

OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

An Educational Program for Mature Learners

Winter
2026



UCR PALM DESERT

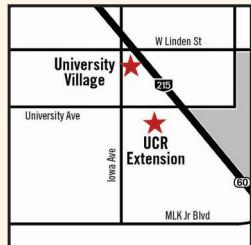
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UCR University Extension
Professional Studies

Winter 2026 Schedule

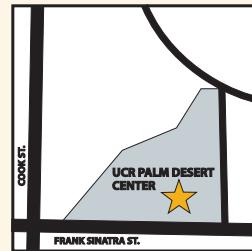
January 12-April 3, 2026

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

Winter 2026



Wednesdays

January 14-February 18

Noon-1:30 p.m.

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

Osher Online Premium: Heroes of the Holocaust: Lights in the Darkness

When we think of the Holocaust, we recall the horrors perpetrated by evildoers. Even in humanity's darkest hours, courageous individuals risked everything to save lives. This course sheds light on these little-known rescuers—ordinary people who defied laws, resisted hate, and acted with moral clarity and compassion. Their uplifting stories are powerful reminders of resilience, morality, and hope.

Instructor: Howard Kerner, BA, MA |

Tuesdays

January 20-February 24

10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

Osher Online Premium: More than Parks: A History of American Conservation

Explore the evolution of American conservation from the 19th century to today. This course goes beyond national parks to examine how urban reformers, scientists, women activists, and Native communities shaped the movement. Through diverse stories and landscapes, we will gain a deeper understanding of how Americans have fought to preserve—and define—the natural world.

Instructor: Fraser Livingston, PhD |

Thursdays

January 22-February 26

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

Osher Online Premium: In Darwin's Footsteps: John James Audubon and the Birds of America

In the 1820s, John James Audubon set out to document every bird species in the US, resulting in The Birds of America, a landmark collection of 435 hand-painted prints. This course explores Audubon's life, artistic methods, and legacy, highlighting how his work bridges art and science. We will examine selected prints and consider his lasting impact on American natural history. John James Audubon and the Birds of America

Instructor: Eric Simon, PhD |

Mondays

January 26-March 2

Noon-1:30 p.m.

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

Osher Online Premium: Landscape & Adventure Photography: An Introduction

This workshop will introduce participants to the skills and techniques used to create professional quality images of their adventures in the natural world. Topics will include controlling exposure, using depth of field, motion effects, the principles of visual communication, and the qualities of natural light. The course will incorporate slide- illustrated lectures, group discussions, and ample time for student feedback.

Instructor: Jonathan Duncan |

Tuesdays

January 27-March 3

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom: The Evolution of Women's Consciousness in Contemporary Literature

Women's consciousness has evolved through key movements—from the Suffragettes to the 1960s consciousness-raising era—reshaping family life, work, and public leadership. Today, women's influence is evident across society. This course examines how women's roles and identities have developed through personal, professional, and family challenges. Readings include Isabel Allende's The Soul of a Woman, reflecting on exile, creativity, and future progress; Elizabeth Strout's Lucy Barton, exploring marriage, family, and the impact of the COVID-19 era; and Gloria Steinem's My Life on the Road, a portrait of lifelong activism and social change. Each book will be discussed for two weeks in this six-week course. All readings are easily accessible.

Instructor: Katya Williamson, MFA |



Wednesdays
January 14-28
3 Meetings
1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.
Class Fee: \$45

UCR Zoom:William Inge: Mid-Century Playwright

William Inge was one of the most acclaimed playwrights of 1950s America. His unvarnished portraits of small-town and rural America, including "Come Back, Little Sheba," the Pulitzer Prize-winner "Picnic," and "Bus Stop," took the country by storm, winning Tony Awards and becoming Oscar-winning (or nominated) films. In each session of this exploratory seminar we will watch one of Inge's plays via YouTube recordings, then discuss the work: its origins, themes, and the ways he portrayed Midwestern life and American morality. Along the way you will learn about Inge's at-times troubled, at-times triumphant, but ultimately tragic life—from small town Kansas to Broadway to Los Angeles. Those with the time, interest, and inclination are also invited to read that week's play in advance of our meetings, although this is not required.

Instructor: Robert Weibezahl |

Mondays
January 12-March 2
(no class 1/19 and 2/16)
11: 30: a.m. -1:00 p.m.
6 Meetings
Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom: New York 1958 to 1966 - The Amazing Sound & Legacy of the Brill Building

The Brill Building era is that fantastic period in the 50s and 60s when the best popular music was mass-produced by a young generation of great talents, like Phil Spector, Carole King, Neil Diamond, Don Kirshner, Neil Sedaka, Burt Bacharach, Leiber & Stoller and more. Songs like Be My Baby, You've Lost that Lovin' Feelin', Save the Last Dance for Me, Hound Dog, The Locomotion, Do Wah Diddy Diddy and more. We all grew up with this music and there are many great stories behind these songs. Our virtual journey will be full of anecdotes and audiovisuals about this unique moment of the music industry.

Instructor:Emanuel Abramovits |

Thursdays
February 5-March 12
10:00 a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom: Jeffrey Epstein: Naked Truth

Despite the efforts by Republican and Democratic administrations to hide the truth of Jeffrey Epstein's life, much is known about his endeavors. In this journey, we will separate the fact from fiction, the signal from noise. We will see that Epstein was more than a child sexual predator. We will discover how he provided a variety of services to many of the most powerful men on the planet during 40 years of deceit. We will realize, much to our chagrin, that Epstein, far from being an exception, is the "way of the world."

Instructor: John Powers, MFA |

Mondays
February 23-March 30
10:00 a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom:Cinematic Exploration: "Biopic Films" Featuring World-Famous Personalities

Embark on a captivating journey into the realm of critically acclaimed biographical pictures. From the comfort of your home, dive into the lives of renowned individuals through the lens of cinematic storytelling. After watching these compelling movies on your own, engage in a lively two-hour online discussion to unravel the stories of real-life icons. Explore the art of portraying historical figures on screen and delve deep into the profound impact that biopic films have on shaping culture and history.

Instructor: Elena Romine, PhD |

Remote Delivered Courses

Winter 2026



Mondays

February 23-March 30

6 Meetings

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

Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom: Short Stories from England

Revered as novelists, great English writers often have given less attention to the short story than their counterparts in America, Ireland or Russia. As we move “across the pond” in our ongoing exploration of the art of the story, we will delve into The Oxford Book of English Short Stories, discussing some of the finest examples of essential and lesser-known England-grown storytellers of the last 150 years: Dickens, Kipling, Hardy, Woolf, Waugh, Huxley, and many more. Participants read the stories in advance, then we discuss them within the context of their time, investigating both their “Englishness” and their universal themes. There is no prerequisite.

Instructor: Robert Weibezahl |

Tuesdays

February 24-March 31

2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

6 Meetings

Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom: The Stories Behind Great Songs

Join us for a captivating online course where we'll explore the fascinating stories behind popular songs that hold a special place in the hearts of the artists who created them but did not necessarily become their most well-known hits. We'll also unveil how some songs took on new meanings and styles when covered by other artists, who made those songs their own. Through a combination of anecdotes, rare archival contents, and audiovisuals, we'll uncover the secrets behind the creation, performance and impact of beloved songs and lesser-known gems from Tin Pan Alley, Classic Movies and the Rock era.

Instructor: Emanuel Abravomits |

Wednesdays

February 25-April 1

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

6 Meetings

Class Fee: \$50

UCR Zoom: Capabilities and Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Students in this course will explore the practical applications of AI in everyday life. Participants will gain skills to better organize schedules, make informed consumer decisions, protect themselves from scams, enhance communication, and foster creativity. The course aims to empower learners to become confident and discerning users of AI by understanding both its benefits and limitations, enabling them to use AI tools thoughtfully and effectively in their personal and professional lives.

Instructor: Elena Romine, PhD |





Mondays

January 12-February 23
(no class 1/19 and 2/16)

10:00 a.m.-Noon

5 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Interior Design

This course will cover all elements and principals that go into creating a wonderful space. The class will consist of presentations by local experts and new trends in Interior Design will be presented along with the current new subject matter of aging in place, making our homes more efficient.

Instructor: Angela Morris |

Mondays

January 12-February 23
(no class 1/19 and 2/16)

10:00 a.m.-Noon

6 Meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Reshaping Higher Education: Turbulence in the Academy

Governments, both State and Federal, are making an effort to challenge science, reinterpret academic freedom, control curriculum, reduce research funding, monitor admissions, limit student financial aid and define student misconduct. In addition many within the academy are calling for significant overhauls of the modern university. We will talk about the impact of these efforts on the future of higher education.

Instructor: Lewis Collins |

Mondays

January 12-February 23
(no class 1/19 and 2/16)

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

5 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center: Beneath the Robes: Current Developments at the US Supreme Court

The course will begin with a brief overview of Supreme Court practice and the judicial philosophies of the current Justices. We will then examine recent and pending Supreme Court cases, with particular attention to those that challenge established constitutional precedents or commonly held interpretations, as well as issues involving the separation of powers among the three branches of the federal government. Topics will include the 2024 decision addressing broad presidential immunity with limited qualifications; birthright citizenship and the Fourteenth Amendment; the Impoundment Control Act; expedited deportation of immigrants; removal of commissioners from independent federal agencies; and the use of nationwide injunctions. Active class discussion will be encouraged throughout.

Instructor: Paul Faxon, JD |

Tuesdays

January 20-February 24
10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center: International Cinema

Experience the creativity and cinematic artistry of filmmakers from around the world. International cinema allows us to discover and appreciate the cultures, languages, landscapes, and lifestyles of people from all walks of life globally. We'll view and discuss one feature film per week including critically acclaimed classics, overlooked gems, and the very best of contemporary world cinema. The films will be presented in their language of origin with English subtitles.

Instructor: Dale Knorr, BA |

Tuesdays

January 20-February 24
10:00 a.m. -12:0 p.m.

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center: Painting and Collage: To Bring Out the Artist in Everyone

Aside from being a lot of fun; this class takes the pressure away from painting a specific object. Collages are constructed from swatches hand painted in class. Paint with acrylics, experimenting with different papers, using untraditional materials such as squeegees, scrapers, straws to blow paint around; gravity to drip paint; and we shake our paint brushes to splatter the paint. Once the painting phase is completed and all the works have been dried, we cut apart our works, creating swatches of different sizes to assemble into collages. Time is spent placing the swatches in place much like designing a patchwork quilt. When we are happy with our placements, the swatches are glued in place and we have our finished collages.

Instructor: Susan Stevens |



Tuesdays
 January 13-February 17
 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
 6 meetings
 Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses:Write Your Memoir

Many people have a story to tell but don't know how to write about it. In a non-threatening workshop environment, participants will focus on an experience or a person from their past which established significant meaning in their life and contributed to the person they are today. Instruction will include structure and prompts for writing a memoir as well as details needed for a strong lead, the use of figurative language, dialogue and the development of a solid conclusion. By the final session of the workshop, participants will have written a memoir that validates choices, decisions and events in their lives for themselves and for those who may choose to read their memoir.

Instructor:Nancy Sinelar, PhD |

Tuesdays
 January 13-February 17
 1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.
 3 meetings
 Class Fee: \$45`

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses:Drawn to Life: Animating Memory, Art, and Human Experience in Film

Animation is often seen as children's entertainment, but it can also serve as a powerful artistic medium to explore memory, history, and the human spirit with a depth that live action sometimes cannot match. Its stylized visuals invite audiences to engage with difficult subjects in approachable and deeply moving ways. In this three-week series, we begin with (1) Persepolis (2007), Marjane Satrapi's sharp, funny, and poignant memoir of growing up during the Iranian Revolution; then (2) Tower (2016), which uses rotoscoping—a technique blending animation with live-action footage—to revisit the 1966 UT Austin Tower shooting, capturing fear and heroism; concluding with (3) Loving Vincent (2017), the world's first fully painted feature film, a visual feast reflecting on art, loss, and the enduring mystery of Van Gogh. Join us for an insightful exploration of animation's unique power to illuminate human experience.

Instructor:Bernard "Butch" Epps, MFA |

Wednesdays
 January 14-February 25
 No class February 18
 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
 6 meetings
 Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The 100 Greatest Artworks of the 20th Century

Some are beautiful, others are challenging. Some are dramatic, others are soothing. The 100 greatest artworks of the twentieth century show us how art history changed more in the past century than all other centuries combined. Picasso, Matisse, Wyeth, Chagall, Brancusi, Klimt, Ansel Adams—their work is on the list. But so, too, are the great artworks of artists you may not know: Chicago, Holzer, Picabia, Beckman, Boccioni, de Chirico and dozens of others. In this course, you'll learn why and how the art came about, the artists' fascinating back stories, and even how to look at art more enjoyably. We'll also discuss the art together, and you don't need to know a thing about art to participate. Just listen or share your thoughts knowing that there are no correct ideas, just your ideas.

Instructor:Steven Kendall |

Wednesdays
 January 14-28
 No class November 26
 10:00 a.m. -Noon
 3 meetings
 Class Fee: \$45

UCR Palm Desert Center: "The Larry Hour" - Musings on Three Unrelated Subjects

This three-week course examines key forces shaping modern life. Week one explores population demographics and how changing age, work, and family patterns affect society. Week two, Where Does the Dough Go?, focuses on government finance and how public funds are raised and spent. The final session, Not Another Self-Help Book, asks why so many working-class people struggle to find happiness, looking beyond individual solutions to broader social and economic factors.

Instructor:Larry Fox, MBA |



Wednesdays
January 14-February 18
1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Fred in Conversation at OLLI

Each session in this six-week course presents a timely topic in health, science, or the environment, delivered in the style of engaging, accessible “TED Talks.” The first three sessions explore a shared theme—food and appetite—including The Calorie Is Dead: Long Live the Calorie, The Physiology of Hunger, Appetite, and Taste, and Your Microbiome. Subsequent sessions examine The Future of Food, Nutritional Supplements: Why?, and Environmental Modeling to Predict Climate Change. Participants are invited to explore new ideas, current research, and emerging questions in an informative and lively format.

Instructor: Fred Abramson, PhD |

Wednesdays
January 14-February 18
6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The Wines of Italy: Part One

This, first of two classes, will be an in-depth study of six of the great wine regions of Italy. Each class will include a discussion of the history, culture, and viticulture of each region, along with representative wine tastings of the best Italian varietals. The classes are interactive, and participation is encouraged. We will discuss the aromas and flavor profiles of many great Italian wines.

Instructor: Robert Kretzmer |

Thursdays
January 15-February 19
10:0a 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: Neal Dinoff |





Thursdays
 January 15-February 19
 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
 6 meetings
 Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses:How Diplomacy Delivers for the US: From the Revolutionary War to the Security Council

How diplomats have promoted and protected the United States, by ending wars, avoiding wars, and forging alliances and new institutions. Big issues and big personalities throughout our history. Taught by a retired US Ambassador with 38 years service as a US diplomat.

Instructor:Joe Manso |

Thursdays
 January 15-February 19
 1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.
 6 meetings
 Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Between Heroism and Treachery: Betrayal in Film

In Dante's Inferno, betrayers occupy the lowest circle of Hell, where treachery erodes the soul. This six-week series explores the human cost of betrayal—whether driven by gain, conviction, nefariousness, or some higher truth in the following films: (1) John Ford's The Informer (1935), a tale of guilt and redemption in revolutionary Ireland; (2) The Insider (1999), a tense whistleblower drama; (3) Donnie Brasco (1997), where undercover duty blurs into deceit; (4) Judas and the Black Messiah (2021), chronicling the infiltration of the Black Panther Party; (5) Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (2011), a chilling study of espionage and moral compromise; and (6) the Oscar-winning documentary Citizenfour (2014), capturing Edward Snowden's revelations about NSA surveillance. These films will challenge us to ask: to whom do we owe our loyalty, and when betrayal serves a greater purpose, is the betrayer a hero, a traitor, or something in between? — Et tu, Brute?

Instructor:Bernard "Butch" Epps, MFA |

Fridays
 January 16-February 20
 February 27-April 3
 10:00 a.m. -Noon
 6 meetings
 Class Fee: \$75 for each session

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: '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. This course will be a hybrid course.

Instructor:Lara Bloomquist |

Wednesdays
 January 14-28
 No class November 26
 10:00 a.m. -Noon
 3 meetings
 Class Fee: \$45

UCR Palm Desert Center: "The Larry Hour" - Musings on Three Unrelated Subjects

This three-week course examines key forces shaping modern life. Week one explores population demographics and how changing age, work, and family patterns affect society. Week two, Where Does the Dough Go?, focuses on government finance and how public funds are raised and spent. The final session, Not Another Self-Help Book, asks why so many working-class people struggle to find happiness, looking beyond individual solutions to broader social and economic factors.

Instructor:Larry Fox, MBA |

Wednesdays
 November 5-December 17
 No class November 26
 10:00 a.m. -Noon
 6 meetings
 Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center:The U.S. Intelligence Community: Purpose and Capabilities

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.

Instructor: Gary Gomez, MA |



Mondays
March 9-April 6
10:00 a.m.-Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Interior Design

This course will cover all elements and principals that go into creating a wonderful space. The class will consist of presentations by local experts and new trends in Interior Design will be presented along with the current new subject matter of aging in place, making our homes more efficient.

Instructor: Angela Morris |

Mondays
March 2-March 23
10:00 a.m.-Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The Science of "Cool" in the Hot Desert: Be Fascinating for Life

What makes someone "cool" after 50—and how do you keep that intrigue-spark alive? Dr. Kaufman delivers a lively, interactive course that blends improv games, neuroscience, and embodied cognition to uncover the science of magnetism and presence. Drawing on research into "Cool People" and Gravitas theory (Self-Clarity, Vision, Mission, and Communicative Power), you'll explore how to project confidence, relevance, and authenticity in any setting. Each week, we'll practice at local events—playing, reflecting, and experimenting with real-world charisma. No theater experience required—just curiosity, humor, and a willingness to move, connect, and rediscover your cool. All abilities and personalities welcome.

Instructor: Christopher Kaufman, MBA |

Mondays
March 2-April 6
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

This course will guide you through the foundational principles of civil liberties and civil rights, exploring both the rights protected by the Constitution and those established through federal and state legislation. We will discuss topics such as freedom of speech and religion, equal protection, due process, when is probable cause required, and your right to privacy, among others. A central feature of the course will be the examination of ongoing news stories, current events and real-world legal cases that are impacting individual rights. Whether it be from presidential actions, legislation or landmark court decisions, you will see how these events are actively shaping, expanding, or challenging our civil liberties and civil rights.

Instructor: Lara Bloomquist, JD |

Tuesdays
March 3-March 17
10:30 a.m. -Noon.
3 meetings
Class Fee: \$45

UCR Palm Desert Center: Power, Politics, Principle, and the Gavel: Where is the Supreme Court?

In this course, there will be a presentation, followed by group discussion, of leading cases of the United States Supreme Court, past and present. The question to be debated is: Has the Supreme Court over the years endorsed the position taken by government officials, Presidents and Congresses alike, namely the rejection of the idea that the Constitution possesses a fixed meaning limiting the power of the US government?

Instructor: Michael Worsoff, |



Tuesdays
March 3-March 31
10:30 a.m. -Noon.
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Painting with Acrylics, Watercolors & Crana d'ache

This course will function as a lab for independent work using dry and wet water soluble mediums. Watercolors, acrylic paints, crana d'ashe, colored pencils, pastels, among other mediums can be used. Where you are in terms of conceptual thinking or technical ability and execution, come join us for some fun!

Instructor: Jack Flanigan, MFA |

Tuesdays
March 3-April 7
1:00 p.m-3:00 p.m..
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Our Changing Future: Forces Driving Change. Are We Ready?

Since the planet's formation, powerful forces—both natural and human-driven—have shaped Earth's environment and human society. Today, we are experiencing an unprecedented period of transformation, as multiple forces simultaneously reshape nearly every aspect of our lives. Increasingly, these forces are driven by human activity, while even those rooted in nature now have profound and lasting impacts on our present and future. This six-week, two-part series will explore six major forces of change, excluding technology. In the first part, we will examine each force in depth and assess its influence on individuals, communities, and global systems. In the second part, we will focus on strategies for responding to these challenges, including ways to mitigate their effects and adapt to ongoing change, while also considering the evolving role of technological innovation in addressing them.

Instructor:Jag Dalal |

Wednesdays
February 25-April 1
10:0a a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Introduction to Fine Fragrances

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.

Instructor:Lisa Gomez |





Wednesdays
February 25-April 1
10:0a a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Espionage and Counterintelligence

The course will explore the activities and goals of espionage, what constitutes espionage, tradecraft, contemporary and past espionage cases, laws about espionage, and espionage as a tool of intelligence and statecraft. We will also discuss the meaning of counterintelligence (CI), the different types of CI, foreign counterintelligence activities, the roles and missions of government CI organizations, and how CI functions as an input and tool for national security policymaking and execution.

Instructor: Gary Gomez |

Wednesdays
February 25-April 1
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: Wines of Italy: Part Two

In Dante's Inferno, betrayers occupy the lowest circle of Hell, where treachery erodes the soul. This six-week series explores the human cost of betrayal—whether driven by gain, conviction, nefariousness, or some higher truth in the following films: (1) John Ford's The Informer (1935), a tale of guilt and redemption in revolutionary Ireland; (2) The Insider (1999), a tense whistleblower drama; (3) Donnie Brasco (1997), where undercover duty blurs into deceit; (4) Judas and the Black Messiah (2021), chronicling the infiltration of the Black Panther Party; (5) Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (2011), a chilling study of espionage and moral compromise; and (6) the Oscar-winning documentary Citizenfour (2014), capturing Edward Snowden's revelations about NSA surveillance. These films will challenge us to ask: to whom do we owe our loyalty, and when betrayal serves a greater purpose, is the betrayer a hero, a traitor, or something in between? — Et tu, Brute?

Instructor: Robert Kretzmer |

Thursdays
February 26-April 2
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: Neal Dinoff |

Thursdays
February 26-April 2
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: To Bear The Burden: Hemingway's Code of Masculinity in John Huston Films

This course explores Huston's landmark films—The Maltese Falcon (1941), The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948), The African Queen (1951), Moby Dick (1956), Fat City (1972), and The Man Who Would Be King (1975)—each portraying men tested by fate, nature, and moral choice, illuminating how they measure against Hemingway's complex ideal of manhood: grounded in strength, resilience, dignity, and grace under pressure. We will also consider the role of women, ranging from forceful presence to conspicuous absence, in challenging or affirming this "man's man" ideal. Together, these films offer a profound study of an enduring archetype in American cinema.

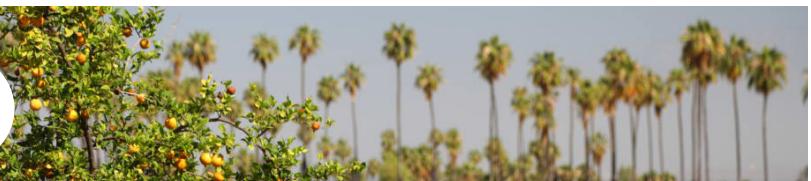
Instructor: Bernard "Butch" Epps MFA |

Fridays
February 13-April 3
No class March 27
10:00 a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

UCR Palm Desert Center In-Person Courses: The Escalation of Antisemitism. Ethics, Events and the Law

The course will focus on the modern history of antisemitism, the ethics of responses to antisemitism and the laws that can deal with antisemitism in the United States and Canada.

Instructor: Naomi Levine |



Mondays

January 12-February 23
(no class 1/19 and 2/16)

10:00 a.m.-Noon

6 Meetings

Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: What the History of Progressivism Can Tell Us About the Future

At the same time the United States was traumatized by civil war and Reconstruction, violent class struggles take place pitting the rising industrial working class against large corporations determined to maintain complete control. In that environment between 1900 and 1928, Progressive politics was born as a desire to steer a course between socialism and an authoritarian capitalism. We will consider the ideas and fears that created Progressivism as a force in American politics and society.

Instructor: Michael Hayman, MA |

Tuesdays

January 13-February 17

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: Riverside Then & Now: From Citrus Groves to City of Arts & Innovation

In this six-week course, we'll explore how a small settlement along the Santa Ana River gradually grew into the "citrus capital of the world" and, over time, into the diverse, university-centered city we know today. Together, we'll trace Riverside's journey from early ranchos and irrigation ditches to the Washington navel orange boom, the Gage Canal and early hydroelectric power, the rise of March Air Force Base, and today's arts- and innovation-minded community. Using historic photos, maps, news clippings, and personal stories, we'll look at how transportation, agriculture (including citrus groves and potato fields), neighborhoods, and local institutions shaped everyday life. We hope participants will feel comfortable sharing their own Riverside memories and noticing how their experiences fit into the larger story. No prior knowledge of local history is required—just curiosity and an interest in Riverside's past and present.

Instructor: Susan Freeman |

Thursdays

January 15-February 19

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 |

Fridays

January 16-February 20

10:00 a.m. -Noon

6 meetings

Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: Huey Long: Populism, Power, and the Politics of Inequality

Huey P. Long remains one of the most captivating and divisive figures in American politics. His bold attacks on entrenched elites, sweeping economic proposals, and mastery of political theater helped him build a movement that challenged the political and economic order of the Great Depression. This course draws heavily from T. Harry Williams' landmark biography Huey Long to explore how Long rose from a struggling rural upbringing to become Louisiana's dominant political force and a national populist contender. We'll use Williams' narrative, archival stories, and character studies to understand not only the man, but the populist instincts, democratic tensions, and communication strategies that still echo today.

Instructor: Aram Ayra |



Tuesdays
February 24-March 31
10:00 a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: UCR & Riverside: A Shared History and a Shared Future From Citrus Experiment Station to Research University

How did a small citrus experiment station on the edge of town grow into a world-class research university—and what has that meant for the City of Riverside? In this six-week course, we'll explore the shared history of UC Riverside and the City of Riverside, from the early Citrus Experiment Station to today's vibrant, diverse campus. Along the way, we'll look at moments of collaboration, moments of tension, and the many ways campus and city have shaped one another. We hope participants will feel welcome sharing their own connections to UCR—as residents, alumni, parents, neighbors, or curious observers—and imagining how these relationships can continue to evolve. No prior knowledge is required—just curiosity and an interest in Riverside.

Instructor: Susan Freeman |

Wednesdays
February 25-April 1
10:00 a.m. -Noon
6 meetings
Class Fee: \$75

EUV Riverside In-Person Courses: The Writer as Reformer and Activist

This course explores the careers of six influential public intellectuals who lived and worked primarily between 1900 and 1950. Each was a witness to war, injustice, and major social and political change, and each wrote extensively about the challenges of their time, often stirring controversy in the process. The figures studied include John Reed, who observed the 1917 Russian Revolution; Oswald Garrison Villard, a critic of U.S. involvement in both world wars; Dorothy Thompson, who interviewed Adolf Hitler in the early 1930s; W.E.B. Du Bois, founder and editor of the NAACP's *The Crisis*; Upton Sinclair, author of the most famous "muckraking" novel in American history; and Walter Lippmann, a leading analyst of public opinion in twentieth-century politics. By examining their work and influence, the course concludes with a broader consideration of the role of journalism and public intellectuals in a large, complex democracy.

Instructor: Bob Ellingsen, MA |

Thursdays
January 15-February 19
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/usher>

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](mailto: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

Events



Interactive Legacy Storytelling Workshop

Tuesday, January 6

12:00-1:00 p.m. | 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.

Jeffry O'Connor 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.

Johnny Carson and Jack Paar: Architects of Late-Night Television

Wednesday, January 7

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | UCR Palm Desert Center

A sentimental journey to a time when both television—and we—were young. This engaging look back explores Johnny Carson and Jack Paar, the men who transformed The Tonight Show into a cultural mirror. Through memorable clips, stories, and behind-the-scenes insights, the course examines how their distinctly different humor, styles, and candor reshaped broadcasting. In doing so, they changed not only the way we watched television, but how we saw ourselves—making late-night TV more than entertainment, and turning it into a national conversation.

Lou Gorfain is an Emmy award winning former television writer and producer and an occasional journalist covering the media, and is a





From Abacus to AI: A Brief History of Computing – Past, Present, and Future

Tuesday February 10

3:00-5:00 p.m. | UCR Palm Desert Center

From the abacus to artificial intelligence, this fast-paced course offers a whirlwind tour of computing's evolution. It explores the inventions, innovators, and breakthroughs that have shaped the way we live, work, and think. The course traces computing's path from early mechanical devices through the digital revolution and into the future, highlighting key milestones in hardware, software, and networking. Along the way, participants gain essential context for understanding computing's impact—past, present, and future—while enjoying a few quirky and surprising moments from its history.

Instructor: Jag Dalal

Jag is a world-renowned authority and coveted speaker on management strategies, technology, and impact sourcing. His 50 years of leadership in globally known organizations have broadened his thinking and perspective. As an Indian-American, he has, as someone called it, "an Eastern soul with Western thinking". This allows him to bring a broad perspective to his consulting and speaking engagements.





UC Riverside Retirees' and Emeriti Associations
with additional sponsorship by UCR Osher and UCR's Office of Gift Planning
Present

The Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Lecture Series

THE WAR ON CANCER: EVOLUTION AND OUR MODERN ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. with Reception to follow

In-person at University Extension Building 1101 in the
University Village

Livestreamed via Zoom



Featuring

Leonard Nunney, PhD

UCR Professor Emeritus of the Graduate Division

Description

Cancer is primarily a disease of old age, so an increase in cancer risk is an unwelcome side-effect of the benefit of living longer. But beyond this trade-off, an important but largely unanswered question is how much of our cancer risk earlier in life is due to our environment, our genes, or simply bad luck. I have been looking at this problem from the perspective of an evolutionary biologist, by first arguing (and then demonstrating) that the ability of animals to reduce the risk of cancer is an evolving trait, and then using this knowledge to identify specific human cancers that appear to have become markedly more common because of our modern way of life.

Register

Priority seating is given to members of the UCR Emeriti and Retirees' Associations who must register by February 2, 2026 on the [Retirement Center webpage](#).

Registration will open to UCR and the public on February 3, 2026.

Offered in partnership
with Let's Go Travel!



The Huntington Art Museum & Botanical Gardens

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

\$149/person



It's always a beautiful time to visit the magnificent Huntington, an expansive estate near Pasadena featuring art galleries, a library of rare manuscripts, and 150 acres of one of the world's finest botanical gardens. Explore the Huntington mansion gallery, where treasures of 18th Century British art include the famous Blue Boy and Pinkie paintings. Experience the serenity of the fabulous Chinese Gardens, featuring a lake, canyon waterfall, and hand-carved stone bridges. You'll have time to visit the conservatory, stroll through the lush gardens, and visit a host of galleries housing world-class art.

Your excursion includes deluxe motorcoach transportation from Palm Desert or Riverside and admission to The Huntington. Lunch is on your own at one of several restaurants or cafés on the estate. Times are approx. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For reservations:

Sue Anderson, Osher Travel Group Coordinator
(920) 660-2067
sue.anderson730@gmail.com





Travel with UCR Osher

Offered in partnership
with Let's Go Travel!



Museum Row in Los Angeles

Thursday, March 19, 2026

\$129/person



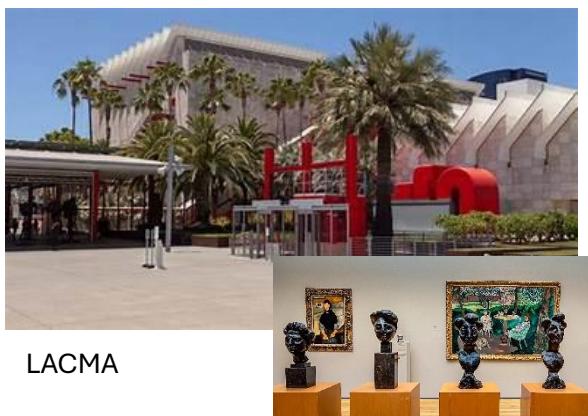
Academy Museum of Motion Pictures

You choose!

Located within walking distance of each other, the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, the L.A. County Museum of Art (LACMA), the Petersen Automotive Museum, and the La Brea Tar Pits & Museum are all famous and fascinating museums. We'll take you there – you choose one or more to visit. You'll have four hours to enjoy your favorites. Admission ranges from \$14 to \$24 per museum (not included).

Travel by deluxe motorcoach from Palm Desert or Riverside. Times are approx. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

No host lunch at museums or in the area.



LACMA

For reservations:

Sue Anderson, Osher Travel Group Coordinator
(920) 660-2067
sue.anderson730@gmail.com



Petersen Automotive Museum



La Brea Tar Pits & Museum

Offered in partnership
with Let's Go Travel!



3-Day Grand Canyon Tour

May 19-21, 2026

\$1,350/person dbl occup



Join us on this exciting tour to Williams, Arizona, home of the famous Grand Canyon Railway Hotel and the Bearizona Wildlife Park. This fun trip includes deluxe motorcoach transportation from Palm Desert, two nights accommodations at the hotel, and dome-car seating on the train to the Grand Canyon (with entertaining musicians and cowboy antics). From the expansive train windows, you'll notice the terrain change from high desert to prairie to pines. Then we'll visit the fabulous Bearizona, home to a variety of animals including bears, wolves, bison, and elk. You'll see all of these beautiful animals up close in their natural habitat. You'll have plenty of time to explore the fun Route 66 memorabilia shops and restaurants in historic Williams. Also included are two buffet dinners and breakfasts at Fred Harvey's restaurant at the hotel.

For reservations:

Sue Anderson, Osher Travel Group Coordinator
(920) 660-2067
sue.anderson730@gmail.com



AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR MATURE LEARNERS

<https://olli.ucr.edu>



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
WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 25-APRIL 1, 10 A.M.-NOON

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.

