



OLLI | OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

SPRING 2026 COURSE CATALOG | ISSUE NO. 2



SPRING REGISTRATION: JANUARY 12-FEBRUARY 6
SESSION 1: FEBRUARY 9-MARCH 14
SESSION 2: APRIL 6-MAY 9



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

OUR SPRING 2026 CATALOG IS FILLED WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!

MESSAGE FROM THE OLLI COUNCIL CHAIR



Welcome back to the OLLI journey!

Every new semester is proof that learning has no age limit. A new chapter begins! Let's keep growing, laughing, and proving every age is the perfect age to learn something new.

We look forward to seeing you, and remind you to invite a friend to join us.

Helen Schmid
OLLI Coordinator Council Chair
herschmid@utep.edu

LEARNING IS TIMELESS. CURIOSITY NEVER GETS OLD.
ADD A SPARK, NEW FRIENDSHIPS AND ENJOYMENT TO YOUR LIFE.

Our members tell us they come for the intellectual stimulation of the courses and activities, and stay for the people.

LEARN. CONNECT. SHARE. INSPIRE. CREATE!



BECOME A MEMBER. RENEW OR JOIN FOR \$55.

Enjoy OLLI's 10-week session. Spring term registration: \$100
Register online at utep.edu/olli or mail in your registration form.

OUR MEMBERS LOVE OLLI. SO WILL YOU!

IN THIS CATALOG CHOICES... TO LEARN, ENJOY AND STAY ACTIVE!

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NATIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES WITH OSHER ONLINE COURSES

Watch for announcements on these 6-week courses that are offered nationally to a select group of OLLI members. Fees apply. **See page 12** for this spring's courses.

GIVE TO OLLI

This year we are celebrating the 36th anniversary of OLLI at UTEP. We are grateful to our members and excited to be celebrating this milestone. If you have enjoyed our classes, please consider donating to OLLI to keep our program going strong for the next 36 years and beyond.



RIO GRANDE
CANCER FOUNDATION.



OLLI gratefully partners with the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation (RGCF) and the Desert Spoon Food Hub.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO



UTEP
EXTENDED UNIVERSITY

The University of Texas at El Paso publishes the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Course Catalog three times a year, in Spring, Summer and Fall. OLLI is located at 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968.

* The Bernard Osher Foundation, headquartered in San Francisco, was founded in 1977 by respected businessman, philanthropist and community leader Bernard Osher. The Foundation seeks to improve quality of life through innovative funding in higher education and the arts. The Foundation supports a national lifelong learning network of programs designed for adults 50 and better; Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes operate on 120+ college and university campuses in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

REGISTRATION OPENS ONLINE MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026.

SPRING 2026 REGISTRATION EVENT Wednesday, January 14

**OLLI Office and Lounge,
Room 102 | 1-4:30 p.m.
AT UTEP'S MEMORIAL GYM
(LOCATED AT 101 W. ROBINSON AVE.)**

Come in person and register early with the assistance of our volunteers and staff! Have a cup of coffee or tea and enjoy a snack while you register.

CLUBS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR OLLI MEMBERSHIP!

YOGA DISCOVERY CLUB

Every Tuesday: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Zoom in once a week and ease into some gentle yoga and conversation with fellow yoga enthusiasts and OLLI instructor, Phyllis Price. This is a special time for discovery.

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Every Wednesday: 10-11:30 a.m.

Continue capturing the moment and share your photos and discoveries. Participate via Zoom and meet up for field trips.

ITALIAN CLUB

Every Wednesday: 5-6 p.m.

Ciao! Get into the flow of the Italian language. Zoom in and practice. This is a good place to start for beginners. Then, take the Italian classes.

MAHJONG CLUB

Every Thursday: 9:30-11 a.m.

Build your wall of tiles and begin playing. Enjoy this game of strategy and luck. Beginners welcome.

OLLI GARDEN CLUB

Meet weekly on Thursdays,
10-11:30 a.m.

Gardeners. Learn about planting seasonal crops, drip irrigation techniques, mulching and soil preparation. The mental and physical benefits of gardening are well documented. Come grow your own flowers and vegetables! Meet up at the Weldon Yerby Senior Gardens, 9195 Stahala Dr., El Paso, TX 79924.

JUNK JOURNALING CLUB

Every Thursday: 11 a.m.-Noon

Journaling and scrapbooking had a baby! Bring a special journal, gather your thoughts and memorabilia, and get creative. We'll help you gather and store creative supplies. Meet up in the OLLI lounge and enjoy each other's company.

FOLK GUITAR/FOLK MUSIC CLUB

First Tuesday of each month, starting in
March: 2 p.m.

Bring your guitar and enjoy strumming with the group. Meet at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation at 616 N. Virginia St., Ste. D, El Paso, TX 79902. The emphasis is on fun! ✨

FRENCH CLUB

Every Friday: Noon-1 p.m.

Keep your French alive with weekly practice among vos amis/amies. Beginners and rusty conversationalists welcome. Zoom in to participate.

FILM AND WINE CLUB

Last Friday of the month: 4:30-6 p.m.

End the month with a bit of fun! Get on Zoom for happy hour and a film with your OLLI hosts. Dates and times may vary. Watch for announcements.

THE OLLI PICKLEBALL CLUB

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:15-4:30 p.m.
Memorial Gym's Auxiliary Gym

Announcements will be made if additional court times become available. A one-time \$5 court maintenance fee applies to each Tuesday and Thursday registration.

- OLLI membership and Pickleball Club registration are required.
- Courts will be available during OLLI sessions to members on a first come, first served basis.
- Players must provide their own equipment (i.e. paddle and balls) and all pickleball court rules and etiquette apply.
- Beginner instruction is available on the first Tuesday of the month.
- Parking is available at the parking garage/transfer station located at N. Mesa St. and Glory Rd. The parking fee at the time of this publication is \$1/hour. For OLLI members with SB7 parking passes, it is a 5-minute walk to Memorial Gym.
- Court availability may change due to UTEP events.

Membership has its benefits!

The activities on this page are available to all OLLI members even if you are not registered for courses. For more information about our OLLI annual membership fees, **go to page 14.**

ONLINE SESSION ZOOM IN: OLLI TIPS

Wednesday, January 28: 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Are you new to Zoom or do you need to dust off the rustiness and get back into the practice of Zooming in? Join us in a Zoom classroom to practice Zoom skills, have some fun and pick up some tips regarding your Zoom experience. Facilitated by the OLLI staff.

SPECIAL EVENT GET OFF THE FLOOR! FALL RECOVERY AND PREVENTION TRAINING

ON CAMPUS

Tuesday, February 17: 10:30-Noon

A fall can happen anywhere, anytime. Would you know how to get back up—or what to do if you're alone? Join Dr. Pablo Estrada for an engaging, hands-on session focused on preventing falls and creating a personal recovery plan.

Bring a buddy, partner, or caregiver to learn and practice practical techniques together. You'll leave feeling more confident and prepared to handle a fall safely and effectively.

Spring 2026 | SESSION ONE

FEBRUARY 9-MARCH 14, 2026

(5-WEEK SESSION)

Courses are listed as online, on campus, or on site at a specific location. Some courses are offered in more than one format and others are in the form of on-site tours.

● **Online** ■ **On campus** ▲ **On site**

Courses that take place anywhere other than on campus are also designated as on-site courses with addresses included in the descriptions.

MONDAYS

START DATE: FEBRUARY 9

10-11 a.m.

ONLINE

● **AGING GRACEFULLY - SENIOR FITNESS WORKOUT: SESSION ONE**

WAYNE GARDNER

Get moving from the comfort of your home. This workout includes exercise sequences designed to improve strength, cardiovascular health and mobility through various techniques, with an emphasis on core and muscle strengthening. It uses body weight and/or light weights, supplemented with aerobic, balancing and stretching training. Each class will target different fitness goals and offer educational tips to help you develop healthy nutrition and exercise habits, ultimately enhancing your quality of life.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **GRASPING THE SPARROW'S TAIL AND FLOWING CHI: THE CORE MOVEMENTS OF YANG-STYLE T'AI CHI: SESSION ONE**

STEVE BAROWSKY

"Grasping the Sparrow's Tail" is a beautiful sequence of four movements for health and meditation. These four movements exemplify the four basic energies of T'ai Chi. These movements are the core from which all T'ai Chi forms are developed. In this class you will be able to learn a complete repeating sequence to practice at home or wherever you may be.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■ ● **FINLAND AND THE HYGGE TRADITION**

LENAE RASMUSSEN

Discover the secrets of Finland and what repeatedly makes it the happiest country in the world. This session will examine the unique development and history of Finland from the Viking era through the 19th century. Taste some Finnish food, look at their unique costumes and architecture, and learn the role of reindeer in their lifestyle.

ON SITE

▲ **CROCHET/KNITTING THERAPY**

LINDA SHUBECK

Would you like to learn to knit or crochet? Use these skills to make a scarf or maybe a shawl. Those with more experience may choose a more advanced project. Have fun and learn something new, useful and relaxing. Students will need to obtain yarn, a crochet hook and/or knitting needles at a cost of approximately \$5-\$20. A materials list will be emailed to you as soon as possible prior to the first class. This class meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation at 616 N. Virginia St., El Paso, TX 79902. ✂

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **SMARTPHONES: LIFE MADE EASY**

YOUNG LEE

From basic smartphone functions to practical apps for everyday use, this course will help you get the most out of your smartphone. Through simple, step-by-step instructions, you'll master a variety of skills, including taking better photos, adjusting composition, sharing photos, navigating maps, and connecting with loved ones. Designed to build confidence and independence, this course will help you use your smartphone more easily, enjoyably and effectively in your daily life.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■ ● **ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM: AMERICAN ENERGY**

NICO COOPER

Discover the dynamic energy and expressive freedom of Abstract Expressionism, a groundbreaking American movement that shaped post-war painting. Explore the bold gestures and vibrant color fields of artists like Pollock and Rothko, and learn how these works invite viewers to experience emotion and meaning beyond representation.

ON SITE

▲ **NOURISH AND FLOURISH: VITALITY THROUGH FOOD - HEALTHY BALANCE**

JACKI CORDOVA

Be empowered and embrace the freshness of spring with foods that restore energy, support immunity and enhance well-being. Each module explores how colorful, seasonal meals and mindful eating can help the body flourish with vitality at any age. Module 1: Spring Colors & Phytonutrients; Module 2: Plant Power for Muscles & Bones; Module 3: Brain & Heart Boosters; Module 4: Gut Health & Digestion; Module 5: Spices that Heal. Suggested additional fees may be paid to the instructor based on supplies given to participants. Classes are held at the Desert Spoon Food Hub at 1714 E. Yandell Dr., El Paso, TX 79902. This course is sponsored by the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation. ✂

TUESDAYS

START DATE: FEBRUARY 10

9-10 a.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **WALKERCISE - TUESDAYS: SESSION ONE**

LYNN PROVENZANO

Get your steps in! Discover the nooks, niches, gentle stairways and hills on campus with "good for you" morning walks.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■ ● **FRENCH CONVERSATION: SESSION ONE**

JEAN-CLAUDE LIHOSSI

Learn to converse in French. Students will read and discuss stories in French. A good knowledge of the French language will be of great help. Students will be required to buy the book necessary for this course.

ONLINE

● **BEAUTY IN ART THROUGH THE AGES: PART ONE**

KATHLEEN KEY

Examining the beauty in art from India, Africa, China, Japan and Islamic countries in the 20th century. This is a worldwide phenomenon. Join the class for lively and uplifting art!

● **CHAIR-ASSISTED YOGA: SESSION ONE**

JOHN KUBERKA

Chair-Assisted Yoga allows us to sit sometimes, as well as stand sometimes, using the chair for balance or as a prop. It is an excellent way to build core strength, increase flexibility and improve balance. Also, regular practice reduces anxiety and stress, improves circulation, helps lower blood pressure, and protects joints. Chair Yoga gets you moving and breathing. This course is sponsored by the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation. ✂

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■ ● **MEDITATION IN THE COMPANY OF ANGELS**

LYNN PROVENZANO

Meditation is a gateway to self-understanding, healing and awareness. What happens when you call upon an angel? The history of angels crosses all beliefs with stories that have been passed down through generations. Discover your personal connection to the angelic realm in guided meditations that can bring insights, messages or the peacefulness of stillness.

■ ● **DOCUMENTARIES AND DISCUSSION**

AUROLYN LUYKX

OLLl's popular documentary series returns! Join the class for short films (30 to 60 minutes) on a variety of topics followed by lively discussions.

■ ● **CRITICAL PERIODS IN TEXAS HISTORY**

CHARLES MARTIN

This course is devoted to five critical periods or issues in Texas history: Mexican policy toward Texas and the independence movement; Secession, Civil War and Reconstruction; the creation of the Alamo and the Texas Rangers as master symbols; the African and Mexican American Civil Rights Movements; and Texas Politics, 1900-2025. This course includes lectures, discussions and video clips.

WEDNESDAYS

START DATE: FEBRUARY 11

10-11:15 a.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ LINE DANCING: SESSION ONE

GENIE GONZALEZ-NICHOLSON

Line dancing is for everyone. This invigorating, low-impact dance class is choreographed to music. Each class is broken down into easy-to-learn repeating steps. A variety of stimulating music (including country and music from the '70s) is played for everyone's enjoyment. Classes are fun and energetic. Line dance will burn calories, improve breathing, strengthen the heart, and increase coordination, balance and mobility. Classes meet in Memorial Gym.

11-1 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ MAKE YOUR OWN SKETCHBOOK

DAVINIA MIRAVAL

Make your own sketchbook using decorative paper, needle and thread. After the book is finished, you will start a journey filling in the pages with abstract motifs and drawings, and botanical or geometric patterns. You will even do embroidery on the paper; the sky's the limit! This is a 10-week course with a maximum of 15 students. Classes are two hours long and there is an additional \$45 fee for this course.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● ČAPEK BROTHERS

EVA WOODEN

The Čapek brothers were some of the most distinctive and creative Czech artists in the 20th century. Both were writers, poets, essayists, cartoonists and dramatists, and collaborated on many plays and literary works. Karel was better known for his plays and novels, while Josef was an accomplished painter. Their works were strongly rooted in nature but also reflected their democratic and humanistic values. This is a 2-week course with classes on 2/11 and 2/18.

ONLINE

● CANIS HISTORAE: A BRIEF HISTORY OF DOGS

JOE MILLER

From the ancient saluki to the modern doodle, dogs have been a huge part of the lives of humans for thousands of years. We love them dearly (judging from the many industries which cater to them), but where did they come from and how did they develop in the vast and varied shapes we know them today? Let's take a look at some of the most popular breeds and see how they came about. This is 3-week course with classes on 2/25, 3/4 and 3/11.

ON SITE

▲ WRITING YOUR MEMOIR: PASSAGE OF TIME

STEPHEN LEDESMA

We examine our past lives through memory and writing. The threads are woven into our lives, tethered to a time and place, and all within the arc of your unique history are explored and sometimes unraveled and uncovered. Each week, delve into a specific aspect of your past, as shared in your own words, thoughts, experiences, recollections and reflections. Join for a fun, enlightening, and unexpected journey into the passages of time. This class meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation at 616 N. Virginia St., El Paso, TX 79902. ✨

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO WORKSHOP: PEOPLE, PLANTS AND PLACES

FRED EILAND

Learn several different types of photography, including portrait, still life, flower, food and others. Most classes will be in a studio, but some may be outside as well. A DSLR or mirrorless camera will result in the best results, but cell phone cameras are also welcome. Cell phone cameras have come a long way toward creating some great photographs. Students should bring their cameras to all classes unless otherwise indicated.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● PIRACY: THE GOLDEN AGE

ALFREDO ARROYO

Piracy has been a problem of the seas from the time of ancient Greece to the age of galleons, buccaneers and corsairs. This course, part of our History of Piracy Series, will give us the facts about these criminals whose exploits are the essence of fantasy and legend. Pirates are glorified in film and literature. Let us join up and sail along with the scoundrels and seize the truth. Argh!

SPRING 2026 OSHER ONLINE COURSES

More opportunities to learn! The Osher National Resource Center offers another set of online courses that complement our local OLLI programs. Watch for announcements regarding these national Osher courses with access to amazing instructors. You must be an OLLI member to participate in these courses. All courses are offered over a 6-week period. Each Osher Online course has a \$60 fee.

See page 12 for a complete list of courses.

Osher Online™

in collaboration with Northwestern University
School of Professional Studies

THURSDAYS

START DATE: FEBRUARY 12

9:30-10:45 a.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ YOU-CAN-DO-IT YOGA WITH PHYLLIS: SESSION ONE

PHYLLIS PRICE

Join Phyllis for yoga designed for OLLI. What you won't do: put your foot behind your head. What you will: 1) listen to your body's wisdom; 2) practice yoga postures adapted for OLLI ages and bodies by your 84-year-old instructor; 3) build more strength, flexibility, focus and well-being; 4) counteract stiff joints, text neck, "dowager's hump", and even depression and anxiety; 5) learn breathing practices to enhance lung capacity, organ health and balanced emotions; 6) meditate in relaxation practices that conclude practice. Classes meet in Memorial Gym.

11 a.m.-Noon

ONLINE

● MINDFUL BODYWORK: SESSION ONE

WOLF CARTER

Improve your energy by mindfully working the less used areas of the body, expanding your mobility, creating balance, and building body awareness. Exercises are specifically designed to address any level of physical ability.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ THE OLLI COOKBOOK: SESSION ONE

VICKI HARDER

Join the OLLI cookbook committee and work to create a cookbook as an OLLI fundraiser. Assist in organizing recipe submissions, editing, creating artwork and the taste-testing of recipes!

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● INVERTEBRATES THAT KEEP US UP AT NIGHT

PAUL HYDER

Boneless creatures? This course focuses on the invertebrates of the El Paso region that are either thought to be dangerous, or actually are.

ONLINE

● GENEALOGY BASICS PART ONE: THE FAMILY TREE PLUS ONLINE AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

MARIA R. PEREZ

This virtual course will guide students through the basics of genealogy and the initiation of a family tree. Various digital and online resources will be explored. Students will also be introduced to various genealogy resources in our El Paso community. Student participation is encouraged.

ON SITE

▲ INSPIRED WRITING: SESSION ONE

MÓNICA GÓMEZ

This is a series of creative writing workshops that uses a broad range of information—from poetry to scientific articles—plus focused discussion and thought-provoking prompts to set up brief, in-class free-writes. Reading aloud allows the group to share life experience, reflections, fresh perceptions and insights. This format encourages writers to practice capturing fleeting inspiration, trust their instincts and discover intriguing areas of the subconscious. This course is sponsored by and meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation at 616 N. Virginia St., El Paso, TX 79902. ✨

Spring 2026
Registration Event
See page 3 for more details.

Spring 2026 SESSION ONE

Courses are listed as online, on campus, or on site at a specific location. Some courses are offered in more than one format and others are in the form of on-site tours.

● Online ■ On campus ▲ On site

Courses that take place anywhere other than on campus are also designated as on-site courses with addresses included in the descriptions.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

THURSDAYS

START DATE: FEBRUARY 12

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

● ● TRAVEL ACROSS THE NORTHERN GERMAN STATES

JEAN-CLAUDE LINOSSI

Learn about the history, geography and culture of various German states. Students will travel to the Northern and Eastern parts of Germany. This course is a sequel to the German States course taught during OLLI's Summer 2025, adding more to a vicarious travel experience. This is a 4-week course with classes on 2/12, 2/19, 2/26 and 3/5.

● ● THE BEATLES

STEVE SCHILLER

This course features: Audio and video performances by the Beatles. Highlights from the "Rubber Soul," "Revolver," "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," "The White Album" and "Let It Be" albums. The "Abbey Road" album will be played in its entirety. There will be discussion and analysis of the many musical innovations and techniques; musical, instrumental and recording relative to popular music that the Beatles and their producer, George Martin, created during this incredible six-year period. Of course, everyone will be invited to sing along with these great songs.

ONLINE

● ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS: SESSION ONE

SILVIA PORTILLO KOCH

Learn Italian at the beginner level. The book is "Corso Multimediale di Lingua e Civiltà Italiana, Livello Elementare A1-A2 Libro Dello Studente." Participants will continue to learn and practice Italian. Those who want to practice their Italian should join the Wednesday afternoon OLLI Italian Club (see page 3).



Each one reach one!
Spread the word about OLLI.

Bring a new member to OLLI and receive a credit toward your registration. See page 14 for details.

FRIDAYS

START DATE: FEBRUARY 13

9-10 a.m.

ON SITE

▲ WALKERISE FRIDAY HILL CLIMBS - SESSION ONE

DEVON WALL

Get more challenging steps in! Keep walking! Devon Wall will lead this group in different routes on and off campus. It can be hilly!

9-11 a.m.

ONLINE

● STILL LIFE AND LANDSCAPE PAINTING
ROSARIO PONTE

Acquire skills in sketching, arranging elements, identifying and blending hues, exploring tonal values, grasping color temperatures and ultimately, the most crucial part, learning how to see. This is a 10-week course with classes that are two hours long. There is a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 16 students, and an additional \$45 fee for this course.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

● ● BASIC SPANISH FORUM: LEARNING IN ACTION - SESSION ONE

CRISTINA BUENO GORENA

Listen, learn and speak. This is a perfect space for learning and practicing Spanish, focusing on dynamic conversation and storytelling, and building foundational vocabulary.

● ● QIGONG FOR WELLNESS

LEONCIO E. PEREZ JR.

Experience the rejuvenating effects of the ancient Chinese calisthenics of Qigong used to improve coordination, balance, as well as emotional and mental well-being. With the combination of soft, gentle movements, participants will work to enhance health and vitality. This is a 3-week course with classes on 2/27, 3/6 and 3/13.

● ● JUDAISM AND ISLAM ACCORDING TO DR. HUSTON SMITH

LUIS CARLOS RODRIGUEZ

This course will be based on two chapters of the seminal work, *The World's Religions*, written by Dr. Huston Smith, who is considered one of the giants of Religious Studies. This book focuses on the key principles and values of the world's major religions. We will be addressing the chapters on Judaism and Islam in this seminar since they are quite interrelated. Two sets of documentary series based on *The World's Religions* have been produced by PBS, the second one included both Smith and famed journalist and political commentator Bill Moyers. We will also be looking at these documentaries.

1:30-3:30 p.m.

ONLINE

● PORTRAITURE TECHNIQUES THROUGHOUT TIME

R. MAXIMOS AYOUB

Across different eras, artists have used a variety of techniques in the individuality and essence of their subjects. Portraiture has evolved from idolized and symbolic representation in the ancient world to experimental forms of modern and contemporary art. In this course, students will explore and practice portraiture by applying techniques of master artists past and present, refining skills while developing a unique personal style. This is a 10-week course with a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 16 students. There is an additional \$45 fee for this course.



“

What I enjoy most about being an OLLI member is meeting people and making new friends for life! OLLI at UTEP has enriched my life very much—it has opened a new world for me! ”

- Sylvia Fierro, OLLI member

SPRING 2026 EL PASO HISTORY TOURS

EL PASO'S HISTORIC DISTRICTS

PRINCE MCKENZIE & RON LEIMAN

Follow El Paso's development from 1879 to current day through its historic districts and landmarks where architecture, academies, homes, churches and businesses have defined El Paso's culture in this border region.

ALL TOURS ARE ON SITE.

SESSION ONE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ BLACK BUSINESS DISTRICT AND THE MCCALL CENTER

Begin near the junction of Texas Avenue and Alameda Avenue; note Fire Station #5 at 2317 W. Texas Ave., El Paso, TX 79901. Walk several blocks through this neighborhood noting the businesses and I-10, which split the historic neighborhood in half. Discuss the "Green Book" guide to travelers. Then, drive to the McCall Center at 3132 E. Wyoming Ave., El Paso, TX 79903, noting several churches and the Leona Ford Washington Recreation Center. Remember the life and work of Bob Snead, artist, actor and war hero when touring the Art Gallery and having a presentation at the center.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ OLD SAN FRANCISCO HISTORIC DISTRICT

Meet at Grace Chope Park at 535 W. Missouri Ave., El Paso, TX 79901 (this park is at the west end of this small historic district) and consider how the construction of I-10 in the 1960s split this area from Sunset Heights. Then, walk east on West Missouri Avenue to view the apartment buildings built between 1908-1923 lining this avenue, and make special note of the Palm Court Apartment Building. Walk south on Durango St. noting the Southwest University Park and its distinctive clock tower. The mural on the face of the tower illustrates a historic chronology of people and events in the region from prehistoric times to the twentieth century. Discussion follows on the history of baseball stadiums in El Paso and the highways that linked them to their fan base.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ SUNSET HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Meet in the southern section of this historic district near the Sunset Grocery Store, Holy Family Catholic Church (1916) and Vilas Elementary School (1909). The historic streetcar line to the A. S. & R Smelter (ASARCO) ran through the neighborhood to Smelertown. These structures are just north of I-10 which opened in 1969. TXDOT is likely going to widen I-10 through the downtown area impacting this neighborhood. Discuss this area known as the Satterwhite Addition which John Fisher Satterthwaite owned and had built 90 houses in by 1885. Then, drive to the Mundy Mansion at 1401 W. Yandell Dr., El Paso, TX 79902, which is now the Jesus and Mary Traditional Roman Catholic Academy, and discuss other famous homes in this historic district.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ AUSTIN TERRACE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Begin at the Loretto Academy (1300 Hardaway St., El Paso, TX 79903) with discussion on the history of the Sisters of Loretto including the first academy in San Elizario in 1879 and its relocation to El Paso in 1892. In 1921, desert land at Austin Terrace was purchased, Henry Trost designed the buildings, and the first classes were conducted in 1922. After viewing the Chapel, the group will drive through Cumberland Circle and Pennsylvania Circle to St. Anthony's Seminary (4601 Hastings St., El Paso, TX 79903) and discuss the mansion that James G. McNary constructed here in 1917 (artist Audley Dean Nicols included this area for his panoramic mural that illustrated the growth of the city in 1921) along with the architecture and grounds. In 1935, a Mexican order of Franciscan Fathers bought the house to be used as a seminary. The group will tour the public portion of the seminary. Artist Tom Lea built his first studio at the foot of Austin Terrace.

SESSION TWO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ MANHATTAN HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Meet at the tennis courts in Memorial Park (1701 N. Copia St., El Paso TX 79930) and note the Crockett Elementary School (built in 1920 and renamed in 1922). Then, walk through the neighborhood noting homes built by Otto Thorman and Mabel Welch between 1914-1929. Discussion follows on the site of the Federal Copper Smelter, which operated between 1899-1908. The smelter was demolished by 1912 to create the residential area. The walk continues into Memorial Park, established in 1920 to honor the memory of World War I soldiers. Later, it was rededicated as Veterans Memorial Park to honor all who served. The group will note the El Paso & Southwestern Railroad tracks that served the smelter and the granite block from the "Hard Rock Miners" competition.

NOTE TO TOUR PARTICIPANTS:

Expect walking on uneven terrain at some of these locations. Please wear weather-appropriate footwear and clothing.



Have questions?

We are here to help you!

Email us at: olli@utep.edu

Call us at: 915.747.6280

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ FIVE POINTS CENTRAL BUSINESS CENTER AND HISTORIC CHURCHES

Five Points became one of the first suburban business centers east of downtown. It was a junction on the streetcar lines which served the SP and EP&SW train yards south on Piedras St. and the Federal Smelter to the north. It also served the Montana historic district to the west and the Manhattan Historic District to the north. Visit the Zion Lutheran Church (1896, at 2800 Pershing Dr., El Paso TX 79903) then tour the Texaco Filling Station (1909, at 2871 Grant Ave., El Paso TX 79930) and the former Manhattan Presbyterian Church (1925, at 1201 N. Piedras St., El Paso TX 79930). This church became a columbarium known as the La Paz Faith Center. Then, travel to the heart of this business area (1917) and discuss the Ralston Hospital (1916), and other buildings and murals near the new center of the area at Montana and Piedras. Of special interest will be the four mural panels detailing the history of Five Points at the El Paso Police Headquarters (former Masonic Hospital, 1922, and Sears Department Store).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ ALTA VISTA HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Alta Vista historic neighborhood and commercial district. It is a streetcar junction and historic highway intersection with Copia St. connecting US 80 to 54 (north) and US 62 to 180 (east). This neighborhood has the largest concentration in the city of Craftsman-style "bungalow" homes with hand-cut stone pillars and foundations from Franklin Mountain quarries. Begin at Faith United Methodist Church (former Asbury Methodist, established 1912, at 3500 Pershing Dr., El Paso, TX 79903). This church features three outstanding types of stained-glass window styles and a unique Gothic rose window and pipe organ. Then, drive by Alta Vista Elementary School (1912), designed by Trost & Trost, passing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (1931, at 3625 Douglas St., El Paso, TX 79903). This Renaissance Revival structure is the first Mormon church in Texas. The tour will also pass the First Spanish Baptist Church on the way to St. Joseph's Catholic Church and School at 3829 Hueco Ave., El Paso, TX 79903. St. Joseph's was established in 1916. The east wing was added in 1923. The tower and west wing were completed in 1938 also by Trost. The building is a Gothic structure with art deco enhancements. The parish buildings include a rectory and a school.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ THE BRIDGES OF EL PASO COUNTY

Meet at a site overlooking the Southern Pacific Railroad (Union Pacific Railroad) bridge and the El Paso & Southwestern Bridge that span the Rio Grande River at the foot of Mt. Cristo Rey on the west side of El Paso and discuss the early railroad bridges that spanned the river in El Paso County. Then, drive to the west end of the Bataan Memorial Trainway (east of the Union Passenger Station) and discuss this "dropping" of the historic Southern Pacific Railroad tracks and the building of bridges over this trainway. This construction project was designated a National Historic Engineering Landmark. The group will discuss the TXDOT plans for widening I-10 and the possibility of incorporating a deck-type venue with the new bridges over I-10.

LECTURE SERIES | LIFE: TAKING CHARGE

What have you done to take charge to keep life in order? We face medical, legal, security and even ethical issues. What do we understand and need to know, and what resources are available to navigate the complexities of today's world? **ALL LECTURES ARE OFFERED ON CAMPUS/ONLINE.**

SESSION ONE ONLY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● MEDICAL DIRECTIVES AND MEDICAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

ALMA TREJO, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

Are you prepared? Medical directives help you communicate your wishes about medical treatment when you are unable to make your wishes known because of a serious illness or injury. A Medical Power of Attorney gives a person you name as your agent the authority to make any and all health care decisions for you when you are unable to make the decisions for yourself. Your agent's authority is effective when your doctor certifies that you lack the competence to make health care decisions. Learn more about these important legalities regarding your health care.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● SELLING A HOUSE: STILL MORE TO KNOW

MARTHA ISABEL AGUAYO

Thinking of selling your house? There is still more to know. The process consists of preparation and planning. Decide why you want to sell, hire a real estate agent, assess and prepare your home. Review current housing market statistics and determine a competitive price to market your property. Declutter your belongings, determine how long you need to pack, hire a moving service. Review offers, weigh closing costs and close on your home.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● CASA: COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

ANNA CARRILLO

Who hears the children's voices? Learn what it means to be a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) and how you can support children in El Paso who have experienced abuse or neglect. When children enter the family court system, judges assign a CASA volunteer to advocate for their best interests, ensuring their voices are heard. CASAs provide consistency, guidance, and support during a critical time in a child's life.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● TAKE CHARGE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

ALEX REYES

This lecture surveys the evolution of computing, from the first personal desktops like IBM and Macintosh to the rise of smartphones, cloud services and artificial intelligence. Tracing key milestones in technological history, it highlights how innovations reshape daily life, work and culture. The session also explores strategies for adapting to and coexisting with rapid technological change, fostering resilience and critical awareness in a world where digital transformation continually redefines human experience.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● WOKE: AN EXPLORATION OF ITS PAST AND PRESENT DISCOURSE

ALEX REYES

Trace the evolution of the term "woke" from its origins in African American vernacular to its contemporary cultural meanings. Moving beyond politics, it examines "woke" as a linguistic and semiotic phenomenon through Foucault's power/knowledge, Lotman's semiosphere, the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, and Deleuze's flows of meaning. By situating the word within shifting language ecologies, the session explores how terms shape, and are shaped by, social consciousness and symbolic power.

LECTURE SERIES | TIMES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

There are spans of time that have become etched in the annals of history. Learn what history reveals to us and explore a few of these passages from ancient to current times.

ALL LECTURES ARE OFFERED ON CAMPUS/ONLINE.

SESSION ONE

MONDAY, MARCH 2 | 3:15-4:30 P.M.

● ● A MISSION OF HONOR: RIO GRANDE HONOR FLIGHT

DENISE LEBOUF

Vietnam veterans were not welcomed when they returned home after the war. Listen to firsthand stories about how visiting their memorials in Washington, D.C. with the Rio Grande Honor Flight finally provided the long-overdue welcome home.

MONDAY, MARCH 9 | 3:15-4:30 P.M.

● ● HISTORY OF FORT BLISS: 1849-1893

JOHN HAMILTON

Learn about the establishment of the six locations of Fort Bliss in and around El Paso by infantry troops from 1848 through 1893. This will include military operations in and around El Paso, closure and reopening of the post, post life and association with the El Paso community, and lessons learned by the Army and the city in conducting military training and operations in the Southwest. It will conclude with the establishment of the post on Lanoria Mesa.

SESSION TWO

MONDAY, APRIL 6 | 3:15-4:30 P.M.

● ● HISTORY OF FORT BLISS: 1893-1945

JOHN HAMILTON

Learn about establishment of Fort Bliss on Lanoria Mesa, operations during the Mexican Revolution, World War I, the activation of the 1st Cavalry Division and its operations on the border until World War II, and the establishment of the anti-aircraft training center and its operations during World War II. This will cover decision-making processes, why the cavalry was here and its dismounting, and why the post was an anti-aircraft training post.

MONDAY, APRIL 13 | 3:15-4:30 P.M.

● ● "ONLY HOPE: MY MOTHER AND THE HOLOCAUST BROUGHT TO LIGHT"

IRV LUBLINER

Irv Lubliner returns to our OLLI to share his mother's story. Before her death in 1974, Felicia Bornstein Lubliner wrote about her harrowing experiences in ghettos and concentration camps in Nazi-occupied Poland. Her son, who compiled and published her writings, will present excerpts from "Only Hope: A Survivor's Stories of the Holocaust," highlighting her resilience and indomitable spirit, his perspective as a child of Holocaust survivors, and his process in bringing the book to fruition. Audience questions will be welcomed during and after his presentation.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● SECRETS AND MYSTERIES OF THE SILK ROAD

SVETLANA DYLEVSKAYA

The true story of the Silk Road isn't really about silk. This is about how secret wars, forgotten empires and world-changing ideas shaped the ancient societies of the time. More than a commercial route, the Silk Road's mysteries reveal deep connections among cultures—through lost cities, powerful women, culinary revolutions, and environmental shifts—showing why its history matters.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

● ● PTOLEMY'S ANCIENT MAP: CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS' MISREADING LED TO THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA

WILLIAM KEY

The ancient Greeks, with only Babylonian star data, observed, recorded, studied and analyzed the movement of the stars, sun, moon and planets. All this culminated around 140 AD in a set of world maps either published or described in a set of papyrus scrolls by Claudius Ptolemy. They disappeared for 1400 years and reappeared as parchment-bound texts in the Byzantine Empire. Christopher Columbus obtained one, studied and analyzed it incorrectly, and subsequently discovered America.

LECTURE SERIES | RESHAPING HEALTH AND WELLNESS

We are faced with many choices day after day. All of which challenge our moods, our health, and our ability to thrive with quality in our lives. How do we reshape health and wellness for ourselves and for others?

SESSION ONE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● SHAPING WELLNESS ACROSS CULTURE AND LIFESPAN

TERRENCE JOHNSON

Examine the social determinants of health through an interdisciplinary lens, analyzing how cultural customs, consumer practices and environmental exposures shape wellness across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age, with attention to how these contexts influence functioning, quality of life and chronic disease risk in modern society.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE UPDATE: WHERE ARE EVALUATIONS AND TREATMENTS?

DR. SARAH Y. JIMENEZ

Where are the evaluations and the development of new treatments for Alzheimer's Disease? Explore the latest research.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● LIVING WELL, CHEMICAL-FREE

TERRENCE JOHNSON

Learn to live healthier, chemical-free lives in today's world. Together, participants will explore how everyday choices around food, products, and lifestyle affect wellness, and learn practical ways to reduce toxins, eat clean and stay active. The focus is on simple, sustainable habits that improve energy, balance and long-term health.

SESSION TWO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● REIMAGINING HEALTH FOR TODAY'S WORLD

TERRENCE JOHNSON

This lecture bridges ancestral wisdom and modern science to reimagine health for today's world. By integrating time-tested traditions with evidence-based innovations, the course empowers learners to "zoom out," recognize the bigger picture of wellness, and adopt practices that foster resilience, vitality and long-term well-being in a fast-paced, modern society.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● FRESH TAKE: MODERN RECIPE TRANSFORMATION

TERRENCE JOHNSON

Bring your favorite recipes to this lecture. Using a whole-food approach, participants will analyze nutritional value, explore health impacts, and apply practical strategies to reduce additives and processed ingredients. Participants will learn how to make meals cleaner, more balanced, and supportive of long-term wellness—all while keeping flavor at the center.

SPECIAL EVENT - SESSION ONE ONLY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 | 10:30 A.M.-NOON

ON CAMPUS

■ GET OFF THE FLOOR! FALL RECOVERY AND PREVENTION TRAINING DR. PABLO ESTRADA

A fall can happen anywhere at any time. Would you know how to get back up? Who would help you to get up? What if you're alone, do you have a plan of action? Bring a buddy, partner or caregiver with you to this session and go through the steps to prevent a fall, establish a fall recovery plan of action, and actively participate in the steps to get up off the ground. Be prepared.

INTERGENERATIONAL BRIDGES

Learning starts young and never gets old. Bridge the generational gap, and share and meld the knowledge of younger and older ages.

SESSION ONE ONLY

WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 11 AND FEBRUARY 18 | 1:30-2:45 P.M.

■ OLLI MEETS TECHNOLOGY: TELL YOUR STORY. HOW DOES TECHNOLOGY WORK FOR YOU?

SOYEON LEE

Join this group of students to explore technology, human interactions and UX. UX refers to user experience in technology-human interaction. This class invites OLLI students to tell a story as UX experts who will explore how diverse users feel when using a tech product. Under a partnership with a UTEP RWS 3359 Technical Writing course, OLLI students will act as co-researchers/co-designers with UTEP students to solve technology issues through storytelling. Meet with UTEP students who will assist with any questions about tablets, phones and laptops. Register for this course to find your technical solutions.

CLUBS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

See page 3 and take full advantage of your membership benefits.

OLLI HAPPENINGS

Enjoy more opportunities to gather in OLLI's spring term. Be intrigued with an indoor movie or a garden exploration.

SESSION ONE

FRIDAY, MARCH 6 | 3:15-4:45 P.M.

■ OLLI MOVIE AFTERNOON | "BENNY & JOON"

LEANNE VON MITTENWALD

This 1993 film features Aidan Quinn, Mary Stuart Masterson, and Johnny Depp in a heartwarming story. Benny (Quinn) looks after his neurodivergent sister Joon (Masterson), fearing for her well-being while also aspiring to move on up in life. The eccentric Sam (Depp) enters into their lives and, in the quirkiest of ways (emulating Buster Keaton) wins their hearts and enhances their home and social lives.

SESSION TWO

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 | 10-11:30 A.M.

▲ USEFUL PLANTS OF THE UTEP CHIHUAHUAN DESERT GARDENS ERIC KAPPUS

The Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at UTEP contain a variety of plants that are useful for people. These uses include food, cordage and clothing, and all sorts of medicines. Join us on a leisurely stroll through the gardens to learn about some of these plants and their uses for historic and prehistoric peoples. Meet at the main entrance of UTEP's Centennial Museum.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 | 3:15-4:45 P.M.

■ OLLI MOVIE AFTERNOON | "DEFENDING YOUR LIFE"

LEANNE VON MITTENWALD

In an afterlife way-station resembling a major city, the lives of the recently deceased are examined in a court-like setting. This 1991 film features Albert Brooks, Meryl Streep and Rip Torn in a romantic comedy that was nominated for Academy awards in three categories. There will be a special drawing for your own DVD of this movie.

Spring 2026 | SESSION TWO

APRIL 6-MAY 9, 2026 (5-WEEK SESSION)

There are no classes during the Spring Break (March 16-April 4). This 3-week break includes Easter week.

Courses are listed as online, on campus, or on site at a specific location. Some courses are offered in more than one format and others are in the form of on-site tours.

● **Online** ■ **On campus** ▲ **On site**

Courses that take place anywhere other than on campus are also designated as on-site courses with addresses included in the descriptions.

MONDAYS

START DATE: APRIL 6

10-11 a.m.

ONLINE

● **AGING GRACEFULLY - SENIOR FITNESS WORKOUT: SESSION TWO**

WAYNE GARDNER

Get moving from the comfort of your home. This workout includes exercise sequences designed to improve strength, cardiovascular health and mobility through various techniques, with an emphasis on core and muscle strengthening. It uses body weight and/or light weights, supplemented with aerobic, balancing and stretching training. Each class will target different fitness goals and offer educational tips to help you develop healthy nutrition and exercise habits, ultimately enhancing your quality of life.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **GRASPING SPARROW'S TAIL AND FLOWING CHI: THE CORE MOVEMENTS OF YANG-STYLE T'AI CHI: SESSION TWO**

STEVE BAROWSKY

"Grasping the Sparrow's Tail" is a beautiful sequence of four movements for health and meditation. These four movements exemplify the four basic energies of T'ai Chi. These movements are the core from which all T'ai Chi forms are developed. In this class you will be able to learn a complete repeating sequence to practice at home or wherever you may be.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **FRESH THINKING AND BOLD LIVING**

CHARLES SMITH

Hit the reset button on your mind! This powerful, hands-on journey isn't about slowing down; it's about leveling up. Each week, dive into bold challenges, fun breakthroughs and inspiring tools that unlock fresh confidence, fearless possibilities and unstoppable momentum for the next chapter of your life.

■● **DENMARK AND FINLAND AND THE HYGGE TRADITION**

LENAE RASMUSSEN

Discover the secrets of Danish and Finnish culture, and what makes them repeatedly two of the happiest countries in the world. Examine the unique development and history of Finland and Denmark from the early 19th century to the present. The class will taste some Danish and some Finnish food, look that their unique costumes and architecture, and examine their current lifestyle ("having Hyggelig").

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **EASY PHOTOSHOP WITH SMARTPHONES**

YOUNG LEE

Easily edit and enhance photos right from your smartphone! In this class, you'll learn how to create stunning images with just a few taps using the free Photoshop app. We'll cover basics like adjusting brightness, correcting colors and removing backgrounds, as well as simple tips to make your photos stand out. No special equipment required. Just bring your smartphone, download the app, and you'll be ready to unleash your creativity!

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■ **ART NOUVEAU: NATURE'S ELEGANT LINES**

NICO COOPER

Explore the flowing, organic curves and botanical motifs of Art Nouveau. Discover how artists and designers like Alphonse Mucha and Gustav Klimt drew inspiration from nature to create architecture, decorative arts and everyday objects that were both beautiful and modern.

ON SITE

▲ **NOURISH AND FLOURISH: VITALITY THROUGH FOOD - MINDFUL EATING**

JACKIE CORDOVA

Learn how easy, gourmet-style recipes, with just a handful of ingredients, can bring balance to everyday health. Each module connects quick, fancy dishes with essential nutrition topics like inflammation, digestion, energy, and mood—proving that delicious food can also be healing and simple. Module 1: The Foundation of Balance; Module 2: Ease Inflammation, Ease Pain; Module 3: Gut Check: Digestion & Immunity; Module 4: Strong Bones & Muscles; Module 5: Mind & Mood Balance. Suggested additional fees may be paid to the instructor based on supplies given to participants. Classes are held at the Desert Spoon Food Hub at 1714 E. Yandell Dr., El Paso, TX 79902. This course is sponsored by the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation. ✨

WE WELCOME VOLUNTEERS!

OLLI is a community of members over the age of 50 who love to learn and grow.

We rely on volunteers. You can give a little or a lot of your time in any way that's unique to you.

Contact Lynn Provenzano to ask about volunteering:

915.747.6280

TUESDAYS

START DATE: APRIL 7

9-10 a.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **WALKERCISE - TUESDAYS: SESSION TWO**

LYNN PROVENZANO

Get your steps in! Discover the nooks, niches, gentle stairways and hills on campus with "good for you" morning walks.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **FRENCH CONVERSATION: SESSION TWO**

JEAN-CLAUDE LIROSSI

Continue learning and conversing in French. Read stories in French for an assigned book and discuss the content of the stories in French with the instructor and other students. Knowledge of the French language is a plus. Students will be required to buy the book necessary for this course.

ONLINE

● **BEAUTY IN ART THROUGH THE AGES: PART TWO**

KATHLEEN KEY
Examining the beauty in art from India, Africa, China, Japan and Islamic countries in the 20th century. This is a worldwide phenomenon. Join the class for lively and uplifting art!

● **CHAIR-ASSISTED YOGA: SESSION TWO**

JOHN KUBERKA

Chair-Assisted Yoga allows us to sit sometimes, as well as stand sometimes, using the chair for balance or as a prop. It is an excellent way to build core strength, increase flexibility and improve balance. Also, regular practice reduces anxiety and stress, improves circulation, helps lower blood pressure, and protects joints. Chair Yoga gets you moving and breathing.

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **DIGITAL SELF-DEFENSE FOR SENIORS**

AUROYLN LUYKX

It's a world of "deep fakes" and ever more sophisticated online scams. How can we know what's real? This course will offer a "self-defense tool kit" for those of us who grew up before the digital age.

■● **MEDITATION: RELAX, RELEASE AND RESTORE**

LYNN PROVENZANO

Can you find a few minutes a day to cultivate some time to be present? Studies regarding the practice of meditation have listed hundreds of mental, physical and emotional benefits. Discover many of these through guided meditations and techniques that focus on relaxing, releasing daily stress and restoring yourself for good quality of life.

WEDNESDAYS

START DATE: APRIL 8

10-11:15 a.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **LINE DANCING: SESSION TWO**

GENIE GONZALEZ-NICHOLSON

Line dancing is for everyone. This invigorating, low-impact dance class is choreographed to music. Each class is broken down into easy-to-learn repeating steps. A variety of stimulating music (including country and music from the '70s) is played for everyone's enjoyment. Classes are fun and energetic. Line dance will burn calories, improve breathing, strengthen the heart, and increase coordination, balance and mobility. Classes meet in Memorial Gym.

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **MAKE YOUR OWN SKETCHBOOK (CONTINUED FROM SESSION ONE)**

DAVINIA MIRAVAL

This course is continued from Session One.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **GET A TASTE FOR REDUCING FOOD WASTE**

GIGI SHAMALEY

Take a look at practical ideas and information to help people reduce the amount of food that goes to waste in the home. Class 1: The What and Why about Home Food Waste; Class 2: Let's Get Real About Menu Planning; Class 3: Using Dates on Food Labels to Reduce Food Waste; Class 4: Composting Food Waste at Home. This course comes to OLLI through the El Paso County Texas A&M AgriLife. This is a 4-week course with classes on 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 and 4/29.

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

GECU (ALTERNATE SPEAKERS)

GECU courses equip participants with essential financial skills for everyday life. Each week will focus on one key topic: getting out of debt, money management basics, understanding and improving credit, preventing identity theft and preventing elder financial abuse. Through engaging discussions and real-world examples, attendees will gain practical knowledge to make informed money decisions, protect their assets and achieve greater financial security.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **LAWMEN OF THE OLD WEST**

ALFREDO ARROYO

The Old West was a lawless place where outlaws reigned supreme. As the nation expanded westward, settlements and communities demanded order. Lawmen were in high demand. Most of the enforcers were men of integrity, others rode both sides of the law. Saddle up and join our posse as we ride to meet some of the lawmen who wrote the history of the Old West.

THURSDAYS

START DATE: APRIL 9

9:30-10:45 a.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **YOU-CAN-DO-IT YOGA WITH PHYLLIS: SESSION TWO**

PHYLLIS PRICE

Join Phyllis for yoga designed for OLLI. What you won't do: put your foot behind your head. What you will: 1) listen to your body's wisdom; 2) practice yoga postures adapted for OLLI ages and bodies by your 84-year-old instructor; 3) build more strength, flexibility, focus and well-being; 4) counteract stiff joints, text neck, "dowager's hump", and even depression and anxiety; 5) learn breathing practices to enhance lung capacity, organ health and balanced emotions; 6) meditate in relaxation practices that conclude practice. Classes meet in Memorial Gym.

11 a.m.-Noon

ONLINE

● **MINDFUL BODYWORK: SESSION TWO**

WOLF CARTER

Improve your energy by mindfully working the less used areas of the body, expanding your mobility, creating balance, and building body awareness. Exercises are specifically designed to address any level of physical ability.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS

■ **THE OLLI COOKBOOK: SESSION TWO**

VICKI HARDER

There is still more to create and taste. Join the OLLI cookbook committee and work to create a cookbook as an OLLI fundraiser. Assist in organizing recipe submissions, editing, creating artwork and the taste-testing of recipes!

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **RUSSIAN AT BEGINNER LEVEL**

SVETLANA DYLEVSKAYA

Learn Russian at the beginner level. Russian is challenging but with the right approach and realistic expectations, it is absolutely learnable for English speakers. Why it's easier than you think: no articles, logical spelling rules and many international words.

ONLINE

● **GENEALOGY BASICS PART TWO: THE FAMILY TREE PLUS DNA, EXPLORATION OF ANCESTORS AND ETHNICITY**

MARIA R. PEREZ

This virtual course will guide students through the basics of genealogy and the initial development of a family tree. This course will also delve into a deeper exploration of ancestral lineage and ethnicity as these can be facilitated by DNA testing and membership to digital consumer genomics and genealogy services. Various basic digital and online resources will be explored, as well as genealogy resources in our El Paso community. Student participation is much encouraged.

ON SITE

▲ **INSPIRED WRITING: SESSION TWO**

MÓNICA GÓMEZ

This is a series of creative writing workshops that uses a broad range of information—from poetry to scientific articles—plus focused discussion and thought-provoking prompts to set up brief, in-class free-writes. Reading aloud allows the group to share life experience, reflections, fresh perceptions and insights. This format encourages writers to practice capturing fleeting inspiration, trust their instincts and discover intriguing areas of the subconscious. This is a 4-week course with classes on 4/9, 4/16, 4/23 and 4/30. This course is sponsored by and meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation at 616 N. Virginia St., El Paso, TX 79902. ✨

3:15-4:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

■● **TRAVEL ACROSS THE NORTHEASTERN GERMAN STATES**

JEAN-CLAUDE LINOSSI

Learn about the history, geography and culture of various German states. Students will travel to the Northeastern parts of Germany. This course is a sequel to the German States course taught during OLLI's Summer 2025, adding more to a vicarious travel experience. This is a 4-week course with classes on 4/9, 4/16, 4/23 and 4/30.

■● **SCHUMANN, WAGNER AND BRUCKNER**

STEVE SCHILLER

Watch and listen to videos of Schumann's Symphony #2, and selections from the operas of Richard Wagner and Bruckner's Symphony # 6. The instructor, Steve Schiller, will discuss and demonstrate the musical details of these great works and will also discuss his personal experiences performing these works as an orchestral trumpet player. Robert Schumann was influenced by Beethoven; Wagner was influenced by Beethoven and Schumann; and Anton Bruckner was influenced by the aforementioned three who preceded him. These three composers bridge the Classical era of music through Early Romantic and into the Late Romantic era.

ONLINE

● **ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS: SESSION TWO**

SILVIA PORTILLO KOCH

Learn more Italian. This course is a continuation of Italian at Beginner Level One. The book is "Corso Multimediale di Lingua e Civiltà Italiana, Livello Elementare A1-A2 Libro Dello Studente." This book makes learning pleasant for everyday Italian experiences. Those who want to practice their Italian should join the Wednesday afternoon OLLI Italian Club (see page 3).

Looking to fill a specific day or time?

See pages 15-17 for our course registration form/schedule-at-a-glance.

Courses are listed as online, on campus, or on site at a specific location. Some courses are offered in more than one format and others are in the form of on-site tours.

● **Online** ■ **On campus** ▲ **On site**

Courses that take place anywhere other than on campus are also designated as on-site courses with addresses included in the descriptions.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

FRIDAYS

START DATE: APRIL 10

9-10 a.m.

ON SITE

▲ **WALKERCISE FRIDAY HILL CLIMBS - SESSION TWO**

DEVON WALL

Get more challenging steps in! Keep walking!! Devon Wall will lead this group in different routes on and off campus. It can be hilly!

9-11 a.m.

ONLINE

● **STILL LIFE AND LANDSCAPE PAINTING (CONTINUED FROM SESSION ONE)**

ROSARIO PONTE

This course is continued from Session One.

1:30-2:45 p.m.

ON CAMPUS/ONLINE

● **BASIC SPANISH FORUM: LEARNING IN ACTION - SESSION TWO**

CRISTINA LOURDES BUENO GORENA

Listen, learn and speak. This is a perfect space for learning and practicing Spanish, focusing on dynamic conversation and storytelling, and building foundational vocabulary.

● **CHRISTIANITY AND THE PRIMAL RELIGIONS ACCORDING TO DR. HUSTON SMITH**

LUIS CARLOS RODRIGUEZ

This course is based on two chapters of the seminal work, "The World's Religions," written by Dr. Huston Smith, who is considered one of the giants of Religious Studies. This book focuses on the key principles and values of the world's major religions. This class addresses the chapters on Christianity and the Primal Religions in this seminar since they contrast each other well and view two sets of documentary series based on "The World's Religions" which were produced by PBS. The second one included both Smith and famed journalist and political commentator Bill Moyers.

1:30-3:30 p.m.

ONLINE

● **PORTRAITURE TECHNIQUES THROUGHOUT TIME (CONTINUED FROM SESSION ONE)**

R. MAXIMOS AYOUB

This course is continued from Session One.

SPRING 2026 OSHER ONLINE COURSES

More opportunities to learn! The Osher National Resource Center offers another set of online courses that complements our OLLI programs and gives OLLI members access to amazing instructors. You **MUST** be an OLLI member to participate in these courses. All courses are offered over 6-weeks. **Each Osher Online course has a \$60 fee.**

MONDAYS, MARCH 30-MAY 4
1-2:30 P.M.

GHOSTS IN THE WHITE HOUSE: THE PEOPLE BEHIND PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES

DIANA CARLIN

Have you ever wondered who writes presidential speeches? This course traces the evolution of speechwriting from George Washington's administration to today. Yes, Hamilton helped draft Washington's Farewell Address, but no, Lincoln did not scribble the Gettysburg Address on an envelope. We will study the writing process presidents used and examine drafts from FDR, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Carter and George H.W. Bush. We will view clips from speeches and from former White House speechwriters describing the process.

TUESDAYS, MARCH 31-MAY 5
9-10:30 A.M.

THE SCOPES MONKEY TRIAL: THEN AND NOW

DOUGLAS MISHKIN

In July 1925, Clarence Darrow, William Jennings Bryan and others converged on Dayton, Tennessee, for the Scopes Monkey Trial—an eight-day clash over religion, science, public education, free speech and textbooks broadcast nationwide. One hundred years later, these debates continue. This course explores why the trial happened in Dayton, how Bryan and Darrow became involved, what occurred in the courtroom, whether "Inherit the Wind" reflects reality, who won and lost, and why it still matters today.

TUESDAYS, MARCH 31-MAY 5
1-2:30 P.M.

COMIC BOOK LITERATURE

ARNOLD BLUMBERG

Comics (blending words and pictures to tell stories) stretch from cave paintings and the Bayeux Tapestry to today's Batman and Spider-Man. Far more than superhero tales, comics are a versatile literary art form, capturing intimate and epic stories, social issues, and cultural moments through panels and word balloons. In this course, we will trace their history, explore their power, and read and discuss works including "Understanding Comics," "Watchmen," "Maus," "Fun Home" and "Persepolis."

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 1-MAY 6
9-10:30 A.M.

A HISTORY OF STREET ART

HEATHER SHIREY

Art in the streets (including graffiti, murals, stickers, and paste-ups) gives voice to marginalized communities, shapes urban environments, and challenges institutional norms. This course explores graffiti and street art in the U.S. and around the world, examining their histories, motivations and social impact. Participants will consider the rise of global mural movements, efforts to preserve and present street art, and its evolving role in activism, community identity and social change.

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 1-MAY 6
11 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

SIBERIA: RUSSIA'S FROZEN WASTELAND OR ECONOMIC HEARTLAND?

ASYA PERELTSVAIG

Siberia covers three quarters of Russia's territory but is home to only a quarter of its population. Yet its role in shaping Russia as a vast and wealthy empire is profound. In this course, we will explore Siberia's economic significance, indigenous cultures, and history as a penal colony, along with its importance for climate change, environmental issues and Russian-Chinese relations. We will also consider Siberia's role in both the rise and possible fragmentation of Russia.

THURSDAYS, APRIL 2-MAY 7
11 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

JFK'S QUEST FOR PEACE: LESSONS FOR TURBULENT TIMES

CHARLES BLUM

Throughout his 1,000-day presidency, John F. Kennedy pursued peace through a broad spectrum of initiatives. He saw a connection between learning and leadership and sought to use military deterrence, diplomacy and soft power in novel ways. In this course, we will explore how his character and life experiences were the origins of those efforts. We will evaluate his powers of persuasion by listening to key speeches, and we will assess his successes and failures and their relevance to today's world.

**THURSDAYS, APRIL 2-MAY 7
5-6:30 P.M.**

AI FOR REGULAR PEOPLE

MELBA AND HOD KURMAN AND LIPSON

Back by popular demand, this updated course offers a clear, engaging introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it's rapidly transforming our world. From self-driving cars to chatbots and precision medicine, we will explore how AI works, where it's headed and what it means for society. No tech experience needed—just curiosity! With fresh examples and timely updates, participants will gain a solid understanding of the opportunities and challenges AI presents today.

**MONDAYS, APRIL 6-MAY 11
9-10:30 A.M.**

VIOLINISTS: PERFORMERS AND COMPOSERS

ILANA ZAKS

Why do so many great violinists also become composers? This course will explore the fascinating legacy of violinist-composers, including Baroque virtuosos like Heinrich Biber, Romantic legends like Niccolò Paganini, and 20th-century innovators like George Enescu and Grażyna Bacewicz. Through listening and discussing, we will examine how these artists wrote music tailored to their instruments and themselves. Taught by a professional violinist, this course offers a behind-the-strings look at how performance and composition intertwine.

**TUESDAYS, APRIL 7-MAY 12
11 A.M.-12:30 P.M.**

PLACE, MEMORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

FERNANDA BLANCO VIDAL

How much of who we are is shaped by the places we live and experience? This course invites reflection on the psychological and emotional relationships between people and their environments. Drawing on psychology, geography, architecture and design, we will explore environmental psychology and how physical environments shape behavior, cognition, identity and memory. Using place-based methods, we will discuss concepts such as place attachment, identity and cognitive maps. We will reflect on memory, home, trauma, displacement and nature's role in well-being.

**TUESDAYS, APRIL 7-MAY 12
3-4:30 P.M.**

FROM LEO XIII TO LEO XIV: HISTORY OF 20TH. AND 21ST-CENTURY POPES

OLIVA ESPIN

The death of Pope Francis and the election of the first U.S. born Pope have been in the news repeatedly in the last few months, capturing the imagination of many people, including non-Catholics. Who are these men? What are their life stories? How were they similar to and different from each other? In this course, we will discuss the lives and dominant perspectives of the last ten Popes, exploring their most significant positions and their influence on world affairs.

**THURSDAYS, APRIL 9-MAY 14
9-10:30 A.M.**

A BEAUTIFUL BRAIN

SCOTT FULTON

Most conversations about aging focus on lifespan, but brainspan (how long our mind stays sharp) matters more. In this course, we will explore how the brain ages and what science reveals about protecting memory, balance and clarity. Topics include normal changes versus early dementia, neuroplasticity, nutrition, sleep, stress, social ties and purpose. Each session blends accessible science with self-tests and take-home practices. We will also build a personalized Cognitive Health Scorecard to track habits and strengthen resilience.

**THURSDAYS, APRIL 9-MAY 14
1-2:30 P.M.**

GREAT SCIENCE STORIES

JOHNNIE HENDRICKSON

Science is full of surprises. Dyes, accidentally discovered, launched the modern pharmaceutical industry. A failed experiment opened the door to new physics. Discoveries are never just facts. They are moments of creativity, struggle and chance with far-reaching consequences. In this course, we will explore the human side of science, tracing breakthroughs in biology, chemistry, physics and more. We will ask not only what was found, but how and why it matters.

**FRIDAYS, APRIL 10-MAY 15
1-2:30 P.M.**

CALIFORNIA UNCOVERED: A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME, PLACE AND IDENTITY

ANTHONY ANTONUCCI

California is more than a state—it is an idea, a dream and a contradiction. In this course, we will journey from its earliest Indigenous cultures through Spanish, Mexico, and American rule, exploring missions, the Gold Rush, the railroad, Hollywood and Silicon Valley. We will challenge myths, highlight overlooked voices, and examine how migration, innovation and cultural change shaped the Golden State. We will discover what it has meant, and still means, to be Californian.

**WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 15-MAY 20
1-2:30 P.M.**

THE LOST GENERATION

FERDÂ ASYA

This course will examine the cultural transformations in thinking and living that reshaped America and Western Europe between World War I and the Great Depression. Known as the Roaring Twenties, the Jazz Age and the Lost Generation, this period redefined values and norms. We will explore the vibrant world of 1920s Paris through F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Babylon Revisited" and "Bernice Bobs Her Hair," Ernest Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises," and Gertrude Stein's "The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas," considering the lasting legacy of the era.

Osher Online™

in collaboration with Northwestern University
School of Professional Studies

**WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 15-MAY 20
3-4:30 P.M.**

MUSIC: CONTROVERSIES AND CURIOSITIES

EMANUEL ABRAMOVITS

Music has long provoked debate, from Beethoven and Stravinsky's bold innovations to Broadway works like "Annie Get Your Gun" and "South Pacific," now revisited through modern concerns about race, consent and gender. Is political correctness enriching art or erasing cultural heritage? We will also examine plagiarism and borrowing in pop and film music, with cases involving The Beatles, Pink Floyd and Peter Frampton. This course blends audiovisuals, anecdotes and humor to explore music's most controversial moments.

**SATURDAYS, APRIL 18-MAY 23
NOON-1:30 P.M.**

WRITING THE PERSONAL ESSAY: FINDING YOUR STORY

LISA STOLLEY

The personal essay, one of the oldest forms of creative nonfiction, blends storytelling, reflection, and analysis to give voice to lived experience. In this course, we will explore the personal essay as both art and self-expression. Through readings, discussion and writing exercises, we will study elements such as narrative arc, scene-setting and reflection. We will draft our own essays, discovering how this enduring form helps us find our voices and tell our stories with clarity.

**TUESDAYS, APRIL 21-MAY 26
5-6:30 P.M.**

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT AND MODERN ARCHITECTURE

JENNIFER GRAY

Frank Lloyd Wright designed nearly 1,000 buildings and helped define modern architecture. This course explores highlights of his practice, from Prairie houses to Fallingwater and the Guggenheim Museum, alongside lesser-known projects like affordable housing and city planning. We'll examine how Wright's work reflected cultural shifts in technology, science and politics, offering a deeper understanding of his lasting influence on architecture and modern design.



TO REGISTER >

Scan the QR code or go to the UTEP-OLLI website at <https://www.utep.edu/olli> and click on the **OSHER Online** tab or call the OLLI office at 915.747.6280 for assistance.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

3 WAYS TO REGISTER

Registration opens online January 12, 2026.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

(September 1 through August 31; membership fees are not prorated)

INDIVIDUAL
\$55

SPRING REGISTRATION FEE: \$100

(*Additional fees apply to OSHER Online courses and art classes.)

- Register for as many OLLI at UTEP classes as you can fit in your schedule.
- The Miner Gold Card is available to OLLI members for \$10. Ask about the benefits of this UTEP ID card.
- All classes are online, on campus, on campus/online or on site. Please refer to course designations in this catalog. OLLI uses Zoom for online classes. Volunteers and staff are available to assist you.
- Classes may be added or dropped after registration without penalty. Contact the office with requests.
- Each One Reach One!** Bring ONE NEW member and receive a \$45 credit toward your next registration fee. Share the benefits and help OLLI grow. Credit applies after new members are verified and will appear as a credit on your membership account.
- Refunds are handled on a case-by-case basis.

Course Cancellation Policy: Classes that do not meet minimum registration numbers are subject to cancellation.



ONLINE

Register online at utep.edu/olli
For assistance, leave a message at 915.747.6280.



BY MAIL

Fill out one registration form per person and send it with a check, money order and/or credit card information to:

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Memorial Gym, Room 102
101 W. Robinson Ave.
El Paso, Texas 79968-0602**

Make checks payable to **OLLI at UTEP.**



IN PERSON/BY APPOINTMENT

Contact the OLLI office to schedule an appointment. Staff will be available to take calls from 1-5 p.m., starting January 7, 2026. Appointments will be scheduled between noon and 3 p.m. Registrations will not be taken over the phone or by email.

New or renewing members must include the annual membership fee with their registrations.

A convenience processing fee is included in the membership registration process.

REGISTRATION (Please fill out one form per person)

Name: _____ Birth Date: ___/___/____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alternate Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Do you have a Miner Gold Card? YES NO

If yes, what is your ID#? _____

Are you registering for any of the Osher Online Courses? YES NO

Register directly online. Visit utep.edu/olli for details.

PAYMENT

Check # _____ Make checks payable to OLLI at UTEP.

Credit Card: _____ MC VISA AMEX DISCOVER

Card No. _____

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ CVV: _____
Month Year 4-digits

Do you need an SB7 Parking Pass? YES NO

If yes, please provide the following information:

License Plate # and State: _____ Vehicle Make: _____

Vehicle Model: _____ Color: _____ Year: _____

Number of Doors: _____ State: _____

Would you like to purchase a Sun Bowl Parking Garage (SBG) Parking Permit? YES NO
Contact the OLLI office at olli@utep.edu to purchase a permit. An OLLI representative will contact you to process the SBG permit application and take payment. A pro-rated SBG permit for Spring 2026 is \$263 and good until August 15, 2026. Multiple vehicles can be assigned to a single permit.

REGISTRATION FEES

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual*	\$55	
Annual membership is not prorated (September 1-August 31)		
Spring 2026 Course Registration Fee	\$100	
Miner Gold Card Fee	\$10	
*Additional Art Class Fee	\$45	
*Osher Online Course Fee	Each \$60	
Sun Bowl Parking Garage Permit	\$263	
**Convenience Processing Fee	\$3	
Pickleball Court Maintenance Fee	\$5	
Donation to OLLI <i>OLLI gratefully accepts donations to continue bringing quality programs to members.</i>		
TOTAL		

*Additional fees may be paid to the instructor based on supplies given to students.

**Convenience processing fee covers bank-related charges.

How did you hear about us?

Bring a New Member discount. Whom did you bring?

Provide the name of the new member here:

Receive a \$45 credit for bringing a new member to OLLI! Credit applies after new members are verified and will appear as a credit on your membership account.

Spring 2026 | COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

SESSION ONE: FEBRUARY 9 - MARCH 14, 2026

(5-WEEK SESSION)

OLLI Spring 2026 classes are listed as online, on campus, or on site at a specific location. Some courses are offered in more than one format and others are in the form of on-site tours. On-campus classes are limited to 24 students per classroom.

For courses offered in more than one format, select the format you prefer. Additional fees apply to courses with extended class hours and to OSHER Online courses.

Please note: Courses may have minimum and/or maximum requirements. Courses and tours may have waitlists. Courses with low registrations are subject to cancellation.

► Please CIRCLE THE ASTERISK of the course you are interested in.

	Course Title	Time	On Campus	Online	On site/Tour	Information
MONDAY	● Aging Gracefully - Senior Fitness Workout: Session One	10-11 a.m.	■	●*	▲	
	■ Finland and the Hygge Tradition	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	■ Grasping the Sparrow's Tail and Flowing Chi: The Core Movements of Yang-Style Tai Chi: Session One	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*			
	▲ Crochet/Knitting Therapy	1:30-2:45 p.m.			*	Meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation
	● Life: Taking Charge Medical Directives and Medical Power of Attorney	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 2/9
	● Life: Taking Charge CASA: Court Appointed Special Advocates	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 2/16
	● Life: Taking Charge WOKE: An Exploration of Its Past and Present Discourse	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 2/23
	▲ Nourish and Flourish: Vitality Through Food - Healthy Balance	3:15-4:30 p.m.			*	Meets at Desert Spoon Food Hub
	■ Abstract Expressionism: American Energy	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	■ Smartphone Life Made Easy	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*			
	● Times of Historical Significance A Mission of Honor: Rio Grande Honor Flight	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		Single presentation: 3/2
	● Times of Historical Significance History of Fort Bliss: 1849-1893	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 3/9
TUESDAY	■ Walkercise Tuesdays: Session One	9-10 a.m.	*			
	■ Reshaping Health and Wellness Get Off the Floor! Fall Recovery and Prevention Training	10:30 a.m.-Noon	*			Single participatory session: 2/17
	● French Conversation: Session One	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● Beauty in Art Through the Ages: Part One *CANCELED*	1:30-2:45 p.m.		*		
	● Chair-Assisted Yoga: Session One	1:30-2:45 p.m.		*		
	● Critical Periods in Texas History	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● Meditation in the Company of Angels	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	● Documentaries and Discussion	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
WEDNESDAY	■ Line Dancing: Session One	10-11:15 a.m.	*			Meets at Memorial Gym
	▲ El Paso's Historic Districts Black Business District and the McCall Center	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 2/11
	▲ El Paso's Historic Districts Old San Francisco Historic District	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 2/18
	▲ El Paso's Historic Districts Sunset Heights Historic District	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 2/25
	▲ El Paso's Historic Districts Austin Terrace Historic District	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 3/4
	■ Make Your Own Sketchbook	11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	*			2 hours; 10 weeks; maximum of 15 students; additional \$45 fee
	▲ Writing Your Memoir: Passage of Time	1:30-2:45 p.m.			*	Meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation
	● Čapek Brothers	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		2 weeks: 2/11, 2/18
	● Canis Historiae: A Brief History of Dogs	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		3 weeks: 2/25, 3/4, 3/11
	● OLLI Meets Technology Tell Your Story: How Does Technology Work for You?	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*			2 weeks: 2/11, 2/18
	● Reshaping Health and Wellness Shaping Wellness Across Culture and Lifespan	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 2/25
	● Reshaping Health and Wellness Alzheimer's Disease Update: Where are Evaluations and Treatments?	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 3/4
● Reshaping Health and Wellness Living Well, Chemical-Free	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 3/11	
● Piracy: The Golden Age	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*			
THURSDAY	■ Photography Studio Workshop: People, Plants and Places	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*			
	■ You-Can-Do-It Yoga With Phyllis: Session One	9:30 - 10:45 a.m.	*			Meets at Memorial Gym
	● Mindful Bodywork: Session One	11 a.m.-Noon		*		
	▲ Inspired Writing: Session One	1:30-2:45 p.m.			*	Meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation
	● Invertebrates That Keep Us Up at Night	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	■ The OLLI Cookbook: Session One	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*			
	● Genealogy Basics Part One: The Family Tree Plus Online and Community Resources	1:30-2:45 p.m.		*		
	● Travel Across the Northern German States	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		4 weeks: 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5
● The Beatles	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*			
FRIDAY	● Italian For Beginners: Session One	3:15-4:30 p.m.		*		
	● Still Life and Landscape Painting	9 - 11 a.m.		*		2 hours; 10 weeks; maximum of 16 students; additional \$45 fee
	▲ Walkercise Friday Hill Climbs: Session One	9-10 a.m.			*	
	● Qigong for Wellness	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		3 weeks: 2/27, 3/6, 3/13
	● Judaism and Islam According to Dr. Huston Smith	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● Basic Spanish Forum: Learning in Action - Session One	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● Life: Taking Charge Selling a House: Still More to Know	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 2/13
	● Life: Taking Charge Take Charge of Technology and Social Media	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 2/20
	● Portraiture Techniques Throughout Time	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.		*		2 hours; 10 weeks; maximum of 16 students; additional \$45 fee
	■ OLLI Happenings OLLI Movie Afternoon: "Benny & Joon"	3:15 - 4:45 p.m.	*			Viewing: 3/6

Spring 2026 | COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

SESSION TWO: APRIL 6 -MAY 9, 2026

(5-WEEK SESSION)

No classes during Spring Break: March 16-April 4
(This 3-week break includes Easter week).

OLLI Spring 2026 classes are listed as online, on campus, or on site at a specific location. Some courses are offered in more than one format and others are in the form of on-site tours. On-campus classes are limited to 24 students per classroom

For courses offered in more than one format, select the format you prefer. Additional fees apply to courses with extended class hours and to OSHER Online courses.

Please note: Courses may have minimum and/or maximum requirements. Courses and tours may have waitlists. Courses with low registrations are subject to cancellation.

► **Please CIRCLE THE ASTERISK of the course you are interested in.**

	Course Title	Time	On Campus	Online	On site/Tour	Information
			■	●	▲	
MONDAY	● Aging Gracefully - Senior Fitness Workout: Session Two	10-11 a.m.		*		
	■ Grasping the Sparrow's Tail and Flowing Chi: The Core Movements of Yang-Style T'ai Chi: Session Two	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*			
	● Denmark and Finland and the Hygge Tradition	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● Fresh Thinking and Bold Living	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	▲ Nourish and Flourish: Vitality Through Food - Mindful Eating	3:15-4:30 p.m.			*	Meets at Desert Spoon Food Hub
	■ Easy Photoshop With Smartphones	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*			
	● Art Nouveau: Nature's Elegant Lines	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	■ <i>Times of Historical Significance</i> History of Fort Bliss: 1893-1945	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 4/6
TUESDAY	● <i>Times of Historical Significance</i> "Only Hope: My Mother and the Holocaust Brought to Light"	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 4/13
	■ Walkercise Tuesdays: Session Two	9-10 a.m.	*			
	● French Conversation: Session Two	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● <i>Beauty in Art Through the Ages: Part Two</i> *CANCELED*	1:30-2:45 p.m.		*		
	● Chair-Assisted Yoga: Session Two	1:30-2:45 p.m.		*		
	■ Meditation: Relax, Release and Restore	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	■ Digital Self-Defense for Seniors	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	■ Line Dancing: Session Two	10 - 11:15 a.m.	*			Classes meet at Memorial Gym
WEDNESDAY	▲ <i>El Paso's Historic Districts</i> Manhattan Heights Historic District	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 4/15
	▲ <i>El Paso's Historic Districts</i> Five Points Central Business Center and Historic Churches	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 4/22
	▲ <i>El Paso's Historic Districts</i> Alta Vista Historic Neighborhood and Commercial District	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 4/29
	▲ <i>El Paso's Historic Districts</i> The Bridges of El Paso County	10-11:30 a.m.			*	Tour: 5/6
	■ Make Your Own Sketchbook	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	*			Continued from Session One; 2 hours; 10 weeks; maximum of 15 students; additional \$45 fee
	● Get a Taste for Reducing Food Waste	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		4 weeks: 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29
	● <i>Times of Historical Significance</i> Ptolemy's Ancient Map: Christopher Columbus' Misreading	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 4/22
	● <i>Reshaping Health and Wellness</i> Reimagining Health for Today's World	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 4/29
THURSDAY	● <i>Reshaping Health and Wellness</i> Fresh Take: Modern Recipe Transformation	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 5/6
	■ Financial Education	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	● Lawmen of the Old West	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	■ You-Can-Do-It Yoga With Phyllis: Session Two	9:30 - 10:45 a.m.	*			Classes meet at Memorial Gym
	● Mindful Bodywork: Session Two	11 a.m. - Noon.		*		
	▲ Inspired Writing: Session Two	1:30-2:45 p.m.			*	4 weeks: 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30; meets at the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation
	■ The OLLI Cookbook: Session Two	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*			
	● Russian at Beginner Level	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
FRIDAY	● Genealogy Basics Part Two: The Family Tree Plus DNA, Exploration of Ancestors and Ethnicity	1:30-2:45 p.m.		*		
	● Travel Across the Northeastern German States	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		4 weeks: 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30
	● Schumann, Wagner and Bruckner	3:15-4:30 p.m.	*	*		
	● Italian For Beginners: Session Two	3:15-4:30 p.m.		*		
	▲ Walkercise Friday Hill Climbs: Session Two	9-10 a.m.			*	
	● Still Life and Landscape Painting	9- 11 a.m.		*		Continued from Session One; 2 hours; 10 weeks; maximum of 16 students; additional \$45 fee
	● Basic Spanish Forum: Learning in Action - Session Two	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
	● Christianity and the Primal Religions According to Dr. Huston Smith	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		
SAT.	● <i>Times of Historical Significance</i> Secrets and Mysteries of Silk Road	1:30-2:45 p.m.	*	*		Single lecture: 4/17
	● Portraiture Techniques Throughout Time	1:30 -3:30 p.m.		*		Continued from Session One; 2 hours; 10 weeks; maximum of 16 students; additional \$45 fee
	■ OLLI Happenings OLLI Movie Afternoon - "Defending Your Life"	3:15-4:45 p.m.	*			Viewing: 4/24
	■ OLLI Happenings Useful Plants of the UTEP Chihuahuan Desert Gardens	10 - 11:30 a.m.	*			Tour: 4/18

SPRING 2026

REGISTRATION EVENT

Wednesday, January 14 | 1-4:30 p.m.

See page 3 for more details.

Spring 2026 | OSHER ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM (6-WEEK COURSES)

Osher Online™
in collaboration with Northwestern University
School of Professional Studies

Osher Online courses are only offered online. Courses are listed in chronological order and run for six weeks. **Each Osher Online course has a \$60 fee.**

► **Please CIRCLE THE ASTERISK of the course you are interested in.**

Course Title	Date	Time	Instructor	Selection
Ghosts in the White House: The People Behind Presidential Speeches	Mondays, March 30-May 4	1-2:30 p.m.	Diana Carlin	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Scopes Monkey Trial: Then and Now	Tuesdays, March 31-May 5	9-10:30 a.m.	Douglas Mishkin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comic Book Literature	Tuesdays, March 31-May 5	1-2:30 p.m.	Arnold Blumberg	<input type="checkbox"/>
A History of Street Art	Wednesdays, April 1-May 6	9-10:30 a.m.	Heather Shirey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Siberia: Russia's Frozen Wasteland or Economic Heartland?	Wednesdays, April 1-May 6	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Asya Pereltsvaig	<input type="checkbox"/>
JFK's Quest for Peace: Lessons for Turbulent Times	Thursdays, April 2-May 7	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Charles Blum	<input type="checkbox"/>
AI for Regular People	Thursdays, April 2-May 7	5-6:30 p.m.	Melba and Hod Kurman and Lipson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Violinists: Performers and Composers	Mondays, April 6-May 11	9-10:30 a.m.	Ilana Zaks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Place, Memory and Environmental Psychology	Tuesdays, April 7-May 12	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Fernanda Blanco Vidal	<input type="checkbox"/>
From Leo XIII to Leo XIV: History of 20 th - and 21 st -Century Popes	Tuesdays, April 7-May 12	3-4:30 p.m.	Oliva Espin	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Beautiful Brain	Thursdays, April 9-May 14	9-10:30 a.m.	Scott Fulton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Great Science Stories	Thursdays, April 9-May 14	1-2:30 p.m.	Johnnie Hendrickson	<input type="checkbox"/>
California Uncovered: A Journey Through Time, Place and Identity	Fridays, April 10-May 15	1-2:30 p.m.	Anthony Antonucci	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Lost Generation	Wednesdays, April 15-May 20	1-2:30 p.m.	Ferdâ Asya	<input type="checkbox"/>
Music: Controversies and Curiosities	Wednesdays, April 15-May 20	3-4:30 p.m.	Emanuel Abramovits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing the Personal Essay: Finding Your Story	Saturdays, April 18-May 23	Noon-1:30 p.m.	Lisa Stolley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Frank Lloyd Wright and Modern Architecture	Tuesdays, April 21-May 26	5-6:30 p.m.	Jennifer Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>

OSHER ONLINE COURSES



NOTE: To register online, scan the QR code or go to the UTEP-OLLI website at <https://www.utep.edu/olli> and click on the **OSHER Online** tab or call the OLLI office at 915.747.6280 for assistance.

“The community of friends at OLLI has really been a joy! I love the groups I have joined, especially mahjong.”
- Lucy Michal, OLLI member



MINER GOLD CARD

Active registrations with your Miner Gold Card provide you with access to UTEP services plus available student discounts on campus and in the community. The UTEP campus is open and fully operational. If you have a Miner Gold Card that needs to be updated to student status or you have not yet received a Miner Gold Card purchased in the previous term, contact the office for instructions on how to get your new card.

GO MINERS!

“I am new to OLLI. I love the variety of classes and field trip opportunities.”
- Gina Fields, OLLI member



“When I joined OLLI, I didn't know what to expect! I have found what I was looking for—kind, open-minded people who are looking to continue our education while cultivating dear friendships.”
- Terry Avalos, OLLI member

ABOUT PARKING

OLLI STUDENTS HAVE SEVERAL PARKING OPTIONS:

1 Park in the Glory Road Garage at the Glory Road Transfer Station (corner of Mesa St. and Glory Rd.). This is a short, one-block walk to Memorial Gym. Fees at the time of this printing are \$2/2 hours. This is currently a public garage.

2 OLLI members can choose one of two additional options:

- OLLI membership includes a green parking permit for Sun Bowl Dr. remote lots. Memorial Gym is a short walk behind the Don Haskins Center to Memorial Gym. (There are stairs). Apply for a permit through the OLLI office.
- Purchase a pro-rated Sun Bowl Parking Garage pass (\$263, valid through August 15, 2026). The Campus Loop shuttle runs from Miner Alley at the garage to Memorial Gym and loops from Oregon St. to Rio Grande Ave. and Arizona Ave. It is a longer route. Apply for a permit through the OLLI office.

Cross-parking on campus is permitted with a UTEP parking permit as follows:

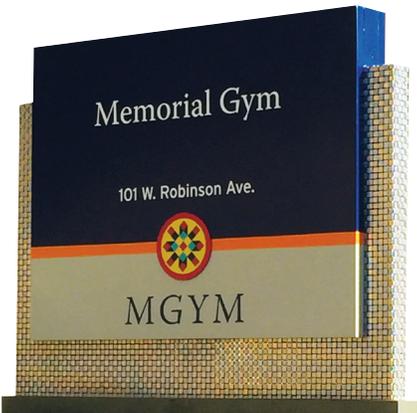
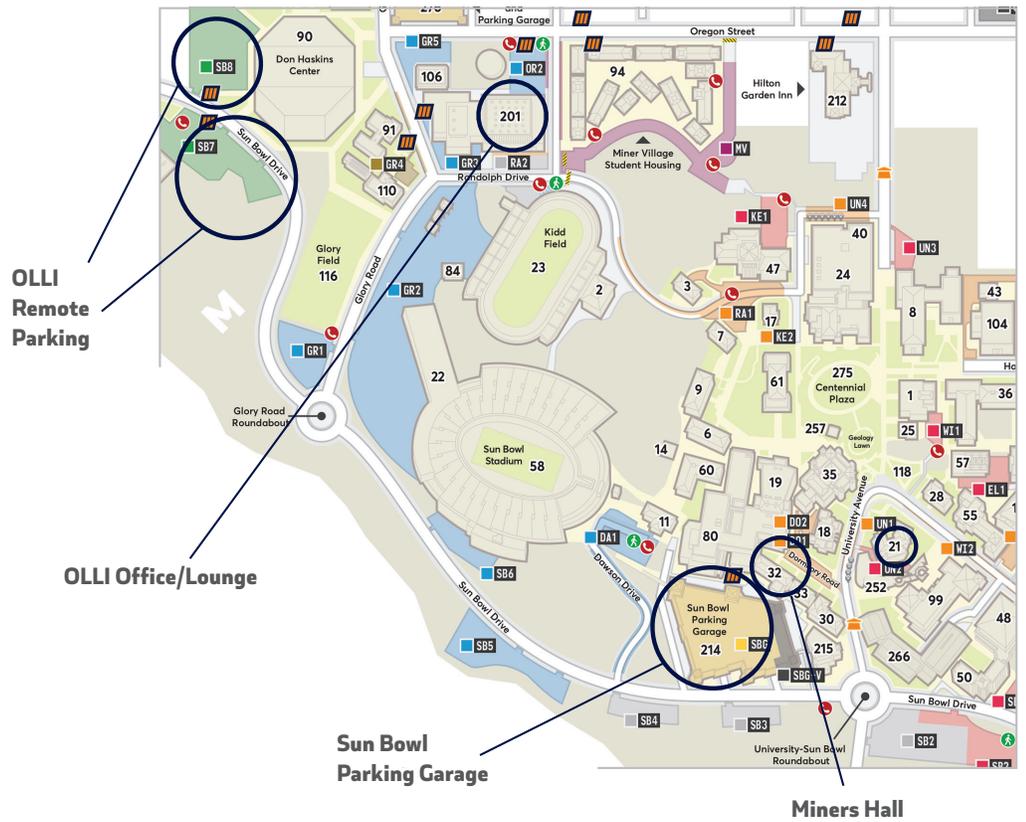
- **After 3 p.m.**, any permit allows you to cross-park in any Silver or Blue perimeter lot. This includes the Memorial Gym area.
- **After 4 p.m.**, any permit allows you to park in the Sun Bowl Garage and the Schuster Garage.
- **After 5 p.m.**, any permit allows you to park inside of campus. Cross-parking is also allowed when the Miner Metro shuttles are not running.

The Parking and Transportation office is located at 3737 N. Mesa St., Ste. A, El Paso, TX 79902.

UTEP parking permits are valid September 1, 2025 through August 15, 2026. OLLI is not responsible for citations. Fees are subject to change.

OLLI COMMON LOCATIONS

Sun Bowl Parking Garage	214
Miners Hall	32
Fox Fine Arts	80
Rubin Center	11
Memorial Gym	201
Cotton Hall (KTEP)	18
Centennial Museum	21
Geology	35



Scan the QR code to view a digital representation of the UTEP campus map.
<https://www.utep.edu/map/>



For more information about parking, scan the QR code below or visit:
www.utep.edu/parking-and-transportation/

VOLUNTEER AT OLLI

- BE PART OF THE PRESENT FOR THE FUTURE
- PROVIDE OFFICE, CLASSROOM AND TECH ASSISTANCE
- OFFER HOSPITALITY
- SERVE ON COMMITTEES
- HELP BUILD COMMUNITY THROUGH AMBASSADORSHIP

VOLUNTEERING ADDS TO THE BENEFITS OF OLLI. VOLUNTEER TODAY TO

- Keep the OLLI program affordable
- Work together with old and new friends
- Try something new
- Teach a class or give a lecture
- Share your skills

**CONTACT LYNN PROVENZANO
TO ASK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING:
915.747.6280.**

Visit OLLI at:

Memorial Gym, Room 102
101 W. Robinson Ave.
El Paso, TX 79968-0602

Office hours: 11 a.m.-3 p.m., M-F

www.utep.edu/olli

Contact us:

Phone: 915.747.6280

Email: olli@utep.edu



@elpasoolli



@ollielpaso

OLLI GOVERNANCE



Lynn Provenzano,
Executive Director

We love our OLLI!
We are here for you.

The OLLI Advisory Board and committee members are volunteers dedicated to making OLLI at UTEP a successful and caring program for the OLLI community.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT UTEP

Sponsored by UTEP Extended University
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All information in this Spring 2026 publication has been checked and verified to the best of the department's ability; the program cannot be held responsible for any mistake or omission in this publication.

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Editing by Arathi Kylasam

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

500 W. UNIVERSITY
EL PASO, TEXAS 79968-0001



“ OLLI’s courses are inviting, interesting, and engaging. After many years at OLLI, I am still learning a great deal about our local El Paso community. Moreover, I am impressed with how much more there is still to learn with each new OLLI term. I continue to make a host of new friends and encourage anyone 50 and older to join OLLI to make new friends and learn something more about our world in the process. ”

Michael Faulkner, OLLI member



Front cover:
"Spring Bird,"
watercolor painting,
by Michael Faulkner.

LEARNING IS TIMELESS.

Be part of the Osher Lifelong Learning network of adults 50+ who are interested in being intellectually and creatively active, and staying connected.

Our members love OLLI. So will you!



UTEP.EDU/OLLI
915.747.6280

