

OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

An Educational Program for Mature Learners

Fall
2025



UCR PALM DESERT

olli.ucr.edu

UCR University Extension
Professional Studies

Fall 2025 Schedule

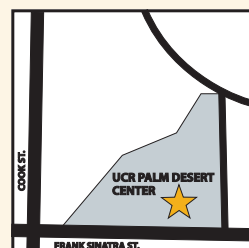
September 22-December 19, 2025

IN-PERSON:



Riverside

UCR Extension, University Village
1299 University Drive, University Village Suite 101,
Conference Room 1103 (across from Chase Bank)
Riverside, CA 92507



Palm Desert

UCR Palm Desert Center
75-080 Frank Sinatra Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92211

REMOTE VIA ZOOM: See page 3 for more information on courses and locations.

Ways to Register

ONLINE: <https://olli.ucr.edu>

FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL 760-834-0929

Mon – Fri, 10am – 4pm

Print and mail a completed membership and enrollment form to:

UCR Palm Desert Center
75-080 Frank Sinatra Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92211

Make Checks payable to: Regents UC

Parking

Parking at UCR Extension Center

1200 University Ave. Riverside, CA 92507

Parking is free at University Village for Osher members

Parking at UCR Palm Desert Center

75-080 Frank Sinatra Dr. Palm Desert, CA 92211

Parking is complimentary (included in your membership)

Membership is required to enroll in all Osher courses and Shared Interest groups.

We look forward to seeing you in class.

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Remote Delivered Courses

Fall 2025



<p>Mondays</p> <p>October 6-November 10</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Noon</p> <p>6 meetings</p> <p>Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>Osher Online Premium: The Life and Times of Nikola Tesla</p> <p>Trace Nikola Tesla’s journey from his early studies in Europe to his pioneering work in electricity, wireless technology, and beyond. Explore his collaborations and rivalries, including the “War of the Currents” with Edison and his partnership with Westinghouse, which lit the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair. Topics include his telautomaton, wireless experiments, race with Marconi, the Wardencllyffe Tower, wartime projects, and the mystery of his papers after his death.</p> <p>Instructor: Marc Seifer, PhD </p>
<p>Wednesdays</p> <p>October 8-November 12</p> <p>6 meetings</p> <p>2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>Osher Online Premium: Creative Conservation</p> <p>Be educated, entertained, and inspired through real-life conservation stories from the instructor’s experiences and her time as host of Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom. Explore how passionate individuals, diverse perspectives, and unique skills come together to tackle complex environmental challenges. Learn practical ways you can help protect wildlife and preserve our planet’s ecosystems.</p> <p>Instructor: Stephanie Arne </p>
<p>Thursdays</p> <p>October 16 -November 20</p> <p>6 meetings</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>Osher Online Premium: In Darwin’s Footsteps: A Journey to the Galapagos</p> <p>From 1831-1836, Charles Darwin circumnavigated the globe aboard the HMS Beagle. In the Galapagos Islands and elsewhere, Darwin collected data that, after decades of study and reflection, formed part of the basis for his publication On the Origin of Species. The ideas presented in that volume remain the foundation of all modern biological thought. Drawing upon original source materials and the instructor’s photos, this course will present the historical and cultural context of Darwin’s era, follow the five-year journey, discuss how Darwin came to his ideas, and explain his theories in detail.</p> <p>Instructor: Eric Simon, PhD </p>
<p>Mondays</p> <p>September 22 -October 27</p> <p>10:00 a.m. -Noon</p> <p>6 meetings</p> <p>Class Fee: \$50</p>	<p>UCR Zoom: Cinematic Exploration: Murder Mystery Films from Different Cultures</p> <p>Watch thought-provoking films at home, then join fellow Osher members on Zoom for lively, interactive discussions exploring this popular movie genre around the globe. Can crime have a cultural flavor? Does an investigation style differ in various countries? Join the class and test your own sleuthing skills. Here’s to some great movie nights and even better conversations.</p> <p>Instructor: Elena Romine, PhD </p>
<p>Tuesdays</p> <p>September 23 -October 28</p> <p>10:00 a.m. -Noon</p> <p>6 meetings</p> <p>Class Fee: \$50</p>	<p>UCR Zoom: Women Who Have Made a Difference</p> <p>Discover the remarkable stories of women who have shaped our world in science, law, literature, technology, and beyond. Through their own words and writings, we’ll explore the lasting impact of pioneers like Jane Goodall, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Isabel Allende, Dr. Judith Spitz, and more—celebrating their vision, courage, and ongoing influence today.</p> <p>Instructor: Katya Williamson, MFA </p>

Remote Delivered Courses Fall 2025



<p>Wednesdays September 24 -October 29 6 Meetings 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. Class Fee: \$50</p>	<p>UCR Zoom: Between the Wars: America 1917—1941 through the Lens of Short Fiction</p> <p>This course covers legal, social and political topics of the day based on articles, studies and brief foundational lectures. Articles, on both sides of an issue, will be taken from a variety of publications such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, and more. All thoughtful views are welcomed and will be respected. This class will be given as a hybrid class</p> <p>Instructor: Robert Weibezahl </p>
<p>Thursdays September 25 -October 30 10: a.m. -Noon 6 Meetings Class Fee: \$50</p>	<p>UCR Zoom: Capabilities & Impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Life</p> <p>Discover how artificial intelligence can simplify daily tasks and enhance decision-making. Learn to organize schedules, make informed consumer choices, protect against scams, communicate more effectively, and spark creativity. This course will help you understand both the benefits and potential drawbacks of AI, empowering you to use these tools wisely and effectively in your personal and professional life.</p> <p>Instructor: Elena Romine, PhD </p>
<p>Wednesdays November 5 -December 17 No class November 26 10:15 a.m. -11:45 a.m. 6 meetings Class Fee: \$50</p>	<p>UCR Zoom: The Top 25 Film Scores of All Time</p> <p>The American Film Institute's list of the greatest film scores is filled with beloved classics—and a few unexpected surprises. Behind each score is a composer with a fascinating life and an extraordinary career. In this lively exploration, we'll journey through the creative process of crafting these unforgettable pieces, music that speaks without words and stirs emotions beyond what even the most brilliant dialogue or imagery can achieve. From timeless works like Gone With the Wind, Laura, To Kill a Mockingbird, Planet of the Apes, Jaws, Star Wars, and Psycho, to other masterpieces—and even scores that outshone the films they accompanied—this course celebrates the power of music to make movie magic.</p> <p>Instructor: Emanuel Abramovits </p>
<p>Thursdays November 6 -December 18 No class November 27 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$50</p>	<p>UCR Zoom: Iran-Contra: Whitewashing of Ronald Reagan</p> <p>Nearly 40 years ago, a covert and illegal operation to arm a Central American insurgency and supply weapons to Iran during its war with Iraq exploded into global headlines. This six-session, 12-hour course traces the scandal from its early roots and political maneuvering through the dramatic cover-up by the Reagan administration, which shielded the president from impeachment, to its controversial conclusion when another president—himself implicated—pardoned those involved. Through lectures, discussions, and curated video segments, we'll examine pivotal moments such as the "October Surprise," the workings of "The Enterprise," media and congressional responses, and the political fallout that reshaped public trust. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the political, legal, and ethical stakes of one of the most notorious chapters in modern American history.</p> <p>Instructor: John Powers, MFA </p>



Mondays

September 22 -October 27

6 Meetings

10:00 a.m. -Noon

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The Tao of Dreaming: A Holistic Approach

In this 6-week experiential course, explore dreams through the principles of Yin-Yang and the Five Elements. Learn to interpret symbolic messages, connect dream imagery to physical and emotional health, and create personal rituals that integrate insights into daily wellness. Enhance dream recall, deepen self-awareness, and promote balance in mind and body. Dream journals will be provided to all participants to record their experience.

Instructor: Sheryl Martin, PhD |

Tuesdays

September 23 -October 28

10: a.m. -Noon

6 Meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Hot Desert, Cool You: Lifelong Fascination After 50

Retirement isn't the end of the story—it's the perfect time for an encore! This lively six-week course combines improv, technology, and art to spark creativity, laughter, and unexpected discoveries. Through fun, interactive activities, you'll dive into storytelling, experiment with digital tools, and collaborate in ways that keep your mind sharp and your spirit playful. Whether you're crafting a spontaneous scene, playing with AI-generated art, or tackling real-world problem-solving with a "yes, and..." mindset, each session is designed to keep you engaged, thinking on your feet, and embracing the joy of lifelong learning. No experience necessary—just bring your curiosity and a willingness to jump in!

Instructor: Christopher Kaufman, PhD |

Tuesdays

September 23 -October 28

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

6 Meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center: Nourish to Flourish: The Healing Power of Optimal Nutrition

Chronic disease is on the rise in the U.S., but better health often starts with what's on our plate. This course explores the principles and science-backed benefits of a Whole Food, Plant-Based lifestyle for conditions such as heart disease, arthritis, certain cancers, type II diabetes, and high blood pressure. Learn how to read food labels, make smarter choices, and enjoy recipes that prove healthy eating can be both satisfying and delicious.

Instructor: Revae Reynolds, MPA |

Wednesdays

September 24 -October 29

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center: In the Footsteps of Vichy France: Lessons for Contemporary America

Inspired by historian Richard J. Golsan's question, "Is this America's Vichy Moment?" this course examines unsettling parallels between today's America and Vichy France (1940–1944). Explore how authoritarianism replaced democracy, cultural traditionalism challenged modern values, and complacency led to complicity. We'll discuss the lessons history offers—and the role of resistance.

Instructor: Stephen Harding, MPA |





<p>Wednesdays September 24 -October 29 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. 3 meetings Class Fee: \$45</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: NATO, Russia, and European Security</p> <p>What is NATO’s purpose in today’s world, and how does it operate? Does the United States still need NATO—or Europe—for its security? How real is the Russian threat, and what strategies can address it? In this timely course, a former U.S. Ambassador and NATO insider offers a behind-the-scenes look at the Alliance’s role in global security, the challenges it faces, and its evolving relationship with Russia.</p> <p>Instructor: Joseph Manso, JD </p>
<p>Thursdays September 25 -October 30 10: a.m. -Noon 6 Meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The Week’s News in Review</p> <p>An interactive discussion of events shaping the news each week. Media sources include print, TV, the internet, and social media. This course will discuss politics, the economy, sports, show business, and topics pulled from the “headlines.”</p> <p>Instructor: William Maxwell, FCMA </p>
<p>Thursdays September 25 -October 30 1:00 p.m . -4:00 p.m. 6 Meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center: Back To School in Film</p> <p>Movies about education—especially the relationships between teachers and students—form a rich and enduring film genre. This course will focus on six stand-alone films, grouped into three pairs that serve as points and counterpoints to one another. In Weeks One and Two, we’ll view <i>The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie</i> (1969) and <i>Dead Poets Society</i> (1989). Weeks Three and Four feature <i>The Great Debaters</i> (2007) and <i>Freedom Writers</i> (2007). In Weeks Five and Six, we’ll watch <i>Searching for Bobby Fischer</i> (1993) and <i>Whiplash</i> (2014). Viewed individually and in pairs, these films offer ample material for thoughtful analysis and lively discussion. Class is in session—join us.</p> <p>Instructor: Bernard “Butch” Epps, MFA </p>
<p>Fridays September 26 -October 30 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center: Current Events Discussion Group (Hybrid)</p> <p>This course covers legal, social and political topics of the day based on articles, studies and brief foundational lectures. Articles, on both sides of an issue, will be taken from a variety of publications such as <i>The New York Times</i>, <i>The Washington Post</i>, <i>The Wall Street Journal</i>, <i>The Economist</i>, and more. All thoughtful views are welcomed and will be respected.</p> <p>Instructor: Lara Bloomquist, JD </p>
<p>Fridays September 26 -October 30 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center: The “New” Drugs in Your Life</p> <p>The past ten years have brought more groundbreaking new drugs than any previous decade, introducing innovative concepts, mechanisms, and targets. Leading the way are treatments for inflammatory diseases, cancers, obesity, and Alzheimer’s, along with significant advances for migraine, psychoses, depression, metabolic disorders, HIV, hematology, infectious diseases, and more. This course explains what these drugs do and how they work, offering an up-to-date look at some of the most important medical developments of our time.</p> <p>Instructor: Fred Abramson, PhD </p>



<p>Mondays November 3 -December 15 No class November 24 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Introduction to Fine Fragrances</p> <p>Over six sessions, explore the history of fine fragrance and the process of creating it. Experience a variety of natural and synthetic raw materials while delving into themes such as rose, orange flower, and fragrance families like citrus, fougère, and chypre. Learn the mechanics of perfume creation, how to set up a home lab, and ways to craft fragrances for candles.</p> <p>Instructor: Lisa Gomez </p>
<p>Mondays November 3 -December 15 No class November 24 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: American Government: Foundations, Functions, and the Constitution in Action</p> <p>This course offers a practical, accessible look at American government—how it’s structured, how it operates, and where it falls short. We’ll break down the three branches of government, comparing the Constitution’s intentions with today’s political realities. Topics include the Constitution and its amendments, civil liberties and rights, elections, and other forces shaping American life. Using historical and current events, we’ll examine how presidential administrations have interpreted—and sometimes stretched—the Constitution, asking what works, what doesn’t, and why. Whether you’re a political enthusiast, a voter seeking clarity, or simply curious, this course connects the nation’s founding documents to today’s headlines.</p> <p>Instructor: Lara Bloomquist, JD </p>
<p>Mondays November 3 -December 15 No class November 24 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Drawing Fundamentals</p> <p>In this six-week course, beginners will build a strong foundation in the art of drawing. We’ll explore one-, two-, and three-point perspective, logarithmic patterns, light and shadow, and the structure and nature of shapes. Along the way, you’ll develop observation skills, experiment with techniques, and gain confidence in expressing your creativity on paper. All you need is a pad of paper, a #2 soft pencil, and an eraser. Whether you’ve never picked up a pencil or are returning to a long-lost hobby, this class will help you see—and draw—the world in a whole new way.</p> <p>Instructor: Jack Flanigan, MFA </p>
<p>Wednesdays November 5-December 17 No class November 26 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center: International Cinema</p> <p>Enroll and investigate cinematic storytelling as an art form. We’ll view and discuss one film per week including critically acclaimed classics, overlooked gems, and the very best of contemporary foreign language film. The films will be presented in their language of origin with English subtitles.</p> <p>Instructor: Dale Knorr, BA </p>
<p>Wednesdays November 5-December 17 No class November 26 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>UCR Palm Desert Center:The U.S. Intelligence Community: Purpose and Capabilities</p> <p>Explore the U.S. intelligence enterprise, discuss the various intelligence disciplines, and examine how it influences the shaping of U.S. foreign policy. The realities of intelligence often conflict with conventional media, social media blogs, and the entertainment-based urban legend of “spies.” Gain a better understanding of how intelligence works and relates to national affairs. Topics will include intelligence collection, policymaker use of intelligence, politicization and distortion, and intelligence failure.</p> <p>Instructor: Gary Gomez, MA </p>

In-Person Courses UCR Palm Desert Center Fall 2025



Thursdays

November 6 -December 18

No class November 27

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The Week's News in Review

An interactive discussion of events shaping the news each week. Media sources include print, TV, the internet, and social media. This course will discuss politics, the economy, sports, show business, and topics pulled from the "headlines."

Instructor: William Maxwell, FCMA |

Fridays

November 7 -December 19

No class November 28

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UUCR Palm Desert Center: Current Events Discussion Group (Hybrid)

This course covers legal, social and political topics of the day based on articles, studies and brief foundational lectures. Articles, on both sides of an issue, will be taken from a variety of publications such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, and more. All thoughtful views are welcomed and will be respected.

Instructor: Lara Bloomquist, JD |

Tuesdays

December 2 -December 16

No class November 24

1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.

3 meetings

Class Fee: \$45

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: 'Tis the Season: Inspirational Movies to End Your Year With

Escape the holiday madness with three inspiring films you may have missed, each followed by a thoughtful discussion. *The Miracle of the Bells* (1948) tells the story of a press agent (Fred MacMurray) who returns the remains of an unknown actress (Valli) to her coal-mining hometown while trying to convince a Hollywood studio head (Lee J. Cobb) to release her only film. *The Finest Hours* (2016) recounts the true story of a daring Coast Guard rescue off Cape Cod after two oil tankers are destroyed during a 1952 blizzard. *Joyeux Noel* (2005), nominated for Best Foreign Language Film, portrays the unofficial Christmas truce of December 1914, when soldiers from opposing sides of World War I briefly set aside the conflict to share in each other's humanity.

Instructor: Bernard "Butch" Epps, MFA |





<p>Mondays September 22 -October 27 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: Battles Over History: Interpreting the Civil War</p> <p>This course examines how interpretations of the Civil War’s causes have shifted over time, often reflecting the political and racial ideologies of historians as much as historical evidence. We’ll explore how the struggle of the enslaved—central to the war—has frequently been minimized or ignored, revealing the influence of structural racism in Civil War historiography to this day.</p> <p>Instructor: Michael Hayman, MA </p>
<p>Tuesdays September 23 -October 30 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: In the Footsteps of Vichy France: Lessons for Contemporary America</p> <p>Inspired by historian Richard J. Golsan’s question, “Is this America’s Vichy Moment?” this course examines unsettling parallels between today’s America and Vichy France (1940–1944). Explore how authoritarianism replaced democracy, cultural traditionalism challenged modern values, and complacency led to complicity. We’ll discuss the lessons history offers—and the role of resistance.</p> <p>Instructor: Stephen Harding, MPA </p>
<p>Wednesdays September 24 -October 8 10:00 a.m. -Noon 3 meetings Class Fee: \$45</p>	<p>EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: Neurodiversity: Understanding Cognitive and Neurological Differences</p> <p>This three-week course introduces the concept of neurodiversity and examines how varied neurological conditions enrich human diversity. Participants will define neurodiversity, explore the strengths and challenges of different neurotypes, and develop practical strategies for inclusion in everyday interactions. Each week builds on the last—beginning with an introduction to neurodiversity, moving to strengths-based perspectives, and concluding with hands-on inclusion strategies. Learning activities include guest speaker Q&A sessions, case study discussions, and practice with inclusive language. By the end of the course, participants will create a brief action plan for supporting neurodivergence in their personal or professional lives. Designed for educators, leaders, community members, and anyone committed to building a more inclusive world.</p> <p>Instructor: Susan Freeman </p>
<p>Thursdays September 25 -October 30 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: The Week’s News in Review</p> <p>An interactive discussion of events shaping the news each week. Media sources include print, TV, the internet, and social media. This course will discuss politics, the economy, sports, show business, and topics pulled from the “headlines.” Discussion based course hosted by UCR Osher volunteers.</p> <p>Instructor: Martha Miller </p>
<p>Fridays September 26 -October 31, 10:00 a.m. -Noon 6 meetings Class Fee: \$75</p>	<p>EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: You Be You: Unleashing the Power of Your Story</p> <p>Gain a deeper appreciation for the many ways brains can work—and thrive. This course offers a foundational understanding of neurodiversity, exploring conditions from a strengths-based perspective. You will examine common misconceptions, learn inclusive communication strategies, and discover how to create environments where neurodivergent individuals can excel. This is an essential course for educators, leaders, and anyone committed to fostering inclusive spaces.</p> <p>Instructor: Susan Freeman </p>



Mondays

November 3 -December 8

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: Mexico Since 1821: A Brief Introduction

Writer Carlos Fuentes once described Mexico’s history as “a chronicle of constant struggle.” In this six-week course, we’ll explore major conflicts of the 19th and 20th centuries—from grappling with the legacy of 300 years of Spanish colonialism, to battles between liberal and conservative forces, to confrontations with U.S. power. Topics include the U.S.-Mexican War (1846–48), the French occupation of the 1860s, the impact of foreign investment in the late 19th century, the Mexican Revolution (1911), the 1938 nationalization of the oil industry, and the 1968 student protests in Mexico City. While not a full history, this course offers a vivid introduction to the pivotal events that have shaped modern Mexico.

Instructor: Robert Ellingsen, MA |

Wednesdays

November 5 -December 17

No class November 26

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: Standpoint Theory: What Does the World Look Like from Your Lens?

Discover how your personal identity, lived experiences, and social position shape the way you see—and are seen by—the world. This course unpacks the principles of Standpoint Theory, helping you understand how perspective influences knowledge, communication, and power. Through guided discussions, reflection exercises, and case studies, you’ll learn to recognize the value of diverse standpoints and apply these insights to create inclusion and empathy in your personal and professional life.

Instructor: Susan Freeman |

Thursdays

November 6 -December 11

No class November 27

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: The Week’s News in Review

An interactive discussion of events shaping the news each week. Media sources include print, TV, the internet, and social media. This course will discuss politics, the economy, sports, show business, and topics pulled from the “headlines.” Discussion based course hosted by UCR Osher volunteers.

Instructor: Martha Miller |



Paying it Forward Become a Friend of OLLI@UCR

Did you know that the Osher program is partially underwritten by the interest earnings of the 2007 endowment by the Bernard Osher Foundation, and the annual membership and quarterly class registration fees? Combined they are not enough to continue to grow our membership and expand the quality and quantity of learning experiences.

If you appreciate how the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute enriches your life, please consider giving to Osher. Your gift is an investment in our commitment to growing a community of lifelong learners and ensuring the long-term viability of the program. Your donations will go to underwriting the following activities:

- A 6-week course (includes facility fees, and presenter stipend)
- Special events and field trips
- Honorarium for your favorite Osher instructor
- Upgrades to technology

Below are levels of support for you to choose.

(Your gift may be 100% tax deductible. Federal Tax ID #23- 7433570. Check with your tax consultant to confirm.)

☐ \$2,000 – (Membership in UCR Chancellor's Associates) ☐ \$1,500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other

Please indicate the fund to gift: ☐ Osher Lifelong Institute Fund

My gift is in honor/ memory of: _____ List my name as follows: _____

Donate online at <https://myadv.ucr.edu/OLLI/osher>

Questions? Contact:

Johnna D. Norris, Director | UCR Osher Lifelong Learning Institute | UCR Palm Desert | Johnna.Norris@ucr.edu
75080 Frank Sinatra Drive | Palm Desert, CA 92211 | (760) 834.0800 | olli@ucr.edu

☐ Cash ☐ Personal Check

Mail this form with donation to:

UCR Foundation | 1136 Hinderaker Hall | Riverside, CA 92521

Make payment to: UCR Foundation



Instructor Lara Bloomquist leads UCR Osher's dynamic current events discussion group, where participants dive into today's big topics.

"UCR Osher is a fantastic program," Lara shared. "You meet people your age with shared interests, and it's intellectually stimulating. There's a whole range of classes to choose from—some deeply academic, but others just pure fun!"

Why Teach an Osher Course?

Share Your Expertise

The Osher program attracts current and retired faculty from University of California, Riverside, retired faculty from local and national colleges, and distinguished community leaders and other experts who enjoy sharing their knowledge and joy of teaching with our members. Classes are offered in Riverside at the UCR Extension University Village (EUV) and in the Coachella Valley at UCR Palm Desert Center.

WANTED: mind-expanding ideas and discussions on a variety of topics.

If you enjoy teaching and sharing your knowledge, email OLLI@UCR.edu to submit a proposal. Proposals are accepted for the Summer, Fall, Winter & Spring Quarters each year.

Questions? Email Osher Director Johnna Norris at Johnna.Norris@ucr.edu



Signature Rocks: Emigration and the Signed Landscape in Indian Country 1830-1869

Tuesday, October 21

3 – 5 pm | EUV Riverside

Signature Rocks is the first systematic study of the surviving “signatures” inscribed by the emigrants, as they called themselves, on both the famous and not so famous rock formations that line the overland trails through Indian Country from the Missouri River to the Pacific from the 1830s to 1869. Once numbering in the hundreds of thousands, only several thousand have survived. Following the overland crossing, we read these inscriptions--an unrecognized and vanishing American archive--in light of a number of motivations to signing culled from the over two thousand emigrant journals and other accounts that have come down to us.

Interactive Legacy Storytelling Workshop

Tuesday, November 18

1 – 3 pm | UCR Palm Desert Center

In this interactive workshop, you’ll learn how to uncover and preserve the stories that shape your family’s history—while also beginning to craft your own legacy. Discover techniques for interviewing loved ones to draw out meaningful memories, life lessons, and untold experiences, and gain tools for writing personal narratives that reflect your own journey. Through guided exercises, you’ll practice asking thoughtful questions, capturing vivid details, and transforming conversations into written keepsakes. You’ll leave with a clear plan and fresh ideas to begin writing your legacy stories, ready to capture them fully on your own after the workshop.

Jeffrey OConnor is the founder and Principal of Convitality, LLC. He attained an MBA from the University of Southern California, and BA degrees in History and French. A retired officer of the Federal Reserve System and former Wall Street securities trader and compliance officer, he is now semi retired resident of Palm Springs. An avid pickleball player, he also enjoys horticulture, film, comedic talent, and cooking healthy, mostly plant based food.

Select Your Osher Courses

Early registration is strongly advised.

Course Title	Start Date / Time	Fee	Delivery Mode / Location	Subtotal
Cinematic Exploration: Murder Mystery Films from Different Cultures	Mondays, September 22-October 27, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$50	UCR Remote	
Women Who Have Made a Difference	Tuesdays, September 23-October 28, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$50	UCR Remote	
Between the Wars: America 1917—1941 through the Lens of Short Fiction	Wednesdays, September 24-October 29, 1-3:00 p.m.	\$50	UCR Remote	
Capabilities & Impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Life	Thursdays, September 25-October 30, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$50	UCR Remote	
The Top 25 Film Scores of All Time	Thursdays, November 6-December 18 (No class 11/27) 10:00-11:30 a.m.	\$50	UCR Remote	
Iran Contra: Whitewashing of Ronald Reagan	Wednesdays, November 5-December 17 (no class 11/26), 10 a.m.-Noon	\$50	UCR Remote	
The Life and Times of Nikola Tesla	Mondays, October 6-November 10, 12-1:30 p.m.	\$75	Osher Online	
Creative Conservation	Wednesdays, October 8-November 12, 2-3:30 p.m.	\$75	Osher Online	
In Darwin's Footsteps: A Journey to the Galapagos	Thursdays, October 16-November 20, 8-9:30 a.m.	\$75	Osher Online	
The Tao of Dreaming	Mondays, September 22-October 27, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Hot Desert, Cool You: Lifelong Fascination After 50	Tuesdays, September 23-October 28, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Nourish to Flourish: The Healing Power of Optimal Nutrition	Tuesdays, September 23-October 28, 1:00-3:00 p.m.	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
In the Footsteps of Vichy France: Lessons for Contemporary America	Wednesdays, September 24-October 29, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	Palm Desert Center	

Complimentary Parking Permits will be distributed on the first day of your in-person classes.

* FREE with Osher Membership.

Select Your Osher Courses

Early registration is strongly advised.

Course Title	Start Date / Time	Fee	Delivery Mode / Location	Subtotal
NATO, Russia, and European Security	Wednesdays, September 24-October 8, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. (3 weeks)	\$45	Palm Desert Center	
The Week's News in Review	Thursdays, September 25-October 30, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Back To School in Film	Thursdays, September 25-October 30, 1-4:00 p.m.	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Current Events Discussion Group	Fridays, September 26-October 31, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	Palm Desert Center (Hybrid)	
The "New" Drugs in Your Life	Fridays, September 26-October 31, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Drawing Fundamentals	Mondays, November 3-December 15, 1-3:00 p.m. (No class Nov. 24)	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Introduction to Fine Fragrances	Mondays, November 3-December 15, 10 a.m.-Noon (No class Nov. 24)	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Back To School in Film American Government: Foundations, Functions, and the Constitution in Action	Mondays, November 3-December 15, 1-3:00 p.m. (No class Nov. 24)	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
International Cinema	Wednesdays, November 5-December 17, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (No class Nov.26)	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
The U.S. Intelligence Community: Purpose and Capabilities	Wednesdays, November 5-December 17, 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (No class Nov.26)	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
The Week's News in Review	Thursdays, November 6-December 18, 10 a.m.-Noon (No class Nov. 27)	\$75	Palm Desert Center	
Current Events Discussion Group	Fridays, November 7-December 19, 10 a.m.-Noon (No class Nov. 28)	\$75	Palm Desert Center (Hybrid)	
Back To School in Film Tis The Season: Inspirational Movies To End Your Year With	Tuesdays, December 2-December 16, 1-4:00 p.m. (3 weeks)	\$45	Palm Desert Center	

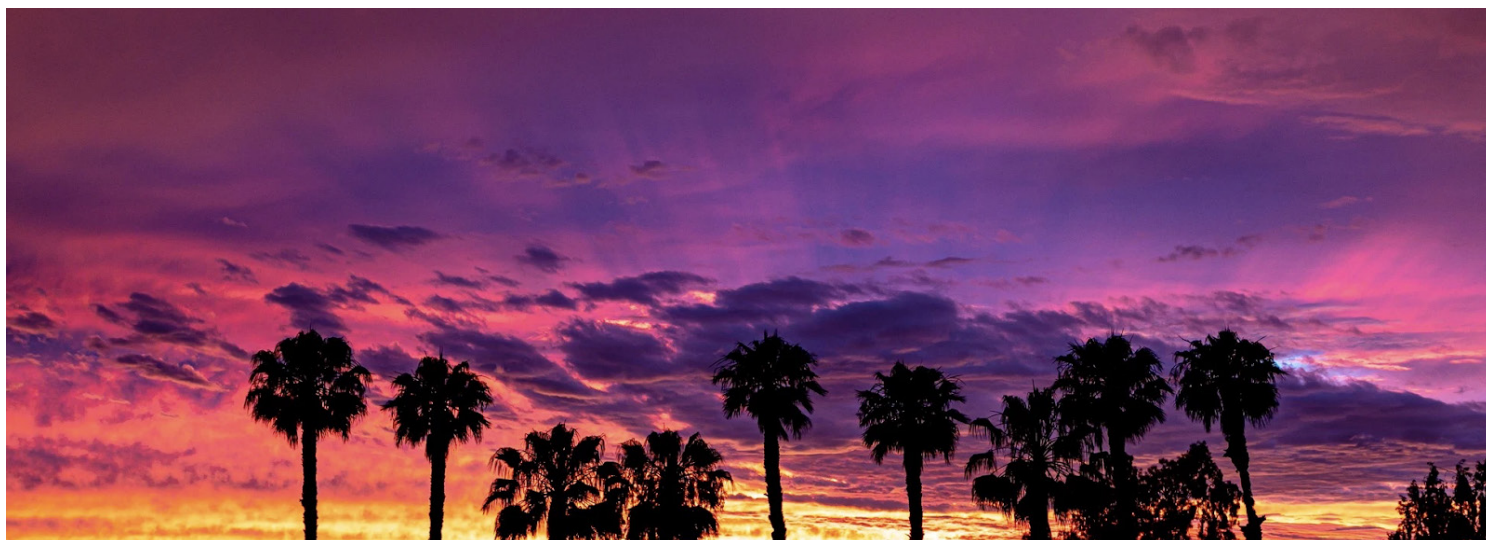
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Select Your Osher Courses

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Course Title	Start Date / Time	Fee	Delivery Mode / Location	Subtotal
Battles Over History: Interpreting the Civil War	Mondays, September 22-October 27, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	EUV-Riverside	
In the Footsteps of Vichy France: Lessons for Contemporary America	Tuesdays, September 23-October 30, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	EUV-Riverside	
Neurodiversity: Understanding Cognitive and Neurological Differences	Wednesdays, September 24-October 8, 10 a.m.-Noon (3 weeks)	\$45	EUV-Riverside	
The Week's News in Review	Thursdays, September 25-October 30, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	EUV-Riverside	
You Be You: Unleashing the Power of Your Story	Fridays September 26-October 31, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	EUV-Riverside	
Mexico Since 1821: A Brief Introduction	Mondays, November 3-December 8, 10 a.m.-Noon	\$75	EUV-Riverside	
Standpoint Theory: What Does the World Look Like from Your Lens?	Wednesdays, November 5-December 17, 10 a.m.-Noon (No class Nov. 26)	\$75	EUV-Riverside	
The Week's News in Review	MThursdays, November 6-December 11, 10 a.m.-Noon (No class Nov. 27)	\$75	EUV-Riverside	



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AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR MATURE LEARNERS

<https://olli.ucr.edu>

Academic Calendar Spring 2025

SUMMER QUARTER

July 7 – September 1, 2025

FALL QUARTER

September 22 - December 19, 2025

WINTER QUARTER

January 12- March 30, 2026

SPRING QUARTER

April 6– June 30, 2026

Locations

RIVERSIDE

UCR Extension, University Village
1299 University Drive
University Village Suite 101
Conference Room 1103 (across from Chase Bank)
Riverside, CA 92507

PALM DESERT

UCR Palm Desert Center
75-080 Frank Sinatra Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92211

REMOTE VIA ZOOM

strada

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Thank You to the Strada Education Foundation

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Strada Education Foundation for their generous grant of \$25,000 to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UC Riverside. Your support strengthens our mission to provide enriching, university-level courses for older adults in our community. Together, we are expanding access to lifelong learning and fostering intellectual engagement at every stage of life.



FEATURED COURSE

INTRODUCTION TO FINE FRAGRANCES

MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 3-DECEMBER 15, 10 A.M.-NOON
(NO CLASS NOV. 24)

Explore the history of fine fragrance and the process of creating it. Experience a variety of natural and synthetic raw materials while delving into themes such as rose, orange flower, and fragrance families like citrus, fougère, and chypre. Learn the mechanics of perfume creation, how to set up a home lab, and ways to craft fragrances for candles.

A photograph of a desert landscape at sunset. The foreground is filled with a dense field of yellow and purple wildflowers. Several tall palm trees are scattered throughout the middle ground. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a sky with soft orange and pink hues. A white circular logo is in the top left corner.

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