwise stated.

#### CAN I SIGN UP FOR JUST ONE SESSION OF AN 8-WEEK COURSE?

Yes—but keep in mind that if you are signing up for the second session of an 8-week course, you will be missing the material covered in the first four weeks.

#### HOW DO I REGISTER ONLINE FOR SPRING CLASSES?

Online registration will open at 12:01 a.m. on February 15. Please review [these instructions](#) and [helpful video demonstration](#) before registering.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Online Registration is strongly encouraged. If you wish to register by mail and pay with a check, you must also email [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu) to inform the Osher staff of the classes you wish to take.

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE SPRING 2022 REGISTRATION FORM

New Member  Renewing Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**To REGISTER ONLINE visit [www.towson.edu/OsherRegistration](http://www.towson.edu/OsherRegistration)**

## Session I (March 7 - April 1) • Session II (April 11 - May 6)

✓	TITLE	DAY	TIME	SESSION I	SESSION II	BOTH SESSIONS
<b>ARTS, CULTURE &amp; HUMANITIES</b>						
	J.S. Bach & Friends	Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	Songwriter Signatures	Thursday	1 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	Make 'Em Laugh	Thursday	1 p.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	Klezmer: American Music	Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	8 Plays, 5th Edition	Wednesday	1 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	Women in Glass Art	Tuesday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	Polynesian Arts & Culture	Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Henri Toulouse-Lautrec	Monday	11:15 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Abstract Expressionism	Monday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Street Photography	Friday	11 a.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	Bertolt Brecht	Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	Heart of Darkness	Thursday	11 a.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	American Minority Exp	Wednesday	11 a.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Golden Age Comic Heroes	Friday	1 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	Movies of the Red Scare	Thursday	1:30 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	Wittgenstein	Tuesday	11 a.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	Survey of the Bible	Thursday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCES</b>						
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Capitalism in China	Monday	1 p.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Spanish Civil War	Monday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Anthropology of Qur'an	Friday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	Women Who Changed the World	Tuesday	1 p.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	We Are What We Eat	Wednesday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	Balto in Changing Times	Wednesday	11 a.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
	Governors of Maryland	Thursday	9:30 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)
	<b>ONLINE:</b> King Arthur & Holy Grail	Monday	1 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Inventing the Presidency	Friday	2:15 p.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	<b>ONLINE:</b> The Roaring 20s	Friday	2:15 p.m.		<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	
<b>SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</b>						
	Humanitarian Engineering	Wednesday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	Women in Math & Science	Thursday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	<b>ONLINE:</b> Secrets of the Sun	Friday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)		
	Short Hx of Modern Sci	Tuesday	11 a.m.	<input type="checkbox"/> Session I (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Session II (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Sessions (\$130)

**IMPORTANT: Members mailing forms and payment MUST email [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu) to ensure receipt & processing.**

**OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE**  
AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

**2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

The Osher Membership cycle runs July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

**Osher Membership Fee: \$50 per person**

Please complete the form below (one form for **EACH** person) and **send to:**

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Towson University, 8000 York Road, Towson, MD 21252-0001**

Mr.  Mrs.  Miss  Ms.  Dr. Sex: M F Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

New Member  Renewing Member

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name you prefer on nametag \_\_\_\_\_

TU alum?  Yes  No Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check box if you **DO NOT** wish to receive email messages from Osher.

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Are you retired?  Yes  No Former (present) occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Would you consider teaching?  Yes  No What subjects? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about Osher?

Friend  Flyer  Website  Baltimore Magazine  MPT Guide  BSO Overture  Towson Times

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE**

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

## SPRING 2022 PAYMENT FORM

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Members mailing forms and payment MUST email [osher@towson.edu](mailto:osher@towson.edu) to ensure receipt & processing.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please include this form along with your REGISTRATION FORM AND/OR MEMBERSHIP FORM.**

One four-week course: \$65 | Two four-week courses or one eight-week course: \$130

Unlimited number of courses: \$180

TUITION FOR CLASSES (\$65, \$130 or \$180) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MATERIALS FEE (if applicable) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP FEE (if owed): \$50 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL TUITION AND FEES** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Osher refund policy:** *Your payment is being processed by the state of Maryland upon receipt. If you desire a refund and have paid by check, we are unable to issue a refund without your social security number and address on a signed and dated w9 form. If you paid with a credit card, a refund will be issued to that credit card. Please note: No refunds will be issued once classes have begun.*

### **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TOWSON UNIVERSITY.**

**Please enclose completed Membership Form.**

**Mail to:** Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
Towson University  
8000 York Road  
Towson, MD 21252-0001

Check enclosed

**To register and pay with a Mastercard or Visa credit card, visit [www.towson.edu/OsherRegistration](http://www.towson.edu/OsherRegistration).**

### **FOR OFFICE USE:**

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Date Deposited \_\_\_\_\_ Batch # \_\_\_\_\_

- Academic and Administrative Buildings**  
University Admissions is located in the Enrollment Services (ES) building, 2nd floor.
- AD Administration - G6
  - PP Power Plant - E8
  - PS Public Safety - C6
  - PY Psychology - D7
  - SB Softball Field - F0
  - SC Science Complex - F7
  - SF Soccer Field - D1
  - SM Smith - D6
  - SP Schneitzoiz Park - C5
  - ST Stephens - F7
  - TA SECU Arena - E1
  - TC Towson Center - F1
  - TN Tennis Courts - F0
  - TX Transportation Annex - F5
  - US Johnny Unitas® Stadium - E2
  - UU University Union - D6
  - VB Van Bokkelen - F7
  - WA 401 Washington Ave. - A7
  - WC West Village Commons - B3
  - WW Health & Counseling Centers at Ward & West - D8
  - YR 7800 York Road - F7

**Residence Buildings**

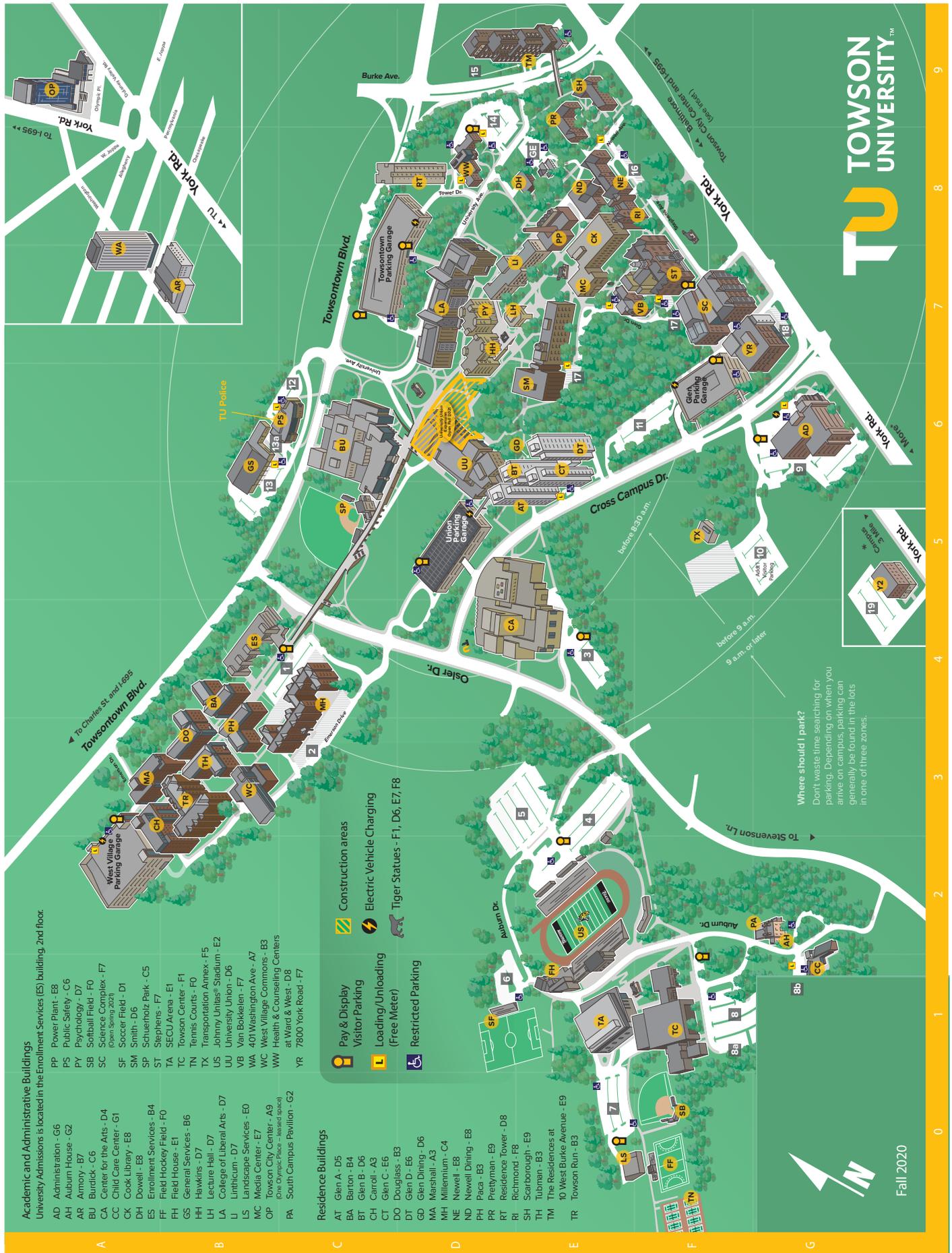
- AT Glen A - D5
- BA Barron - B4
- BT Glen B - D6
- CH Carroll - A3
- CT Glen C - E6
- DO Douglass - B3
- DT Glen D - E6
- GD Glen Dining - D6
- MA Marshall - A3
- MH Millennium - C4
- NE Newell - E8
- PH Paca - B3
- PR Prettyman - E9
- RT Residence Tower - D8
- RI Richmond - F8
- SH Scarborough - E9
- TH Tulman - B3
- TM The Residences at 10 West Burke Avenue - E9
- TR Towson Rum - B3

- Pay & Display Visitor Parking
- Loading/Unloading (Free Meter)
- Restricted Parking
- Construction areas
- Electric Vehicle Charging
- Tiger Stages - F1, D6, E7, F8



Fall 2020

**Where should I park?**  
Don't waste time searching for parking. Depending on when you arrive on campus, parking can generally be found in the lots in one of three zones.





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**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
at Towson University**  
8000 York Road  
Towson, MD 21252-0001  
*P 410-704-3688*  
*towson.edu/osher*

**REGISTER ONLINE  
FOR SPRING 2022!  
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS**

**TOWSON.EDU/OSHER**

