



Fall 2025 Catalog

Make Spooky Charms at
Denton Maker Center
pg. 17

Enjoy OLLI at the Movies:
The Haunting (1963)
w/ Dr. Kerry Goldmann
pg. 19

Get to Know UNT Jazz
Studies Faculty
pg. 22

Learn the History of Texas'
First TV Station
pg. 25



Classes Available in
Dallas Thanks to CC
Young Senior Living

We make learning fast, easy, and fun.

Yellow Rose Tours



Yellow Rose Tours, LLC, is a historical tour company that is owned and operated by Dr. Andrew J. Torget, a historian of 19th century North America and one of the foremost experts on Texas history. As part of a special collaboration, his company offers exclusive bus tours for members of OLLI at UNT. Please visit the Yellow Rose Tours website for detailed information about upcoming tours. OLLI members can also sign up for the Yellow Rose Tours email list to receive all future updates from the company.

Fall 2025 Trip(s):



- September 20, 2025: Texas Women and World War II
- October 23-26, 2025: Cowboys & Comanches

If you have any questions about travelling with Yellow Rose Tours as an OLLI member after reviewing the information on the company's website, please contact yellowrosetours@gmail.com or 940-368-8848.

yellowrosetours.com

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Staff

Jordan Williams, MA
he / him
Senior Director



Megan Bryan, PhD
Associate Director



Jami Thomas, MA
she / her
Budget Officer



Elisa Glerup
she / her
Program Specialist



Contact Us

Mail:

1155 Union Circle
PO Box #310560
Denton, TX 76203

Email: olli@unt.edu

Phone: 940-369-7293

Hours: 8am - 5pm, M - F

*Our office closes for all
holidays observed by UNT.*



olli.unt.edu

Who are we?

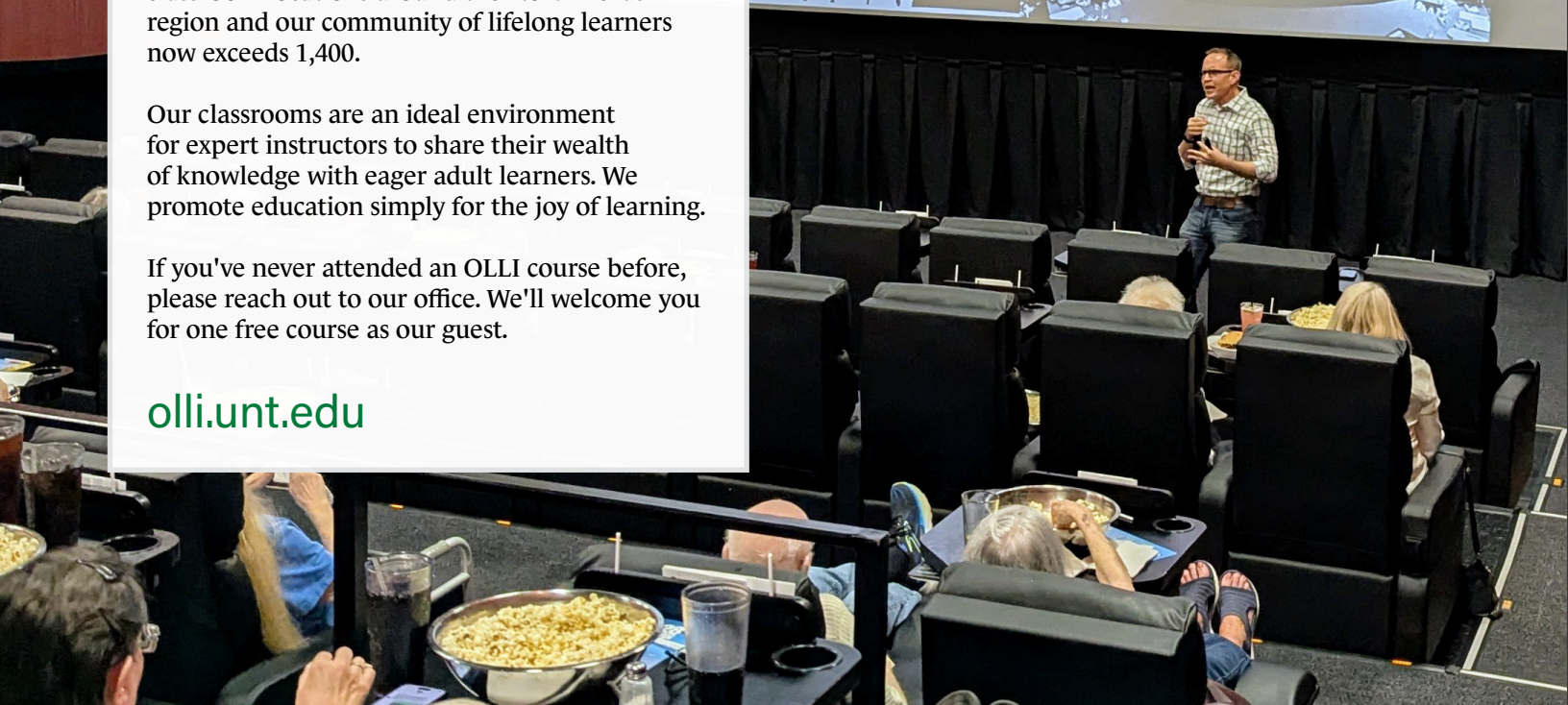
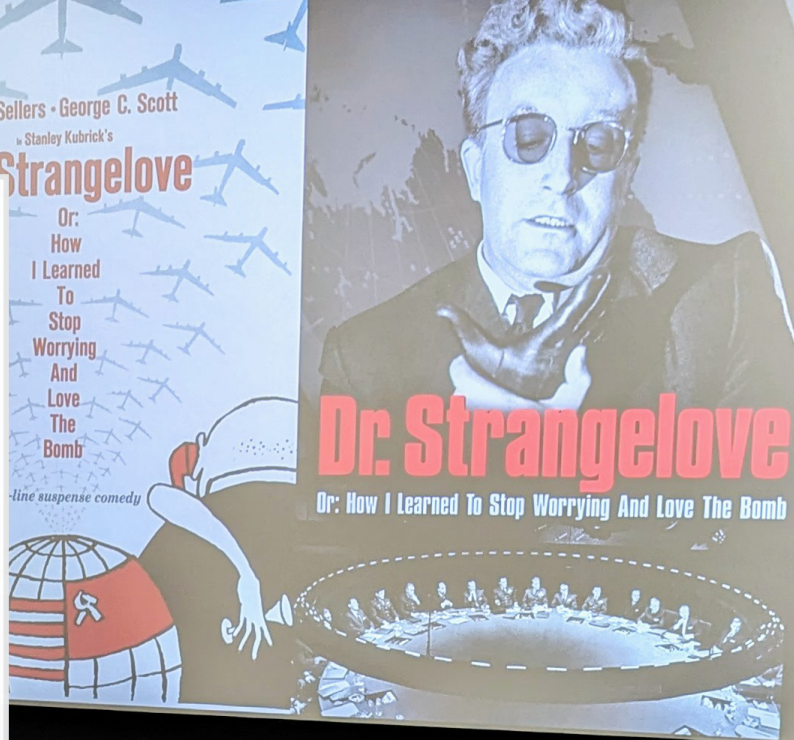
We are the University of North Texas's educational program for adults age 50 and better. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UNT is part of a national network of OLLI programs that receive support from the Bernard Osher Foundation.

Our mission is to foster intellectual stimulation and social engagement through an extensive array of learning opportunities curated by and for our members. Since its founding in 2009, our program has grown to include multiple satellite classroom locations around the North Texas region and our community of lifelong learners now exceeds 1,400.

Our classrooms are an ideal environment for expert instructors to share their wealth of knowledge with eager adult learners. We promote education simply for the joy of learning.

If you've never attended an OLLI course before, please reach out to our office. We'll welcome you for one free course as our guest.

olli.unt.edu



Our Instructors

The talented individuals who teach our courses are volunteers with a passion for education. Many are active or retired university faculty members who enjoy sharing their knowledge with lifelong learners. We also offer presentations by experienced educators, independent researchers, and other subject matter experts. More information can be found at olli.unt.edu/teach.



What does OLLI offer?

Non-credit Courses

Taught by active and retired university faculty, as well as other subject matter experts, our courses are designed to make learning fast, easy, and fun. Instructors submit proposals prior to each semester for approval by our Curriculum Committee. OLLI courses can consist of up to four 90-minute sessions and there are never any tests, grades, or mandatory assignments.

Special Interest Groups (SIG)

These groups are led by members with support from OLLI staff and provide opportunities to get to know others with shared interests. We have book groups, a yoga group, a solo travelers group, a writers group, and more. Members interested in starting a new SIG should reach out to our staff for assistance.

Lecture Series

We run two unique lecture series every semester. Our **Get to Know UNT** series highlights faculty and staff from a selected UNT department. Our **Debbie & Neal Smatresk OLLI After Five** series takes place in early evenings and includes complimentary wine and cheese.

Special Events

We arrange for private tours, culinary activities, guest lecturers, planetarium visits, workshops, and other experiential learning opportunities to add variety to our curriculum.

Travel Opportunities

We partner with travel agencies to offer our members discounted group rates for selected domestic and international trips. When possible, we also partner with OLLI instructors to guide members on custom educational tours. Information about our upcoming trips is available at olli.unt.edu/travel.

Podcast




OLLI member Susan Supak conducts interviews with the instructors who teach our courses as well as UNT alumni and retirees. Each episode is a deep dive into the guest's personal background and area of expertise. The podcast is available to the public for free at olli.unt.edu/podcast.

Authors Out Loud

Dr. Jean Greenlaw and Susan Supak interview renowned authors in this special series. OLLI members sometimes have the opportunity to attend interviews live on Zoom. Recordings of previous interviews are available to the public for free at olli.unt.edu/aol.

Virtual Learning

Virtual learning opportunities in this catalog can be identified by the following symbols:

	Zoom Virtual Activity
	Livestreamed on YouTube
	Recorded Session(s)

Links for Zoom Virtual Activities are included in the confirmation email members receive after enrolling in each activity.

Links for YouTube livestreams are emailed to all OLLI members in advance of each session.

Links for available recordings are included in the weekly emails received by all OLLI members throughout the semester.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Valid for 365 days from purchase.

All Memberships Include:

- OLLI Lecture Series
- Full Member Benefits
- Livestreams & Zoom Courses
- Access to The Great Courses
- Special Interest Groups

Additional fees apply for some special events.

All Courses Included

\$165 per year (General Public)

Discounted Groups: **\$100** per year

- U.S. Armed Services Veterans & Spouses
- UNT Retired Faculty & Staff
- UNT Alumni
- Flower Mound Seniors In Motion Members
- Keller Senior Activities Center Members
- Denton Senior Center Members
- Denton American Legion Hall Members

Pay Per Course

\$55 per year
+ \$15 per course

Course fee applies to each in-person course listed on pages **26 - 35**.

Course fees are due upon enrollment in each course. Pay Per Course members may upgrade to an All Courses Included membership by contacting OLLI at UNT. The cost of an upgrade is the difference between the two membership fees, minus any course fees that have already been paid.

How to Join

New Members: olli.unt.edu/register

Follow the instructions on our website to purchase your membership and enroll in courses and events online. If you prefer to join by mail, download our Membership Form and our Fall 2025 Enrollment Form. Send those forms to our mailing address along with any fees due.

Questions?

Contact olli@unt.edu or 940-369-7293.



Policies

Payment

We accept payment by check and all major credit cards. Course and event fees are due upon enrollment in each activity. Only UNT employees may accept member payments. The staff who work for our satellite classroom partners cannot accept payments for OLLI at UNT memberships or activities.

Dropping a Class / Waitlists

Once an OLLI at UNT activity fills, members are placed on a waitlist in order of enrollment. Members wishing to cancel their participation in an OLLI at UNT activity should contact olli@unt.edu or 940-369-7293 at least 24 hours in advance of the activity. Staff will then notify the next member on the waitlist.

Refunds

OLLI at UNT membership, course, and event fees are **non-refundable**. OLLI at UNT course and event fees will only be refunded if an activity is cancelled and not rescheduled. OLLI at UNT makes every attempt to reschedule activities that cannot be held at their originally scheduled date and time.

Cancellation Deadlines / Credit

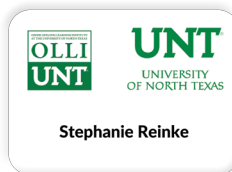
Members who cancel their participation in an OLLI at UNT course or event prior to that activity's **Cancellation Deadline** can request credit for any fees paid. This credit can be applied to a future OLLI activity or membership fee upon member request.

Cancellation Notices

If UNT closes due to inclement weather, all OLLI at UNT activities will be cancelled until the university reopens. Otherwise, the decision to cancel an activity during inclement weather will be made based on conditions at each classroom location and input from our instructors.

In the event that an OLLI at UNT activity is cancelled or rescheduled for any reason, members on the roster will be notified by email. It is important that you provide our staff with an email account you check regularly.

OLLI Member ID Cards



All new members will receive an OLLI at UNT ID card and lanyard by mail following registration. Please show your ID card to the host each time you arrive for an OLLI course or event at any of our locations. It may take 2-3 weeks for your ID card to arrive once your new member registration has been processed. Until it arrives, a printed copy of your registration confirmation email can also be shown as proof of OLLI membership.

Replacement IDs can be requested for a \$5 fee. Contact olli@unt.edu if you've misplaced your ID.

Senior Center Access

To access OLLI at UNT courses held at the Flower Mound Senior Center, members must also present proof of senior center membership or purchase a day pass upon entry. For information about the senior center's membership and day pass options, please contact them directly:

Flower Mound Senior Center: 972-874-6110

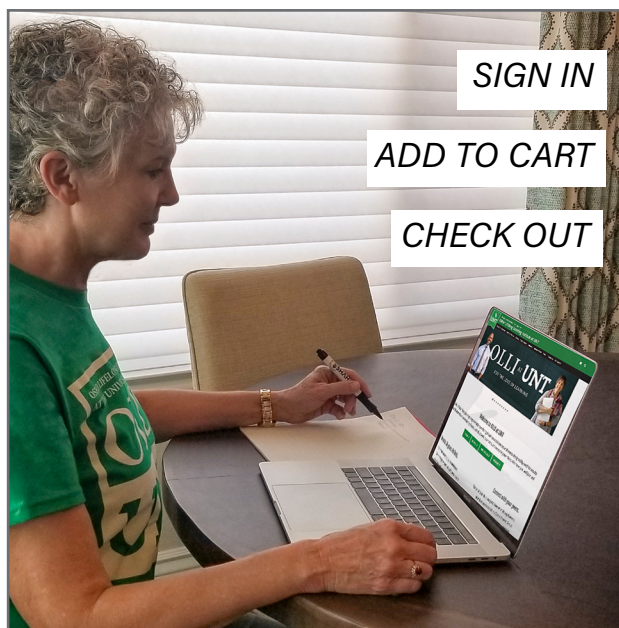
flower-mound.com/749/Seniors-In-Motion

All OLLI at UNT members can attend OLLI courses at the Keller Senior Activities Center by showing their OLLI member ID card at the front desk. No entry fee is required.

Fall Enrollment Options

Individuals with an active OLLI at UNT membership can use any of the following methods to enroll in our courses, special events, lecture series, and special interest groups:

1. Member Portal: olli.unt.edu/members



2. Enrollment Form

Our Enrollment Form allows you to check off the box by each activity you plan to participate in. The form can then be sent to our mailing address along with a check made payable to OLLI at UNT to cover any applicable fees. The form is available to download from our website at olli.unt.edu/members.

3. Phone or Email

Send an email to olli@unt.edu listing the titles and dates of the activities in which you wish to enroll. Don't forget to include your name! You can also call **940-369-7293** to enroll over the phone.

Please enroll using the method that is most convenient for you. Members can add activities to their schedules throughout the semester.

Confirmation Emails

Whenever you enroll in OLLI activities using one of the methods on the left, you will receive an automated confirmation email containing the date, time, and location of each activity. If you enroll in a Zoom activity, the link will also be included in your confirmation.

Friday Emails

All active members will receive our weekly reminder emails, which are typically sent on Fridays during each semester. These emails include the following information:

- The upcoming week's schedule
- Links for upcoming Zoom courses and CC Young livestreams
- Important OLLI announcements and schedule changes
- Links to available recordings of virtual courses and livestreams
- Upcoming local events of interest

If you're not receiving our weekly emails in your inbox, first check to see if your email provider is filtering them into your junk or spam folder. To prevent our emails from being marked as junk, it may help to add olli@unt.edu to your email account's contacts. If that doesn't fix the issue, please contact our office for assistance.

Course Evaluations

At the end of each course, all members on the roster will receive an email reminder to complete a brief course evaluation. Please complete an evaluation within 5 days of the end of each course you attend. These evaluations are vital to OLLI staff, instructors, and the Curriculum Committee.

Advisory Council

The ten OLLI members on the Advisory Council work with the Senior Director to review and evaluate policies and operations. The Council also does strategic planning to ensure that the program's quality and growth closely align with the needs of the OLLI at UNT membership.

President: Sandra Meier-Western

Past President: Cathy Hartman

Our remaining 2024-2025 officers were not yet confirmed at the time of printing.



Elaine
Darby



Steve
Dubrow



Cathy
Hartman



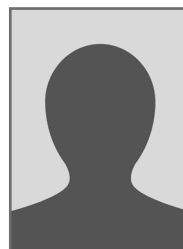
Max
Morley



Sandra
Meier-Western



Ray
Pahler



La Donna
Womochel

We're grateful for the service of our outgoing councilmembers:

- Bob Pryor
- Cynthia Parker
- Susan Supak

We welcome our incoming councilmembers:

- John Booth
- Stan Nelsen
- David McKinley

Member Volunteers

We're extremely grateful to each member who volunteers their time to represent OLLI in the community or help our staff complete various projects throughout the year. We couldn't operate our program without member support. Members with strong organizational skills, a talent for collaborating well with others, or prior experience working in lifelong learning or similar programs should contact our office to learn about volunteer opportunities.



Member Benefits & Discounts

UNT College of Music Concerts

Members can reserve **complimentary** tickets through OLLI at UNT for select College of Music concerts each spring and fall semester. Members will be notified by email once the list of selected concerts is available.

UNT CoLab

OLLI at UNT members can receive a **10% discount** off of their retail purchase at the UNT CoLab (excluding consignment) by showing their OLLI ID card at checkout. The CoLab is located at 207 N. Elm Street in Denton.

UNT Kuehne Speaker Series

The UNT Kuehne Speaker Series is a signature event that supports the transformative Kuehne Scholarship Program and features distinguished speakers who share insights on relevant global issues. Discounted tickets are regularly made available to OLLI at UNT members.

UNT Dance and Theatre Performances

OLLI at UNT members can purchase discounted tickets to Dance & Theatre performances. For more information or to purchase discounted tickets, contact the box office at 940-565-2428 or dat-boxoffice@unt.edu and let them know you are an OLLI member.

UNT Pohl Recreation Center

OLLI at UNT members can join UNT's rec center at the discounted rate of \$22 per month by bringing in their OLLI ID card and purchasing a rec center membership onsite. Pohl Recreation Center is located on UNT's campus at 1900 Chestnut St., Denton, TX 76201. For more information, contact recsports@unt.edu or 940-565-2275.

Member Lounge and Free Library

OLLI at UNT members can enjoy complimentary coffee and tea in the Member Lounge, which is located in the UNT Support and Services Building in Denton. The lounge includes comfortable couches and a free library of books that have been donated by members.

UNT Library Card

OLLI at UNT members can request a university library card by contacting olli@unt.edu. The card grants book checkout privileges at Willis Library.

Froth Coffee and Dessert Bar

By showing their OLLI ID card, members can receive a **10% discount** from this Denton restaurant, which is located on 1611 Eagle Drive, across the street from our offices in the SSB. Visit FrothDenton.com to view their menu.

Lewisville Lake Symphony Concerts

OLLI at UNT members can purchase discounted concert tickets from the Lewisville Lake Symphony. Members will be notified by email of upcoming concerts.

Your support makes a difference.

"Please consider making a gift in support of our mission to offer impactful lifelong learning opportunities. Your donation in any amount will be received with gratitude."

OLLI at UNT Advisory Council



olli.unt.edu/donate

The Great Courses

OLLI at UNT has purchased many Instant Video courses from The Great Courses and acquired the rights to share them with our members. To gain access, sign in to the OLLI at UNT Member Portal, add The Great Courses Member Access option to your cart, and proceed through checkout. You will then receive a confirmation email containing the login information you'll use to sign in to the shared OLLI at UNT account on the Great Courses website. You can also email our office to request access.

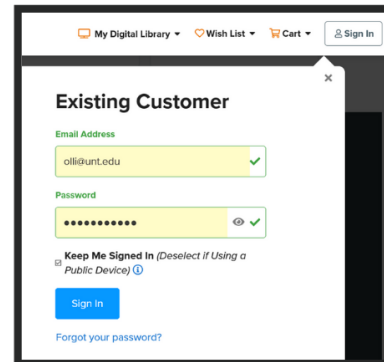
Signing In: You must sign in to The Great Courses website using the OLLI at UNT login information provided in the confirmation email you receive. If you have your own personal account on The Great Courses, the titles we have purchased will not appear in your personal Digital Library.

Make a note of where you leave off in a given course each time you sign out, since other members can also access our shared Great Courses account while you're away.



1.  Sign In

2.  My Digital Library ▾



Titles Available through OLLI at UNT:

- Understanding the World's Greatest Structures: Science & Innovation from Antiquity to Modernity
- How Winston Churchill Changed the World
- How to Read & Understand Shakespeare
- England, the 1960s, & the Triumph of the Beatles
- The American West: History, Myth, & Legacy
- America's Founding Fathers
- The Great Trials of World History
- Books That Matter: The Federalist Papers
- Peoples & Cultures of the World
- Life & Work of Mark Twain
- America After the Cold War: The First 30 Years
- Leonardo da Vinci & the Italian High Renaissance
- Great Minds of the Eastern Intellectual Tradition
- Taking Control of Your Personal Data
- Unsung Heroes of WWII: Europe
- Turning Points in Modern History
- Tai Chi for Aging with Strength and Tranquility
- The Real History of Pirates
- The Botanist's Eye: Identifying the Plants Around You
- Memory and the Human Lifespan
- History of the Supreme Court
- Concert Masterworks
- King Arthur
- Radio Astronomy
- Understanding Imperial China
- The Real Ancient Egypt
- Epigenetics: How Environment Changes Your Biology
- The Vietnam War
- Nature Watching: How to Find and Observe Wildlife
- American Sign Language for Everyone
- The Stories of Missing Masterpieces
- Life in the World's Oceans
- Ancient Writing and the History of the Alphabet
- The Secrets of Great Mystery and Suspense Fiction
- 10 Great What-Ifs of American History
- How the Great Migration Changed America
- Examining the Big Questions of Time
- How Digital Technology Shapes Us

Classroom Locations

All OLLI at UNT members can attend OLLI courses at any of our classroom locations, regardless of their membership type or where they live. Complimentary parking (including designated spaces for disabled persons) is available at each location. The primary OLLI schedule for each location is listed below.

University of North Texas



Support and Services Building (SSB)

1500 N. Interstate 35
Denton, TX 76205

**Members should pick up a parking permit from staff on the first day they arrive for a class at the SSB.*

Mondays & Wednesdays

10:00am - 11:30am
& 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Robson Ranch



Clubhouse Ballroom

9428 Ed Robson Circle
Denton, TX 76207

Tuesdays & Thursdays

10:00am - 11:30am
1:00pm - 2:30pm
& 2:45pm - 4:15pm

Flower Mound Senior Center



Shirley Voirin Ballroom
2701 W. Windsor Drive
Flower Mound, TX 75028

Mondays & Wednesdays
2:30pm - 4:00pm

To access OLLI at UNT courses held at the Flower Mound Senior Center, members must also present proof of senior center membership or purchase a day pass upon entry.

Lantana



Community Event Center

1301 Haverford Lane
Lantana, TX 76226

Fridays

10:00am - 11:30am

Keller Senior Activities Center



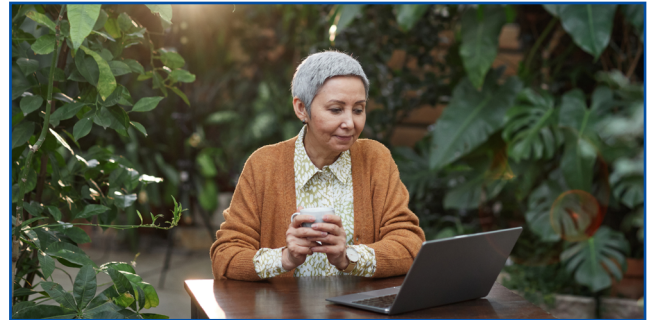
Multipurpose Room

640 Johnson Road
Building C
Keller, TX 76248

Tuesdays

1:30pm - 3:00pm

Zoom Virtual Classroom



Virtual courses and events are scheduled based on the instructor's availability. Each virtual activity has its own unique Zoom link, which will be included in our confirmation emails.

The Point at CC Young

Auditorium

4847 W. Lawther Dr.
Dallas, TX 75214

Tuesdays & Thursdays

10:00am - 11:30am

About Our Relationship with CC Young

OLLI at UNT's sponsorship agreement with CC Young Senior Living in Dallas that brings our courses to their best-in-class facilities. All OLLI at UNT members are welcome to attend OLLI courses and events held in The Point Auditorium. Thanks to the generosity of CC Young, OLLI at UNT memberships are complimentary for CC Young residents, Terraces Priority members, and Point members.

OLLI courses held at CC Young will be broadcast internally to residents on channel 81. Courses will also be livestreamed on YouTube based on instructor permission. OLLI staff will provide livestream links to all members in our weekly emails.



OLLI Members Give Back

OLLI at UNT members show up for the university community in a variety of ways. We're grateful for every member who has participated in the following initiatives. If you haven't yet gotten involved, we encourage you to do so!

Friends of PUSH

The **PUSH (Persevere Until Success Happens)** program at UNT provides a campus-wide network of support for students who have experienced foster care or homelessness. By focusing on the academic, financial, career and social well-being of each student, PUSH enables them to arrive and thrive on campus.

Since 2019, our Friends of PUSH initiative has connected lifelong learners with PUSH staff so that they can support students more directly and sustainably through financial assistance, meals, and more. We also partner on events that bring members and students together in fun, engaging ways. It's been our pleasure to work with the PUSH staff, led by UNT's Foster Care Liaison Officer Brenda Sweeten.

We hope you will choose to participate and make a difference in these students' lives. To express your interest in getting involved, please fill out the form on our website.

olli.unt.edu/fop



This summer, OLLI members contributed snacks for students participating in PUSH's Summer Bridge program.

UNT Food Pantry: Gold Sponsor

The UNT Food Pantry presented by Kroger is one of the best ways to serve students experiencing food insecurity. Over 30% of college students are food insecure, 56% of food-insecure students are working, 75% of food-insecure students receive financial aid through their institutions, and 43% have a meal plan (College & University Food Bank Alliance).

Thanks to the generosity of OLLI members, our department was recognized as a Gold Sponsor of the UNT Food Pantry for 2024-2025. Tristen Mauldin, Associate Director of the Diamond Eagle Student Resource Center, presented us with this award in recognition of the volume of items donated by members throughout the year.



We will continue to notify members of upcoming donation drives and volunteer opportunities at the pantry. You can learn more about the Food Pantry's important work on their website.

studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry



You Can Make a Big Impact With a Future Gift

At the University of North Texas, we believe that pursuing knowledge does not end with retirement—it flourishes. Every day, OLLI at UNT members engage in thought-provoking classes, connect with peers, and continue growing in ways that enrich their lives and communities.

Today, we invite you to consider a lasting way to ensure OLLI at UNT remains vibrant for generations to come—by including OLLI at UNT in your estate plans. A gift through your will, trust, or retirement account can help sustain programming, attract dynamic instructors, and expand access to underserved lifelong learners across North Texas. Regardless of size, your legacy can help keep curiosity alive far into the future.

If you've already included OLLI at UNT in your plans, please let Jordan know so we can thank you. If you're still considering, we'd be honored to speak with you about how your legacy can make a lasting impact.

Thank you for being part of our OLLI community and thinking about the future of learning.

Warmly,



Andrew Bailey
Executive Director, Estate and Planned Giving
UNT Division of Advancement

Uncover the giving option that works best for your goals at plannedgiving.unt.edu.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

These groups are led by OLLI members and provide opportunities to get to know others with shared interests.

Great Books

Fridays, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 21

2:45pm - 4:15pm

UNT SSB 105

Join Donna Zelisko-McLaughlin to explore a category of literature called “great books.” Selections might be philosophical, political, scientific, literary, or culturally significant. Participants will respond to the works from a personal perspective of what resonates to them.



Sept. 26

Narcissus and Goldman
by Hermann Hesse

Published in 1930, this Swiss-German novelist explores philosophical and psychological themes of individualism and self-discovery, manifested in the dichotomy between intellect and emotion, as portrayed through two main characters and their search for meaning in life.



Oct. 24

Oryx and Crake
by Margaret Atwood

Speculative fiction, adventure romance portraying a bioengineered society where the consequences of short-term science outstrip long-term responsibility. First book in the MaddAddam trilogy.



Nov. 21

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

A mid to late fourteenth century alliterative poem written in a dialect of Middle English frames a narrative showcasing Morgan le Faye's hatred of Arthur and his court, Camelot. Use a contemporary translation like the Penguin Classics Brian Stone, 1959 version, or J.R.R. Tolkien edited by Christopher Tolkien, 1975.

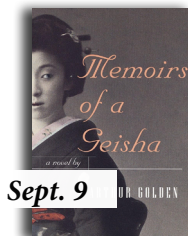
Bookshelf Catch-Up

Tuesdays, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, & Nov. 25

2:45pm - 4:15pm

Denton Senior Center Orange Room (509 N. Bell Ave.)

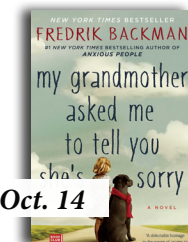
This discussion group is for readers who love getting lost in libraries and bookstores, only to realize months later that the bestseller on their shelf has been sitting there unread way too long. Each participant will suggest a book for next semester and lead the discussion if their book is chosen by the group.



Sept. 9

Memoirs of a Geisha
by Arthur Golden

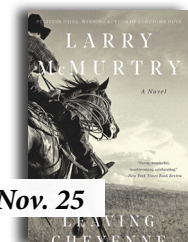
A multi-layered narrative told from perspective of a young Japanese girl, who, despite being sold by a desperately poor father, becomes one of Kyoto's most important geishas.



Oct. 14

My Grandmother Asked Me To Tell You She's Sorry
by Fredrik Backman

After the death of her loving grandmother, seven-years old misfit Elisa finds truth in adventures filled with fairy tales and kingdoms within the grandmother's letters apologizing to people she has wronged.



Nov. 25

Leaving Cheyenne
by Larry McMurtry

Written as a first person account from each one of the main characters, McMurtry's second novel, published in 1963, portrays Texan lives from about 1920 through about 1965.

Writing For Fun

Mondays, Sept. 22, Oct. 20, & Nov. 17

10:00am - 11:30am

UNT SSB 102



This SIG is led by OLLI member John Penaska, a former IT professional who loves to write for fun. The group is open to any member who wants to explore examples of fun writing and practice writing with others. All experience levels and writing styles are welcome.

The group will use this fall's meetings to continue looking at the topic of Writing For Fun. Is it a sense of accomplishment? Is it writing comedy? Is it something else? Group members will look at published works, analyze articles, and write some of their own.

Book Talk with Dr. Greenlaw

Wednesdays, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, & Nov. 12

2:45pm - 4:15pm

UNT SSB 101 (Conference Room)



This discussion group is led by Jean Greenlaw. The topic for each meeting will be the theme of Dr. Greenlaw's "Book Talk" column that appears in the *Denton Record-Chronicle* on the first weekend of each month. It is not necessary to read the books mentioned in the column, but it will make your participation more

meaningful if you do read a book that fits the theme. It can range from a picture book for children to the most complex book you find on the topic. Dr. Greenlaw will begin each session by discussing the topic and a few books from her column (a copy of the column will be sent to the SIG roster before each meeting). Then members will participate by discussing the book they read. There are three points Dr. Greenlaw would like participants to be ready to discuss with the group:

- How does the book you read fit the theme?
- What was your most important takeaway from the book?
- Why would others be interested in reading the book?

You are welcome to be a member of the SIG and not participate in the discussion if you wish. It just is more fun for you if you put in your 2 cents worth!

Fall Book Talk Themes:

Sept. 17: Mysteries & Thrillers

Oct. 15: The Arts

Nov. 12: Books worthy of gifting

Solo Travelers, Unite!

Thurs. Sept. 4 & Nov. 20

2:00pm - 3:30pm

UNT SSB 102

Thurs. Oct. 9

3:30pm - 5:00pm

Keller Sr. Act. Center



Traveling independently can be challenging for individuals, both experienced and inexperienced travelers. This group, led by Cathy Hartman, with Carolyn Hodge serving as co-leader for Keller meetings, is based around members empowering and supporting each other to travel independently with confidence. Group meetings will alternate between Denton and Keller to accommodate as many members as possible.

Discovering Classical Vocal Recitals with Steve Dubrow

Three or four different dates and times TBD*

UNT Music Building (415 Avenue C)**



A lover of all sorts of music written for the classically trained human voice, Steve Dubrow has attended dozens of the classical vocal recitals that the UNT College of Music presents to the public without charge. These recitals demand the same level of technique and artistry as an opera performance, but the format and location make possible a special intimacy between singer and audience.

This group will attend three or four recitals this fall. The group will meet in a reserved room in the Music Building 30 minutes before the performance, at which time Steve will provide context for the music about to be performed. There will be opportunity for further discussion during the intermission. After the performance, the singer will often find the time to drop in to speak about the recital and to answer a few questions.

*The recital schedule for Fall 2025 was not yet announced at the time this catalog was published.

**UNT offers recital patrons free parking in the lot off Highland Street between Bain Hall and the North/South practice buildings.

Yoga

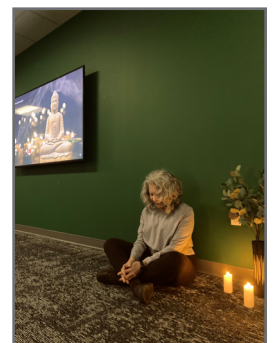
Tuesdays, Sept. 2 & 16,

Oct. 7 & 21, Nov. 4

10:00am - 11:00am

UNT SSB 105

Join Sheila Holincheck for guided yoga sessions. Participants should bring their own mat. All experience levels are welcome.



SPECIAL EVENTS

These activities may take place outside of the traditional classroom setting and may also have a unique educational format. Activities in this section are complimentary for all OLLI members, except where an event fee is clearly indicated in red.

2026 Collette Trip Reveal

Tuesday, September 9, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

In this special information session, our travel destinations for 2026 will be revealed. In partnership with the Collette travel agency, we will offer a selection of international and domestic trips. Members who attend will learn all about each trip's itinerary, cost, and reservation process. Attendees will also be able to take home trip flyers and reservation forms. Our 2026 trip information will become available on our website following this event.

olli.unt.edu/travel



UNT Sky Theater Planetarium *Supermassive Black Holes*

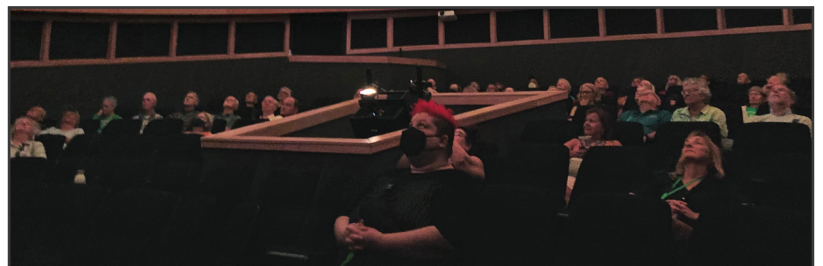
Thursday, September 18

1:00pm - 2:00pm

UNT Environmental Science Building

1704 W. Mulberry St., Denton, TX 76201*

***Parking Options:** Members are welcome to park at the UNT Support & Services Building and walk 0.7 miles up the sidewalk to the theater. Members also have the option to pick up a single day permit from OLLI at UNT staff that will allow access to lots that are closer to the theater.



Leading scientists in observational and theoretical studies of black holes and galaxies, industrial experts in cutting-edge big technologies, and professionals in science dissemination have been brought together to set up research projects which will combine the latest state-of-the-art observations, numerical simulations, and innovative analytic tools to compare theory with observation, and shed light on the physics of black hole formation in the context of galaxy evolution. This planetarium show presents the environments of the black holes in an impressive and understandable way to the audience.

Following the 22-minute documentary, UNT Astronomy staff will use the planetarium's technology to give members a preview of the night's sky and answer astronomy questions.

Spooky Charms Metalsmithing Workshop

Thursday, October 9

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Denton Maker Center

728 N Elm St, Denton, TX 76201

\$5 Per Member

Get into the spirit of Halloween by making your own spooky charms! Metal stamping is a quick and lasting way to design and create your own small metal works. A variety of spooky (and other) metal stamps will be available to use. Time permitting, members will be able to finish up to five charms. All equipment and supplies will be provided by Denton Maker Center.



Registration & Cancellation Deadline:

Thursday, Oct. 2 (see policy on page 5)



James Thurman, MFA, is a Professor of Metalsmithing & Jewelry at the UNT College of Visual Arts & Design. He received his MFA in Metalsmithing from the Cranbrook Academy of Art and his BFA in Sculpture from Carnegie Mellon University. A three-time Fulbright Specialist Scholar, he worked in Istanbul, Turkey, with Kadir Has University in 2012, the Glass Furnace Foundation in 2016, and Birmingham City University in 2024. Currently, he is serving as President of the newly opened non-profit Denton Maker Center in Denton, TX. Learn more at dentonmakercenter.com.

Special Lecture on Roman Sculpture and the Torlonia Collection

Tuesday, October 14, 10:00am - 11:30am

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

The Kimbell Art Museum has a special exhibit coming this fall titled *Myth and Marble: Ancient Roman Sculpture from the Torlonia Collection*. UNT Art History Professor Neville McFerrin is preparing a special OLLI lecture on Roman sculpture and the Torlonia Collection, which will be of particular interest for anyone planning to visit the Kimbell and view the special exhibit. As soon as a full description of this lecture are available, we will inform members by email.



Neville McFerrin, PhD, is an archaeologist and art historian specializing in the ancient Mediterranean region. Her current work focuses on the visual and material culture of the sites of Pompeii and Persepolis.



kimbellart.org/myth-and-marble

Oktoberfest Beer & Cheese Pairing Lesson

Thursday, October 16

4:00pm - 5:00pm

Blank Space Events

521 S. Loop 288, Suite 145, Denton, TX 76205

\$40 Per Member

In this Oktoberfest-themed event, members will enjoy a flight of 3 beers (4 oz. each) a selection of 3 cheeses (1 oz. each), bread from Ravelin Bakery, plus an assortment of nuts, jams, and poached fruit. With expertise and passion, Justin Bonard from Ten:One Artisanal Cheese Shop will provide an overview of the Oktoberfest tradition and discuss each beer and cheese in detail, explaining why they complement each other so well.

Ten:One Artisanal Cheese Shop has been in operation for over 6 years. In that time, they have won the *Dallas Observer's* Best Cheese Shop award and have been a finalist for the *Denton Record-Chronicle's* Best Wine Shop and Best Wine List. They have also been featured on NBC's *Texas Today*. Learn more at tenonecheese.com.

Registration & Cancellation Deadline:

Thursday, Oct. 9 (see policy on page 5)



Nut & Gluten Allergies: Please notify olli@unt.edu no later than one week prior to this event to request a nut-free or gluten-free board.



Complimentary Concert Tickets

Concert Dates TBD



Our friends in the College of Music will make a limited number of complimentary concert tickets available to OLLI at UNT members this fall. Members will be notified by email once the list of selected concerts is available. Each member will then be able to reserve one ticket per concert by submitting requests through our online form.

olli.unt.edu/concerts

OLLI AT THE MOVIES

CLASSIC FILMS IN CONTEXT

THE HAUNTING

"No live organism can continue for long to exist sanely under conditions of absolute reality...Hill House, not sane, stood by itself against the hills, holding darkness within."

- Private Screening
- Bottomless Popcorn
- Pre-screening Talk by Dr. Goldman
- Limited Edition Squeezable OLLI Stress Reliever for All Attendees



***The Haunting* (1963) with Dr. Kerry Goldmann**

Tuesday, October 21
2:00pm - 5:00pm
Alamo Drafthouse Cinema
3220 Town Center Tr., Denton, TX 76201
\$45 per member

Americans were needing to reconcile with many social changes in the 1960s, and *The Haunting* (1963) would bring them face to face with their ghosts. Join us for a frightful event of OLLI at the Movies as we screen Shirley Jackson's adapted story, *The Haunting*! Dr. Kerry Goldmann will speak before the film to reveal the ghosts of the 1960s that haunted the halls of Hill House and, ultimately, its audiences.

The fee for this event includes 1 ticket to the screening, Dr. Goldmann's talk, an order of popcorn, and an OLLI-branded stress reliever toy. Members will be able to purchase additional food and drink items on their own at the theater. A portion of the proceeds from this event fee will go toward supporting OLLI at UNT.

Registration & Cancellation Deadline:

Tuesday, October 14 (see policy on page 5)



Kerry Goldmann, PhD, is a Senior Lecturer and Associate Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of History at UNT. She is a historian of Jewish American history, African American history, and American culture whose research investigates the intersecting

histories of subaltern communities and art used for social change. She has taught minority theatre, culture, and histories in the theatre and history departments at UNT.



Exploring Lilli Wolff

Tuesday, November 11

10:00am - 11:30am

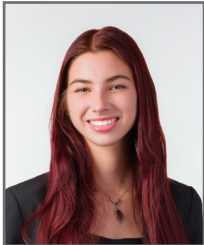
UNT Art Building - Room 259

1201 W. Mulberry St.

Denton, TX 76201

The Texas Fashion Collection features the work of over 750 designers. They range from the lesser known to the globally famous, all offering different ways of thinking about fashion, dress, and culture. Join TFC intern Isabella McCord to learn more about one of those lesser-known creators, Lilli Wolff. Wolff owned a custom dressmaking business in Germany, worked in theater design in Austria, and designed for Miss America contestants in New York, all before landing in Dallas in 1952. There, she made custom gowns for society women, shaping the local and regional fashion scene in interesting and inspiring ways.

This event will include a formal presentation and an opportunity to view McCord's pop-up exhibition mounted in the UNT Art Building.



Isabella (Bella) McCord is a UNT undergraduate student majoring in Art History and German. During Summer 2025, she served as an intern at the Texas Fashion Collection, where she developed this research as part of a broader curatorial and collections-focused project.



Parking Permit Required: Members who enroll in any of these sessions may pick up a single day parking permit from OLLI at UNT staff on the day of the event. The permit is required to park in lots 50, 54, or 55 near the Art Building.

This event is limited to 20 members.

Explore the Texas Fashion Collection online at tfc.cvad.unt.edu.

PUSH Game Night

Thursday, November 13

5:00pm - 6:30pm

UNT Support & Services Building

\$10 Per Member



The Persevere Until Success Happens (PUSH) program at UNT supports foster care alumni at the university, enabling them to arrive and thrive on campus.

Enjoy a delicious meal while teaming up with PUSH staff and students! Members will compete in games to win gift card prizes for PUSH students. The fee for this event will go toward the cost of food for all attendees, including our guests from the PUSH program.

Authors Out Loud!

Victoria Christopher Murray

In this author interview series, Dr. Jean Greenlaw and Susan Supak host discussions with renowned writers. These conversations explore the authors' books, delve into the inspirations for their characters, themes, and stories. The authors discuss the craft of writing itself, as well as the trials and victories they experience seeing their work to completion.

Victoria Christopher Murray is the New York Times and USA Today best selling author of more than 30 novels, including the *New York Times* Instant Best Sellers, *The Personal Librarian* and *The First Ladies*. Victoria co-wrote both novels with Marie Benedict.



Victoria originally self-published her first novel, *Temptation*. In 2000, Time Warner published that novel. *Temptation* remained on the *Essence* bestsellers list for nine consecutive months. In 2001, Victoria received her first NAACP Image Award nomination for Outstanding Literature with *Temptation*.

Over her career, Victoria has received numerous awards including the Phyllis Wheatley Trailblazer Award, the Delta Sigma Theta Osceola Award for Excellence in the Arts, Go On Girl Book Club Author of the Year, eleven African American Literary Awards and five NAACP Image Award nominations. In 2016, she won the Image Award for Outstanding Literature for her social commentary novel, *Stand Your Ground*. Victoria's latest novel, *Harlem Rhapsody*, was recently recognized as one of Book Riot's Best Books of the Year So Far (2025).

This interview will be pre-recorded and published on our website during the fall semester. Members will receive an email notice once the interview has been posted. All Authors Out Loud interviews are available to the public for free!

Our Hosts:



Jean Greenlaw, PhD, is an expert in children's literature and leads our Book Talk SIG. She writes the monthly "Book Talk" column for the *Denton Record-Chronicle*.



Susan Supak is an OLLI member, volunteer, and host of the OLLI at UNT podcast.

Interviews Now Available Online:

- Kate DiCamillo
- Nicholas Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn
- Lois Lowry
- Kathryn D. Sullivan & Michael J. Rosen
- Brad Meltzer
- Mystery Writers Panel: Katherine Hall Page, Kathryn Lasky, & William Martin
- Gregory Maguire
- Kathryn Lasky

olli.unt.edu/aol

GET TO KNOW UNT JAZZ STUDIES

UNT opened the door for jazz studies at the college level in 1947 when it became the first university in the nation to offer a degree program in jazz. Today, North Texas Jazz, housed within the largest music school in the nation, retains its role as a leader in jazz education and is emerging as an innovator in the spaces of music business and commercial music. It has earned an international reputation for excellence in both the music education field and the broader music profession.

Life in Poetry and Music As They Represent Stages of Life

Thursday, September 11

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

Life in Poetry & Music is a multi-movement work that features a selection of poems representing particular stages of life set to music composed by UNT Professor Richard DeRosa. In this presentation, Mr. DeRosa will explain the concepts that generated his composition. Members will then view a recorded performance featuring world-renowned singer Kurt Elling, an ensemble comprised of UNT students, and Mr. DeRosa as conductor.



projects, and numerous audiobooks.

Richard DeRosa, MMus, is the director of jazz composition at UNT. He is an internationally recognized jazz composer who has had a long affiliation with Wynton Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center. He has also composed music for film, TV, theater

Twist the Tune: The Art of Song Reinvention

Tuesday, September 30

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

Join us for an engaging and entertaining workshop exploring how familiar songs can be transformed into something fresh and unexpected through creative shifts in groove, harmony, and mood. Led by longtime University of North Texas vocal jazz professor Rosana Eckert, this lecture will offer a behind-the-scenes look at song reinvention through live performance and discussion. Whether you're a lifelong music lover or simply curious, you'll come away with a deeper appreciation for the art of creative interpretation.



Rosana Eckert, MMus, is a Grammy®-recognized jazz vocalist, songwriter, arranger, and improviser whose expressive voice and adventurous musicianship have captivated audiences on stages and recordings worldwide. As a leader she has released three critically acclaimed solo albums, most recently the "bright and innovative" *Sailing Home* (2019), and she co-leads the Brazilian jazz-fusion sextet Brasuka, whose *DownBeat*-praised debut *A Vida Com Paixão* appeared on numerous "Best of 2021" lists. She performs and records extensively, having collaborated with many jazz and vocal luminaries, including on 3 Grammy-recognized projects—Bobby McFerrin's boundary-pushing *VOCABuLarieS*, jazz legend Lyle Mays' Grammy-winning *Eberhard*, and Kings Return's 2023 Grammy-nominated track "How Deep Is Your Love," which she co-produced.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

Previously known as our Lunch & Learn Lecture Series, this newly renamed project sees OLLI at UNT collaborate with a different department at the university each semester. Members attending these presentations will get to know some of the remarkable faculty and staff in each area and learn about their roles at the university. These presentations are complimentary for all OLLI at UNT members.

The Art of Improvisation: Making Music in the Moment

Thursday, November 6

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

In this engaging session, members will discover how jazz musicians create music on the spot through the art of improvisation. A live jazz group will demonstrate how players will communicate, respond, and shape solos in real time. Whether new to jazz or a longtime fan, attendees will gain a deeper appreciation for what makes this music so spontaneous, expressive, and alive.



Quincy Davis, MA, is Associate Professor of Jazz Percussion and chair of the drumset department in the UNT College of Music. He is a graduate of Western Michigan University and has performed and toured with many world-renowned

musicians. Quincy can be heard on over 50 albums playing with notable jazz artists. His 2020 release, *Q Vision*, was ranked #3 on Jazz Week's radio jazz chart for 5 weeks.

UNT Jazz Studies Alumni Include:

- Bassists Mike Pope, Tony Scherr and Matt Wigton
- Composers Alan Baylock, Yumiko Sunami, Brad Turner and Dale Wilson
- Drummers Keith Carlock, Ari Hoenig and John Riley
- Guitarists Tim Miller, Rick Peckham and Bruce Saunders
- Musician/producers Bob Belden and Dave Love
- Pianists Lyle Mays, Jon Ballantyne, Pavel Wlosok and Stefan Karlsson
- Saxophonists "Blue Lou" Marini, Jim Snidero, Tim Ries, Craig Handy and Jeff Coffin
- Trombonists Tom "Bones" Malone, Conrad Herwig, Steve Wiest and Sara Jacovino
- Vocalists Norah Jones, JD Walter and Alison Wedding



music.unt.edu/jazz

The

Debbie & Neal Smatresk OLLI After Five Series

This special series is named for Debbie & Neal Smatresk, reflecting their steadfast dedication to our members and their commitment to enriching the North Texas community through the joy of lifelong learning. The series is available to all OLLI members at no additional cost. Each series event includes a complimentary selection of wines, beers, cheeses, and crackers.



One Diplomat's Supporting Role on History's Great Stage

Tuesday, September 2

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

In the 1980s, Poland suffered nation-wide labor unrest resulting in the imposition of martial law by Poland's communist authorities yet, by 1990, ended up a full-fledged democracy. Posted to the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw from 1980 to 1983 and again from 1987 to 1991, Steve Dubrow will recount some of his Polish experiences as case studies illustrating what a diplomat is and what a diplomat does. Focusing on this key time as an officer in the Foreign Service of the United States, Steve will make clear that a diplomat's career is more a lifestyle choice than a job.



Steve Dubrow graduated from Columbia and Princeton, taught at Brown University, served for 25 years as a diplomat in the U.S. Foreign Service, and taught world languages for 19 years.

John Williams' Villain Themes

Thursday, September 25

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

After reflecting on the features of several well-known villain themes from familiar movie scores such as Darth Vader and The Emperor (from *Star Wars*), this presentation will synthesize the musical features that comprise the core of John Williams' villain motifs. Dr. Graf will then demonstrate the different ways in which one can construct a villain theme in the style of John Williams, in a step-by-step process of layering rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic features. By the end of the session, members under Dr. Graf's guidance, will compose "the next" iconic villain theme and will be able to sync it to a hypothetical movie scene to see it "in action."



Benjamin Graf, PhD, is Principal Lecturer of Music Theory at UNT. He is an active scholar in music theory, pedagogy and performance. He has completed three different music degrees— Music Education (BS, Towson University), Music

Performance (MM, UNT), and Music Theory (PhD, UNT). Based on his excellence in teaching and outstanding service, Benjamin was awarded the 2025 UNT Outstanding Lecturer Award at the UNT Foundation Salute to Faculty Excellence ceremony; it is the highest honor for professional faculty at UNT.

Saving *The Texas News*: The NBC 5 / WBAP-TV Video Collection

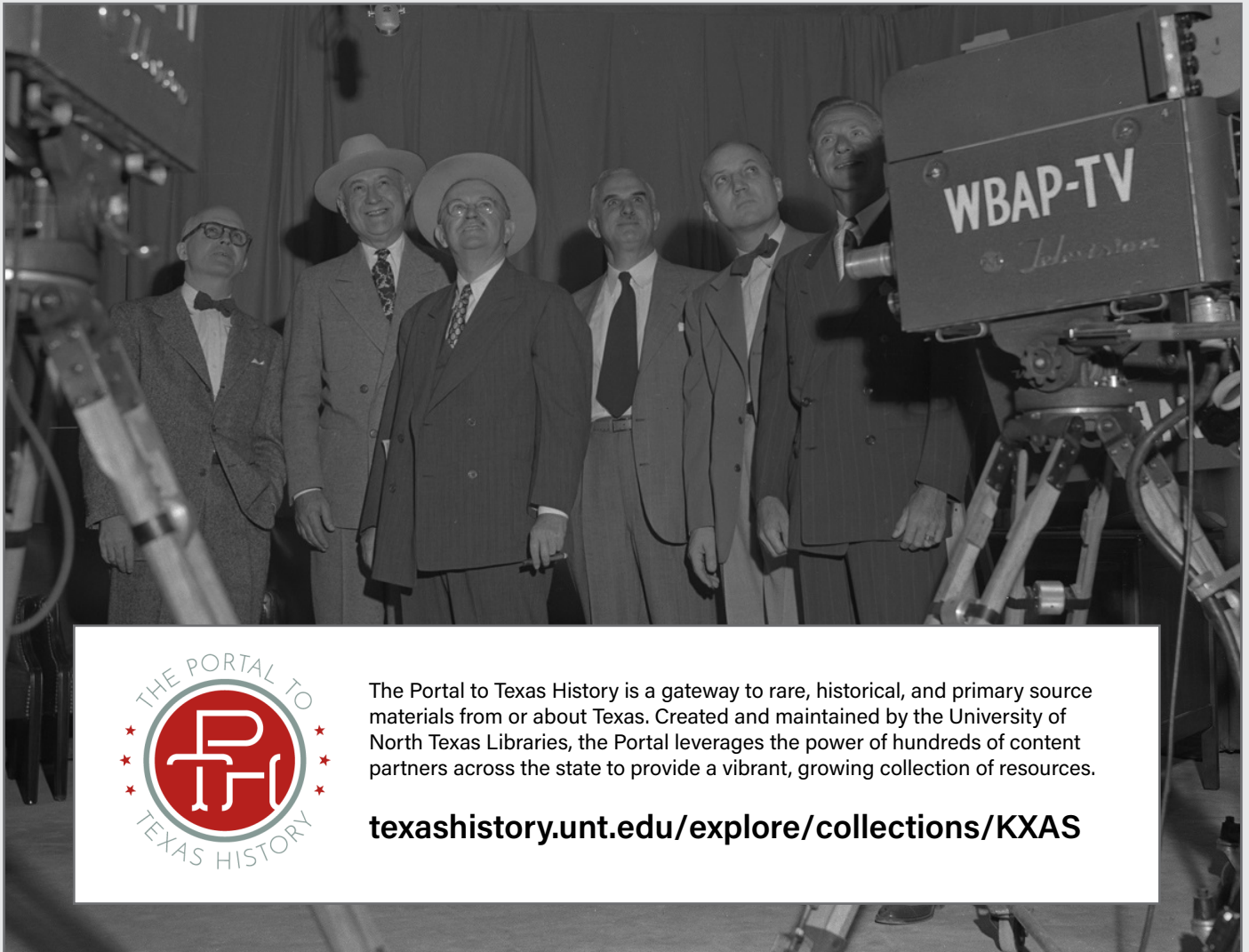
Thursday, October 2, 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Robson Ranch Clubhouse

Texas' first TV station, WBAP-TV (now NBC 5) signed on in 1948 and created *The Texas News*, a unique, newsreel-style program that set the tone for local newscasts of the period. Much of the original news footage was tucked away, untouched, until 2013 when NBC 5 engaged the University of North Texas Libraries to preserve and digitize the one-of-a-kind collection of local storytelling for the last half of the 20th century. The NBC 5 / WBAP Collection continues to grow in The Portal to Texas History and recently reached over nine million total inquiries.

Join us for an entertaining look at the history of WBAP-TV, learn about the evolution of local television news, and view fascinating stories that reflect who we are as North Texans.



Brian Hocker has over 37 years of experience in television management and worked with UNT Libraries to establish The NBC 5 / WBAP Collection. He recently retired from NBC Universal where he led teams on a variety of projects, including the over-the-air rollout of national networks like Oxygen and COZI-TV, and the integration of newly acquired TV stations into the company's local station division. He was Vice President - Digital Media, Programming and Research for NBC 5 and Telemundo 39 in North Texas. Brian is a self-described news junkie who began his career in newspapers.



The Portal to Texas History is a gateway to rare, historical, and primary source materials from or about Texas. Created and maintained by the University of North Texas Libraries, the Portal leverages the power of hundreds of content partners across the state to provide a vibrant, growing collection of resources.

texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/KXAS

Fall 2025 Courses

Classroom Location Key:

UNT = UNT Support & Services Bldg.
CCY = The Point at CC Young
RR = Robson Ranch Clubhouse
FM = Flower Mound Senior Center
KEL = Keller Sr. Activities Center
LAN = Lantana Comm. Event Center
ZOOM = Virtual Classroom

See location addresses on page 10.

Scheduling Notes:

Multi-session Courses: If a course has multiple sessions listed at a single location, it will continue from one session to the next, with new material being presented at each session.

Repeated Courses: If a course has multiple locations listed, that indicates the entire course will be repeated at each location.

Instructor Handouts:

Handouts are posted to our website, oli.unt.edu/handouts, as they are made available to OLLI staff.

Course Fees:

For Pay Per Course members, each in-person course in this section carries a \$15 fee, which is due upon enrollment in the course. Virtual courses on **Zoom** and **YouTube** livestreams are included for all members at no additional cost.

Cancellation Deadlines:

Pay Per Course members who cancel their attendance at least 24 hours in advance of a course's start date can request to apply their course fee to another course this semester.



Guest Policy:

Guests can see what our program is all about by attending one of the courses in this section for free, while space is available. Contact oli@unt.edu to enroll as a guest in one free course.

*This catalog was printed in August 2025.
Any changes to a course's schedule will be communicated to the members on the roster via email.*

Arts & Humanities

Abductions: The Theft (and Return) of the Motunui Panels to the Te Ati Awa of New Zealand

CCY Tues. Nov. 4;
10:00am - 11:30am  
RR Thurs. Nov. 13; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

How did the kidnapping of a five-year-old girl in Geneva, Switzerland in 1977 lead to the return of the Motunui Panels to the Te Ati Awa iwi in Taranaki, New Zealand in 2015? In this lecture, we delve into the epic tale of the Motunui Panels, a set of five elaborately carved Maori panels that have traversed the globe, facing smuggling, ransom demands, and several court cases. Along the way, we will learn about Maori art and culture through an exploration of the Motunui Panels and other stolen New Zealand objects.

Laura Evans, PhD, is a Distinguished Teaching Professor and Director of the Art Museum Education Certificate at the University of North Texas. She teaches about art museums, art crime, and art interpretation and has published widely. Laura lectures about art crime globally and has worked at art museums around the world, from the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts in Western Australia to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, with many more in between.



Another Look at the Trojan War

UNT Mon. Sept. 8; 10:00am - 11:30am

We all know about the Trojan horse, but this session will cover the rest of Homer's epic, *The Iliad*—how the war started, conflicts in the Greek and Trojan camps, details of the final defeat, and how the Romans picked up the story and used it.

Don Vann, PhD, is a Professor Emeritus in the UNT Department of English and retired Regent's Professor. He has been an author or editor of eight books, as well as scores of articles and reviews.

Art Appreciation: Even More Reasons to Appreciate Art

CCY Thurs. Nov. 20;
10:00am - 11:30am  

Dr. Ranieri will introduce current research about some of the many ways that art and aesthetic experiences have been proven to enhance brain health and general wellbeing—especially as one ages. In the spirit of UNT's Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation, the session will embrace a hands-on philosophy with some activities and discussion.

Elizabeth Ranieri, PhD, is a Clinical Assistant Professor in UNT at Frisco's College of Applied and Collaborative Studies and an affiliate professor of Art History. She has lived, worked, and studied in Italy. Her research interests include the Art and Architecture of the Italian Renaissance and Baroque and Sacred Space.



Contemporary Texas Authors Looking at 19th Century Texas

LAN Fri. Sept. 19; 10:00am - 11:30am
FM Mon. Sept. 29; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

Many OLLI members have eagerly attended classes on Texas history. Looking at the facts is critical to understanding what Texas is about. But looking at how contemporary Texas authors bring to life the facts and/or myths about 19th century Texas provides a different kind of awareness of what we think Texas is. This session will examine four novelists: Steve Harrigan, Paulette Jiles, Elizabeth Crook, and Larry McMurtry.

La Donna Womochel, PhD, taught at Texas Tech either part-time or full-time for nine years. She earned her PhD from Texas Tech University, where she specialized in 19th century American novels. She currently serves on the OLLI at UNT Advisory Council and frequently reviews books for organizations at Robson Ranch.

Decoding Leonardo's & Michelangelo's Paintings

UNT Mon. Sept. 15; 10:00am - 11:30am
CCY Tues. Sept. 23;
10:00am - 11:30am  

This presentation will re-examine Leonardo's interpretation of biblical texts and how he used hidden messages within his artwork. In addition, the presentation will discuss Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel fresco's hidden truths.

Francesca d'Atria - Romano, MFA, was a high school art instructor and administrator for 35 years. After retirement, she taught Art History 101 at St. John's University in New York and became a docent at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She is also an artist who designed a logo for the Staten Island Ferry.

Evils of Imagination: Horror Fiction and Moral Panics from the Victorians to Today

RR Thurs. Oct. 2; 1:00pm - 2:30pm
CCY Tues. Oct. 7; 10:00am - 11:30am
UNT Wed. Oct. 29; 10:00am - 11:30am
LAN Fri. Nov. 7; 10:00am - 11:30am

The run up to Halloween is a time where we can indulge our inclination toward the macabre and frightening, a time of ghost stories and horror movies. But these forms of escapist entertainment have continually come under attack throughout history by people who condemn them as dangerous and corrupting influences on the minds of the masses. Is there any truth to this belief? Is horror harmful, and does it make monsters of all of us? Dr. Megan Bryan, who wrote her PhD thesis on 19th century vampire literature at the University of York in the UK, will explore these questions regarding the dark side of our natures, and how it manifests itself in fiction. Please join her in shedding a little light on the darkness.

Megan Bryan, PhD, was born and raised in Germany, and received her university education, including her doctorate, from the University of York in the UK. She wrote her thesis on 19th century vampire literature, which has been an obsession of hers ever since watching "Horror of Dracula" at 15 years old. She has written five novels, as well as numerous essays, articles, and short stories on Victorians, villains, and vampires, and enjoys lecturing on these topics. She is also the Program Associate Director here at OLLI, and encourages you to stop by and see her anytime you want your Halloween fix whatever the time of year!

Flappers, Fringe, and Flair: Let's Go Art Deco

CCY Tues. Oct. 21; 10:00am - 11:30am

In this session, members will explore how the Art Deco movement of the early 20th century was expressed in architecture, furnishings, and fashion. Introduced in France, the art style is easily recognizable with strong lines, stylized patterns, and vivid colors. This session will explore important designers and objects of the period. Members may be surprised at what remnants of the style we still see today.

Lynn Brandon, PhD, is an Associate Professor in UNT's Department of Merchandising & Digital Retailing, where she serves as the program coordinator for the home furnishings program.

Christy Crutsinger, PhD, is a Professor in UNT's Department of Merchandising & Digital Retailing, where she has taught fashion history, trend analysis, and merchandising/retail strategies.

Frederic Church: 19th Century American Landscape Painter

CCY Tues. Sept. 2; 10:00am - 11:30am



Frederic Church (1826 - 1900) specialized in large scale dramatic views of spectacular natural phenomena such as towering mountains, vertiginous waterfalls and erupting volcanos. Church is one of the principal members of the Hudson River School that depicted the American landscape unspoiled by the activities of humans, and who considered the landscape's very existence as evidence of the preeminence and singularity of the American continent. This presentation will explore Church's life beginning as a student of Thomas Cole through the production of his series of Great Pictures at the apex of his career, and will include an emphasis on his painting "The Icebergs," now held in the collection of the Dallas Museum of Art.

Lane Banks is a lecturer and museum educator focusing on the history of modern and contemporary art. He has taught continuing education courses at SMU for the past twenty years, has been a docent at the Dallas Museum of Art and Nasher Sculpture Center, and continues to lead gallery talks at the DMA.

How Do You Want To Be Remembered?

KEL Tues. Sept. 16; 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Whether you want to shape a memory, write a memoir, devise a mission statement or craft a special narrative, there are proactive ways to consider your legacy, create an expression of your values and/or to tell your story. Remember the tale about Alfred Nobel who got the newspaper to read his brother's obituary. The newspaper, however, had gotten the brothers mixed up, and Alfred read his own obituary that detailed his involvement in the invention of dynamite. Devastated that that was how he was going to be remembered, Alfred decided to pursue the opposite, creating the Nobel Peace Prize.

Patricia Baldwin, PhD, is a longtime writer, editor and educator who loves storytelling. She has journalistic experience at business journals, daily newspapers and consumer magazines. She has taught college journalism as well as writing workshops at Lifelong Learners Georgetown and at Houston-based Writespace.

Jane Austen's Novels: *Mansfield Park*

UNT Wed. Sept. 24; 10:00am - 11:30am
CCY Thurs. Sept. 25; 10:00am - 11:30am



Austen's third published novel, *Mansfield Park*, has sparked debate and split audiences since 1814. The character of Fanny Price is controversial in part because she seems the polar opposite of Elizabeth Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. Education is one major theme in *Mansfield Park*, with the errors and sins of characters the result of a flawed upbringing and failed education. Austen's brief mention of the British slave trade has been given much attention as well. Members are encouraged to read *Mansfield Park* in advance and come prepared to discuss the more somber novel in the Austen canon.

Elaine Kushmaul, MLIS, has had a long-standing admiration for Jane Austen and her novels. A mid-life career change led to a Master's in Library Information Services from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. One of the projects during graduate study concentrated on Jane Austen and her life.

Lone Star Literary Landscapes: Texas Literature and the Environment

RR Tues. Sept. 23 & 30; 10:00am - 11:30am

In this session, members will explore Texas' literary history and examine how Texas writers engage with the state's diverse environments—from sprawling prairies and rugged deserts to dense forests and dynamic coastlines—and how these landscapes shape historical narratives, cultural identities, and environmental consciousness. Members will read works by acclaimed authors, including Larry McMurtry, John Graves, and Rick Bass, discuss themes of conservation and loss, abundance and scarcity, and progress and preservation, and reflect on the state's contemporary ecological challenges.

Rochelle Gregory, PhD, is a Clinical Associate Professor in UNT's Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation. She grew up on a farm in rural central Texas. She attended Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, where she earned a BA and MA in English. Later, Rochelle attended Texas Woman's University, where she earned a PhD in Rhetoric. Rochelle is currently teaching writing and literature at the UNT Frisco campus and is writing her first novel.

Marshal McLuhan's Global Village: The Medium Is the Message

UNT Mon. Nov. 10; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

This session will review McLuhan's take on the history of "Western Civilization" beginning with the oral age of Homer to widespread adoption of the Phoenician alphabet in the Greco-Roman era. In late medieval/early Renaissance times, literacy moved from a scribal culture to the "Gutenberg Galaxy" we see in Shakespeare's Elizabethan England. McLuhan is one of the few Sixties counterculture gurus who remains relevant to our understanding of the digital age's influence on our sensory awareness and modern consciousness.

Don Hancock, PhD, retired after 35 years as an administrator and teacher in college and non-profit adult education programs. He received both his PhD in Adult and Continuing Education and his BA in Journalism from UNT.

Seven Soliloquies: The Heart of Hamlet

LAN Fri. Sept. 12; 10:00am - 11:30am

FM Mon. Sept. 15; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

"To be, or"....what? This session is designed for those who may have found *Hamlet* daunting. Members will view the seven soliloquies on video and be guided through interpretation of each of the speeches to gain insight into the Prince of Denmark, Shakespeare's complex and tragic character.

Lynne Kelsey is a retired English teacher who taught twelfth grade British literature to 175 high school seniors in her former hometown and loved every minute of it.

Sophocles' *Antigone*: An Exploration

UNT Mon. Nov. 3; 10:00am - 11:30am

In Sophocles' play (441 BC) members will see the powerless citizen, Antigone, torn between the demands of her conscience and religion, which require her to give her dead brother burial rites, and her obligation to follow the law and thus suffer severe consequences.

Don Vann, PhD, is a Professor Emeritus in the UNT Department of English and retired Regent's Professor. He has been an author or editor of eight books, as well as scores of articles and reviews.

That Nelson Riddle Sound

RR Thurs. Sept. 4; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

UNT Mon. Sept. 8; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

CCY Tues. Sept. 16;
10:00am - 11:30am



Nelson Riddle was an American composer and arranger. His work with Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, and Nat King Cole were defining moments in the history of American popular music. He also arranged music for Judy Garland, Dean Martin, Peggy Lee, Johnny Mathis, Keely Smith, Rosemary Clooney, and Linda Ronstadt.

Max Morley, DMA, taught music history and literature at Stephen F. Austin State University until his retirement. He earned his BM, MM, and DMA degrees from UNT. Dr. Morley was also a recipient of the UNT Provost's OLLI Faculty Award for 2023.

Whatever Happened to Art?

FM Mon. Sept. 22; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

LAN Fri. Oct. 31; 10:00am - 11:30am

Have you ever looked at a so-called piece of art and wondered, "What were they thinking? How can they call this Art?" The question of what is and is not art may be a difficult one to answer. However, this irreverent and definitely opinionated interactive presentation will tackle this topic, and after all is said and done, will provide the instructor's definitive answer to the question, "What is Art?"

Raymond Pahler majored in engineering and minored in art. While employed as an executive in the plastics industry, he became an accomplished artist working in a wide range of media. His work as an artist has been focused toward depicting technical subjects in an artful manner.

Women Fashioning the World

UNT Wed. Sept. 3; 10:00am - 11:30am

CCY Thurs. Sept. 4;
10:00am - 11:30am



Today our wardrobes include many features that seem mundane – layering garments to adapt to changing environments, wearing comfy ballet flats, closing garments with zippers – but at one point those were all incredible innovations introduced by women fashion designers! Learn more about these fashion breakthroughs in a lecture illustrated with examples from the Texas Fashion Collection, a world-class fashion archive at UNT.

Annette Becker, MA, is Director of the Texas Fashion Collection, where she stewards the TFC's holdings of nearly 20,000 historic and designer garments and accessories. Annette is a material culture historian and arts educator who holds an MA in Art History from UNT and brings experience from museums and archives around the country.

Business & Economics

Elder Scams, Fraud, and Financial Exploitation: Financial Safety as We Age

FM Wed. Sept. 24; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

RR Thurs. Oct. 23; 10:00am - 11:30am

Financial exploitation of older adults is a very serious problem. This presentation will provide guidance on how members can protect themselves and others.

Steve Benton helps older adults avoid the dangers of financial uncertainty and exploitation as an Elder Financial Safety Center Financial Coach, Counselor and Exploitation Specialist at The Senior Source. He specializes in complex cases, including fraud, scams and elder financial abuse.

Finance for Retirees

FM Mon. Oct. 27, Nov. 3 & 10; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

This three-session course will address topical subjects for those who are already in retirement. Members will have open discussions about the market and cover areas that are important as we are drawing down our retirement.

Kara Lebanik a financial advisor with Edward Jones who has been in the industry for several years with 2 large firms. She has an extensive background in many different types of investment vehicles, and working closely with those who are unfamiliar with how investing works.

Funding the Future: A Closer Look at Public School Finance in Texas

RR Thurs. Oct. 2; 10:00am - 11:30am

This presentation will explore the complexities of the Texas public school finance system, examining how state funding formulas, local property taxes, and recapture policies impact educational equity and district budgeting. It will highlight current challenges, analyze recent legislative changes, and propose actionable reforms to ensure fair and sustainable funding for all Texas students.

Dr. Deron Robinson has served as general and legal counsel for the Denton Independent School District since January 2020, bringing extensive experience in school law and district legal matters. He previously advised multiple Texas school districts, including Allen ISD. Dr. Robinson holds a law degree and a doctorate in education administration.

Dr. Jeremy Thompson is the Deputy Superintendent of Denton ISD, where he oversees financial operations and the business office. He has over 20 years of leadership experience as a Superintendent in Era and Ponder ISDs and began his career as a teacher and coach in 1995. Dr. Thompson holds advanced degrees in mathematics and educational leadership and also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Retire Smarter, Not Harder: Mastering Retirement Taxes to Protect Your Wealth

FM Wed. Oct. 8; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

LAN Fri. Oct. 17; 10:00am - 11:30am

This workshop, led by local financial planner Joseph Dowdall, is designed to equip retirees and those preparing to retire with the knowledge to navigate the complexities of taxation. The session will explore common “tax traps” and highlight valuable “tax opportunities” across the four stages of retirement, providing members with actionable strategies to potentially save significant money and ensure a more secure financial future.

Joe Dowdall, MBA, has worked in the financial services industry for over 16 years and has spent the last 12 years as a financial planner in North Texas. He earned his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York and his MBA in Finance from Saint Joseph's Haub School of Business. Joe is a certified Financial Planner, Chartered Retirement Plan Consultant, and a Retirement Income Certified Professional.

The U.S. Federal Reserve and Banking System

FM Wed. Sept. 3; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

In this session, members will learn how the Federal Reserve System and overall banking system affects the US economy.

Stan Nelsen, MA, holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Fresno State University and a Master's degree in Banking and Finance from Golden Gate University.

Will Your Living Trust Fail?

UNT Wed. Oct. 1; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

This session is designed for members who are thinking about getting a living trust or already have one. The presentation will explain why many living trusts fail.

Leigh Hilton is an Accredited Estate Planner. She received her law degree from the South Texas College of Law in Houston and is a member of the Wealth Counsel, National Association of Elder Law Attorneys, and Elder Counsel.

Winemaking in Texas

CCY Thurs. Oct. 9;
10:00am - 11:30am

FM Wed. Oct. 22; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

The presentation will cover the Texas Wine Industry and the challenges of growing grapes and making wine in the state of Texas.

Andrew Snyder, CSS, CSW is the Fermentation Science Professor in the newly established Enology and Brewing minor in the Department of Multidisciplinary Innovation at UNT. Snyder has served as president of the Oklahoma Grape Growers and Winemakers Association, a member of the Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association, American Society of Enology and Viticulture and the Society of Wine Educators, where he has earned the (CSW) Certified Specialist of Wine and (CSS) Certified Specialist of Spirits accreditations. He holds WSET II certification in spirits and has served as a wine judge in the Lone Star International Wine Competition.

Current Events & Social Issues

A Golden Dome for America? The Logic & Implications of President Trump's Missile Defense Proposal

RR Tues. Sept. 23; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

FM Wed. Oct. 29; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

This presentation will explore President Trump's proposed “Golden Dome” missile defense system for America. It will examine the makeup and purposes of the system and how it might work. As part of our discussions, we will discuss the challenges of such a system, why it is controversial, and what it might mean, if deployed, for international security and stability.

Michael Greig, PhD, is a Professor of Political Science at UNT with a primary research and teaching expertise in international relations. His work explores the forces that cause the outbreak of conflict and the tools that are most effective in transitioning war to a stable peace.

Claims of Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

FM Mon. Oct. 6 & 13; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

A caste system is a social hierarchy created on the basis of characteristics like race or religion, in which dominant castes control subordinate ones. The main idea of Isabel Wilkerson's 2020 nonfiction bestseller *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* is that the United States, like India and Nazi Germany, has operated under a hidden caste system based on race. Wilkerson suggests that we can draw parallels between Blacks and Whites as a part of “caste” systems in the U.S., upper and lower castes in India, and the “superior” class of Nazi Germany over “inferior” non-Germans. This two-session course will explore the thesis and the arguments given by the author. It will also include some scenes from the 2023 movie adaptation *Origin*, by Ava DuVernay.

Richa Yadav, PhD, is a freelance writer who earned her doctorate degree in Philosophy. She moved to the United States almost two decades ago and has taught OLLI courses on literature, religion, and Indian culture since 2019.

Cryptocurrencies: Hype vs. Reality

CCY Thurs. Nov. 6;
10:00am - 11:30am

LAN Fri. Nov. 14; 10:00am - 11:30am

Cryptocurrencies regularly make headlines and trend on social media, but they are often discussed using terms that are difficult for non-experts to understand. This session will explain in non-technical terms what cryptocurrencies are and how they work.

Darrel VanDyke, PhD, received his doctorate degree in Computer Science and has worked with several early computer companies. He is also an author of the book, *Fire in the Mind*, which details the computer ideas that came about during the 1970s.

Federalism and American Democracy

UNT Mon. Oct. 27; 10:00am - 11:30am

The American political experiment was embarked upon by a coalition of small states seeking freedom from monarchical authoritarianism. It evolved over two and a half centuries of domestic conflict, constitutional reform, legislation, executive behavior, and judicial action into a much more democratic polity based upon the rule of law and cooperation among different levels of government. The session will explore significant contemporary challenges and threats to its evolved democratic nature and its prospects. Can the federal structure and democratic practice withstand these challenges?

John A. Booth, PhD, is Regents Professor Emeritus of political science at UNT. Over 37 years, he taught courses on U.S. government and politics, democracy, and Latin America. His research and teaching have focused on Latin American politics and public opinion, democratization, and political violence and revolution. He has offered OLLI classes since 2013.


International Relations with Dr. Greig: Understanding the Conflicts in Today's Headlines

RR Tues. Sept. 16; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

In these regular updates on global affairs, UNT Political Science Professor Michael Greig draws from his research interests in international conflict and conflict management to provide insight into critical events that are making headlines around the world. These sessions explore important concepts in political science that will help members better understand the foreign policy decisions facing U.S. policymakers and diplomats. The topic for this semester will be determined by current events and announced to members in advance of the session.

Michael Greig, PhD, is a Professor of Political Science at UNT with a primary research and teaching expertise in international relations. His work explores the forces that cause the outbreak of conflict and the tools that are most effective in transitioning war to a stable peace.

Public Opinion Polling in American Politics

CCY Tues. Nov. 11;
10:00am - 11:30am 

How can a survey of 1,000 people tell what the whole U.S. thinks? When should we trust and when should we distrust polls? The session will address these and other questions and explore the role of public opinion polling in elections and the relationship of public opinion to policy. Members will learn about the history of polling and how technology has changed it, how polling is used—and sometimes misused—in campaigns, and what polls tell us about politics today.

Patricia Richard, PhD, is Trustee Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Ohio University. In her scholarly work, Dr. Richard has written extensively about democracy, elections and campaigns, public opinion, and women's rights.

History

America's Humble Servant: Ben Franklin's Perspectives on American Ingenuity, Resolve and Liberty

KEL Tues. Oct. 28; 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Allow Dr. Benjamin Franklin to share his life's stories, experiences, and perspectives that exemplify what would come to be known as the American Spirit. In this immersive experience, Franklin himself brings his journey to life, revealing how an insatiable curiosity led a boy with only two years of formal education to rise from a fugitive to a world-renowned philosopher, scientist, businessman, diplomat, and statesman. In the traditional wit of Poor Richard, enjoy the philosopher's insights on American ingenuity and resolve that transformed a once-loyal British subject into a rebel who helped establish liberty and the world's longest-standing constitutional republic. What question would you ask Ben if you had the chance? Now you do!

Darren York is a mathematician and industrial engineer, specializing in optimization and work process improvement—unlike Ben Franklin in math proficiency, yet akin to Franklin in his roles as a postmaster and printer for efficiency. A passionate history lover, Darren ventured into the creative realm, becoming a historical interpretive actor portraying Ben Franklin. Through his performances, he aims to spark curiosity and foster a deeper connection to history, science, business, and public service, offering an immersive, engaging, and transformational experience with the 18th-century master of wit and wisdom.

"Stephen F. Austin Did Not Found a Nudist Colony": The Singular Saga of TWU's Pioneer Woman Statue



UNT Mon. Oct. 6; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

RR Tues. Oct. 14; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Art historian Erica Doss has called the decades from the 1890s to the late 1930s the "Era of Statue Mania." This presentation will survey the national Pioneer Woman statue movement of the early twentieth century to set the TWU statue into historical context while it analyzes the explosive, nationwide 1935 controversy occasioned by the Texas Centennial's proposal to place an unclothed pioneer woman sculpture in Denton. This presentation will highlight the activities of college president Louis H. Hubbard, former Texas governor Pat N. Neff, and a group of distinguished artists from Texas and New York, along with fleeting appearances in the story by Herbert Hoover, Harry S. Truman, Will Rogers, and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Light T. Cummins, a retired Texas history professor, is the author or editor of over a dozen books dealing with that subject, along with an array book of chapters and academic essays, many of which deal with the Lone Star state in the 1930s. He has also written magazine articles about Texas history, two textbooks, and a syndicated newspaper column in addition to appearing in historical documentaries along with participating in radio and television broadcasts including on PBS, the BBC, and the commercial networks. The Governor of Texas appointed him as the official Historian of the State of Texas, a non-partisan post. *The Princeton Review* named him one of the 300 most outstanding college professors in the nation for all disciplines and levels of higher education.

Black Culture as Resistance during Enslavement

CCY Thurs. Sept. 18
10:00am - 11:30am  

RR Thurs. Sept. 25; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Culture was not among the artifacts that Africans lost when captured from their home and enslaved in North America. Instead, they tenaciously clung to West African customs. The process of cultural transplant was a method of regaining control for those who were enslaved. This one-session course will explore African American cultural iterations, and how this culture, in turn, served as an active, powerful tool for resisting enslavement.

Kerry Goldmann, PhD, is a Senior Lecturer and Associate Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of History at UNT. She is a historian of Jewish American history, African American history, and American culture whose research investigates the intersecting histories of subaltern communities and art used for social change. She has taught minority theatre, culture, and histories in the theatre and history departments at UNT.

Eating History: Cookbooks as Archives of Social, Technological, and Domestic Life

UNT Mon. & Wed. Oct. 27 & 29;
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Besides being culinary guides, 19th and early 20th century American cookbooks and recipe collections tell hidden stories about the personal and communal, domestic lives of women. These handwritten recipes reflect the women's literacy level, social status, and national location. With the increase in print technology and distribution, recipes evolved from mainly autobiographic journals to published books. They included new innovations such as information on food safety and the use of the cook stove. With pre-made foods coming to market, the Home Economic Movement was created to make household management scientific and more efficient. Women such as Amelia Simmons, Malinda Russell, Fanny Farmer, Ellen Richards led the way.

Lois Levine-Elman is a former school psychologist who has given OLLI presentations on a variety of topics.

From Dogood to Fart Proudly: A Journey Through Franklin's Pen and Press

FM Wed. Sept. 10; 2:30pm - 4:00pm
CCY Thurs. Oct. 16;
10:00am - 11:30am



Step into the 18th century with Benjamin Franklin himself as your guide. This lively presentation will explore Franklin's most influential and entertaining writings—from the satirical Silence Dogood Letters and moral tale *The Downfall of Piracy*, to the irreverent essay “Fart Proudly” and the timeless wit of *Poor Richard's Almanac*. Hear Franklin share The Way to Wealth and reflect on his personal system of self-improvement through his 13 Virtues, all delivered with his trademark humor, insight, and charm. This session will take a spirited look at how one man's pen helped shape a nation's character.

Darren York is a mathematician and industrial engineer, specializing in optimization and work process improvement—unlike Ben Franklin in math proficiency, yet akin to Franklin in his roles as a postmaster and printer for efficiency. A passionate history lover, Darren ventured into the creative realm, becoming a historical interpretive actor portraying Ben Franklin. Through his performances, he aims to spark curiosity and foster a deeper connection to history, science, business, and public service, offering an immersive, engaging, and transformational experience with the 18th-century master of wit and wisdom.

From the Negro Leagues to the Majors: The Untold Story the Integration of Baseball From 1947 - 1973

KEL Tues. Oct. 7; 1:30pm - 3:00pm
UNT Wed. Oct. 22; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

The story of Jackie Robinson and the integration of baseball has been told many times. We argue that the integration of baseball took decades and was not fully achieved until the early 1970s. This session will recount the stories of many unsung heroes who followed in the footsteps of Jackie Robinson, such as Hank Thompson, Sam Jethroe, Satchel Paige, Walt Williams, and Curt Flood. Members will re-examine the Red Sox loss in the 1967 World Series and the so-called “Curse of the Bambino.”

Liam O'Neill, PhD, is an Associate Professor in UNT's Department of Rehabilitation and Health Services. He has been a health economist and policy analyst since 1997.

Greyhounds: The Most Comely Hound

UNT Mon. Oct. 13; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

It's not just Jerry Davis' opinion, The Bible says so. Greyhounds are more than just the second fastest land animal. In this session, members will learn more about these elegant hounds. Mr. Davis also plans to bring an “ambassador” for show and tell.

Jerry Davis is a professional engineer who worked in the commercial electric power industry for 15 years. He followed this by teaching Engineering at UNT for 21 years. A nuclear engineer by education he also taught Mechanical Engineering.

I Didn't Know That! Things You May Or May Not Know About the Life of George Washington

KEL Tues. Sept. 2; 1:30pm - 3:00pm
LAN Fri. Sept. 5; 10:00am - 11:30am
FM Wed. Sept. 17; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

This session will cover facts and little known facts/events in the life of our first president. Did he wear wooden teeth? Who was his first love? And many, many more interesting stories about Washington.

Bruce Ralston is a Civil War living history actor. He taught U.S. History in California schools for 45 years.

In Their Own Words: The Stories of Six Civil War Brothers

CCY Thurs. Oct. 2;
10:00am - 11:30am



The story of six brothers from the Morrow family in Iowa who served in the Civil War will be the focus for this presentation. Pension files, historical research and newspaper articles will be used to tell their story and that of their brothers and sisters in Iowa during the war. From a fifer, to infantry, from Tennessee to Mississippi to Louisiana, the stories told will help to better understand their commitment to service and their absolute love and care for family.

Emily C. Richardson, EdD, worked in higher education for 30 years as an administrator and a tenured faculty member, before retiring to follow her genealogy passion and open her genealogy business, Kinsearchers. She has done genealogy research for over 40 years and has taught this topic to both college students and adult learners.

Native American Indians, Past and Present

FM Wed. Oct. 1; 2:30pm - 4:00pm
UNT Mon. Oct. 20; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

This presentation will explore who the Native Americans are, from their origin and contact with Europeans to where are they now, with special focus on three tribes of North Texas: the Caddos, Wichitas, and Comanches.

Ken King has a degree in history from Lamar University where he also did graduate work in history, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma. He was an adjunct instructor at Brookhaven College for a number of years. He developed a lifelong interest in archeology and anthropology as a child when Indian artifacts were found on his grandfather's farm in East Texas.

Repatriation: The Bodies of War

UNT Mon. Nov. 17; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Over 116,000 U.S. military personnel died during World War I. Some were repatriated back to the USA for interment in a national or private cemetery; others remained buried overseas. This session will cover the repatriation process of PVT Ralph Spaulding, KIA in 1918 and explore WW1 Gold Star Pilgrimages for the wives/mothers of the fallen who remained interred in Europe.

Dale R. Spaulding is a lifelong student of history. Dale navigated the oceans and seas of the world in his twenty-two years of service in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander. Dale is a graduate of Auburn University and the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

The Blessings of Liberty

KEL Tues. Nov. 11 & 18; 1:30pm - 3:00pm



This class will explore amendments to the US Constitution that protect our rights to speech, press and religion, as well as due process and equal protection (Amendments 1,5 and 14). The presentation will explore the sources and historical context of these amendments, as well as leading decisions of the Supreme Court that have interpreted and enforced them. The presentation will also consider relevant cases from the 2024 and 2025 terms and will discuss some of the challenges presented in today's political climate.

Elizabeth Whitsett, JD, is a retired attorney whose 40-year career focused primarily on business law, international law, and corporate compliance. Her passion has long been teaching all aspects of the law and the US Constitution and the federal court system that interprets and protects it. She is a graduate of Stanford University, with an MA in Teaching from Yale University and a JD degree from the University of Southern California School of Law.

The Man Who Shot J.P. Morgan: A Life of Arsenic, Anarchy, and Intrigue

KEL Tues. Nov. 4; 1:30pm - 3:00pm

FM Wed. Nov. 12; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

CCY Thurs. Nov. 13;
10:00am - 11:30am  

The Man Who Shot J. P. Morgan, published in June 2025, is tale of false identities, radical political beliefs, and ambitious criminal schemes set during the tumultuous time shortly before the United States entered World War I. In this session, members will learn about this true crime history from the book's author.

Mary Noé is a lawyer and professor in the undergraduate Legal Studies program at St. John's University. As an Impartial Hearing Officer who served for over 20 years for NYS Department of Education, she heard cases brought under the federal law, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA. She is a graduate of Brooklyn College magna cum laude and received her Juris Doctor degree from St. John's University School of Law.

The Middle Passage & Enslaved Resistance

CCY Thurs. Oct. 30;
10:00am - 11:30am



The Middle Passage was the forced voyage of enslaved Africans from West Africa to North America as part of the Atlantic slave trade. This session will include the origins of the slave trade, conditions on ships, and the impacts. In addition, the presentation will examine a number of slave revolts in Colonial America and from the early history of the United States.

Bruce Ralston is a Civil War living history actor. He taught U.S. History in California schools for 45 years.

The Rise and Destruction of 19th Century Galveston

RR Thurs. Sept. 4; 10:00am - 11:30am or

RR Thurs. Sept. 25; 10:00am - 11:30am

To accommodate as many members as possible, this 90-minute lecture is being offered twice this fall.

In this presentation, Andrew Torget will chart the improbable rise of Galveston from an abandoned sandbar in 1836 to its emergence as the most important port city in the American Southwest (and the second wealthiest city in the United States) by 1895. Then, in 1900, the most violent hurricane in American history destroyed Galveston, obliterating the city like a modern-day Atlantis and remaking both Texas and the American Southwest once more. Dr. Torget will explore how the rise, destruction, and remaking of Galveston offer us an unparalleled window into the transformations reshaping Texas at the dawn of the twentieth century.

Andrew J. Torget, PhD, is a historian of 19th century North America at UNT, where he holds the University Distinguished Teaching Professorship. He is the author or editor of five books, he set a Guinness World Record in 2018, and he has won multiple teaching awards on two different continents.

Voices of the Eastern Shore: A Lens into Early American History

CCY Tues. Sept. 9;
10:00am - 11:30am



In this session, members will explore the world of Elizabeth Upshur Teackle (1783-1836) through her view of day-to-day life and iconic events in our nation's early history through the lens of historic letters and correspondence, published online in the Voices of the Eastern Shore digital edition. Elizabeth and her husband, Littleton Dennis Teackle, both from prominent Eastern Shore families in Virginia, relocated to Princess Anne, Maryland shortly after their marriage and built Teackle Mansion, a 10,000 square foot home which is now a museum. She was an early American bluestocking, a poet, gardener, homemaker and match-maker. Her words and intellectualism bring a woman's unique perspective on historic events of the day.

Dreanna Belden, MS, is Assistant Dean of UNT Libraries and Director of External Partnerships. Her interests involve working with museums, libraries, historical societies and archives to place historic materials online. She's spoken nationally and internationally about her research, including at Library of Congress. In addition to her work with the Portal to Texas History, she is Co-Director of the project Texas History for Teachers, and Voices of the Eastern Shore.

World War II as Seen Through Literature of the Past 5 Years

CCY Thurs. Sept. 11;
10:00am - 11:30am





As more archives are made available, authors of fiction and non-fiction have used them as a source for a plethora of books with a World War II setting. This session will highlight the focus of these recent books (women in the war, secret installations like Bletchley Park, etc.) while also reviewing some of the best available books.

Jean Greenlaw, PhD, is a Regents Professor Emeritus in the UNT College of Education. She has been a reviewer for decades and is the book review columnist for the *Denton Record-Chronicle*.

Nature & Environmental Science

Backyard Beekeeping Part 2: Sweet Sustainability

CCY Tues. Sept. 30; 10:00am - 11:30am  

As the sequel to the popular OLLI lecture “My First Year in Beekeeping,” Dr. Derdeyn will bring more humorous anecdotes about the foibles of urban beekeeping, as well as new insights into the secret lives of honeybees and how they benefit the environment.

LeeAnn Derdeyn, PhD, is a Clinical Associate Professor in UNT’s College of Applied and Collaborative Studies. She has a BA in Medieval Literature and Spirituality, as well as an MA and PhD in Modern and Contemporary Literature. Her primary dissertation focus was T. S. Eliot and Modernism.

Fish Biology: A Scientific Travelogue through the Eyes of a Practitioner

KEL Tues. Sept. 30; 1:30pm - 3:00pm
FM Wed. Nov. 19; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

This session will take members on a journey through the world of fish biology, from egg to adult, through the eyes of the instructor, who has studied fish biology for more than 45 years. Using the format of a travelogue across several continents, the instructor will show vignettes that introduce the world of fishes and shows the extraordinary adaptations that fishes have evolved. The instructor will also pose the question of whether fish can evolve fast enough to keep up with global climate change, or whether populations or even whole species are likely to succumb to future extreme hot or extreme cold weather. Members will be invited to share their own interactions with the world of fishes (even their fish stories) during the session.

Warren Burggren, PhD, is a University Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at UNT and a Fellow of the American Physiological Society. Burggren’s research focuses upon developmental, environmental, and evolutionary aspects of the biology of fishes.

How the Natural Environment Gets Away with Murder

LAN Fri. Oct. 10; 10:00am - 11:30am

This session will focus on the environmental and human health impacts of geologic materials and geologic processes. A balanced, fact-based discussion will be provided on both positive and negative effects of the natural environment on human health with emphasis on the issues that impact Texas and surrounding areas.

Robert Finkelman, PhD, helped create the field of medical geology and has co-edited five books on the subject. He received his doctorate degree in Chemistry from the University of Maryland.

The Many Ways That Coal Has Impacted Our Lives

RR Tues. Sept. 16; 10:00am - 11:30am

“King Coal” has had enormous impacts, both positive and negative, on our lives, our society, and on civilization in general. This presentation will describe why coal can be credited with the development of canals, railroads, factories, even cities and why WWII would not have been possible without coal. Members will look at the positive (and there are many) and negative (they are serious) aspects of coal use in Texas and around the world before considering what the future may hold for coal.

Robert Finkelman, PhD (see bio above)

Philosophy & Religion

Applied Christianity: Living with Purpose, Wisdom, and Faith

RR Tues. & Thurs. Oct. 28 & 30; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

What does it mean to live a life of faith beyond belief—one grounded in purpose, guided by wisdom, and shaped by spiritual values? This course will explore the principles of applied Christianity, examining how Christian scripture speaks to life’s most important questions: identity, decision-making, calling, and legacy. Designed for thoughtful learners of faith, this course will provide a reflective, enriching environment to engage with the Bible and apply it to everyday life.

KM Johnson Davis is the CEO & Founder of KM Johnson International, which is a Coaching & Consulting Firm that specializes in teaching entrepreneurs and business leaders how to do Life, Business, and Faith By Design. She is an internationally known motivational speaker, consultant, author, minister & entrepreneur. She has served as an officer in the US Army, been the Business Operations Manager for a Fortune 500 Company, and run 2 successful businesses along with her ministry.

The Quest for Genuine Freedom: In Defense of Kierkegaard’s Upbuilding of Faith and the Unity of Temporality and Eternity

UNT Mon. Sept. 29, Oct. 1, 6, & 8; 10:00am - 11:30am

Søren Kierkegaard (1813-1855), often referred to as the father of existentialism, explored the idea of faith as true ethic and espoused the notion of human despair as the way to genuine freedom through the “leap of faith.” This course will first take a comparative historical approach to existentialism, touching on the philosophies of later existentialist thinkers Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir. Kierkegaard’s faith as true ethic requires a pilgrimage of faith in order to achieve “the belief that in God the impossible is possible, that in Him time and eternity are one, that both life and death are meaningful.” The inward journey to God results in the spirit of true Christian charity and social responsibility to others, which is culminated in the unity of temporality and eternity in Christ’s incarnation.

Susan McRae is a PhD Candidate in the department of Philosophy and Religion at UNT. She has just completed a three-year Teaching Fellowship, in which she taught two sections of PHIL1400 Ethics and Society and two sections of PHIL 2070 World Religions. She was also a Teaching Assistant for numerous courses in both the philosophy and anthropology departments. She received her MS in Applied Anthropology in the summer of 2021. Her dissertation is focused on the philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard and applying that to the ethical treatment of animals.

Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math

Immersive Learning Experiences in Virtual Reality

LAN Fri. Oct. 3; 10:00am - 11:30am

This session will provide an immersive learning experience through the use of virtual reality technology. Members will engage in hands-on activities and simulations that will enhance their mastery of complex activities such as 3D puzzle-solving. The activities will be not only engaging but also relaxational.

Regina Kaplan-Rakowski, PhD, is a Lecturer in the UNT Department of Learning Technologies, where she is also Director of the Masters of Science program. Her research interests include immersive learning environments (virtual reality, augmented reality, mixed reality, virtual worlds).

Fred McMahan, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Learning Technologies at UNT. Dr. McMahan’s research primarily focuses on Adaptive Virtual Environments, specifically, using neurogaming techniques to build XR environments that adapt to the user to provide an ever-changing experience.

Quantum Computing: From Principles to Possibilities

LAN Fri. Sept. 26; 10:00am - 11:30am

KEL Tues. Oct. 14; 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Quantum Computers are going to revolutionize the world of data processing, artificial intelligence, and everything else. Or are they? The hype is easy to find; information on what “quantum computing” really is, not so much. This class will look into the principles driving research into quantum computers, why they seem to always be “just around the corner” and what might be the result if they ever become practical.

David McKinley retired from Oracle Corporation in 2020 after a 50-year career as a systems and software engineer. During his last few years at Oracle, David was a principal architect of a cloud-based application platform used by multiple global business units.

Small Modular Reactors

UNT Wed. Sept. 10; 10:00am - 11:30am

Everyone is now proposing to use Small Modular Reactors to power data centers and AI hubs as if they are the magic answer and can just be waved into existence. So, what are they and are they the answer everyone thinks they are?

Jerry Davis is a professional engineer who worked in the commercial electric power industry for 15 years. He followed this by teaching Engineering at UNT for 21 years. A nuclear engineer by education, he also taught Mechanical Engineering.

What is it Like Working in a Biomedical AI Lab?

RR Thurs. Oct. 23 & 30; 2:45pm - 4:15pm

It's a lab, but the only chemical is coffee. It's biomedical, but most of the clinical work happens in Chicago. The Biomedical AI lab at UNT has 10 PhD students currently supported by grants through the Shriners Children's Hospital, Lurie Children's Hospital, UNT Health Science Center, and Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine. They're working on a lot of things: predicting surgical outcomes in Cerebral Palsy, inferring health from wearable sensor signals, building gesture communication devices for people unable to speak, and tracking toddler movements to study obesity. Dr. Albert can discuss any of these projects, but will start by talking about the day-to-day experience of the students that do the work.

Mark V. Albert, PhD, is the Director of the Biomedical AI lab and Chair of the Department of Information Science at UNT. He co-coordinates the UNT AI Summer Research Program and is lead editor of a recent book *Bridging Human Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence*, combining insights from his prior research in computational neuroscience and the resurgence of applied neural networks in the past decade. He holds a PhD in Computational Biology from Cornell University.

Where's Schiller? The Forensic DNA Identification of Friedrich Schiller

KEL Tues. Sept. 23; 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Friedrich Schiller is widely regarded by many Germans as the most significant classical playwright in the country's history. He along with his friend Johann Wolfgang von Goethe created the “Sturm und Drang” (Storm and Stress) literary movement. After his death, Schiller was buried in a common grave. Efforts to identify the remains of Friedrich Schiller, including anthropological and forensic DNA testing, will be presented.

Michael Coble, PhD, is Executive Director of the Center for Human Identification (CHI) at the UNT Health Science Center. CHI has processed the majority of missing persons and family reference DNA profiles for the United States that reside within the FBI's Combined DNA Index System.

Why Should We Care About Black Holes?

CCY Tues. Oct. 14; 10:00am - 11:30am

Black holes are fascinating objects. They stretch our thinking and pose observational challenges to astronomers. This course will place black holes in perspective and highlight their roles in the bigger picture of our Universe.

Ohad Shemmer, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Physics at UNT. He attended Tel Aviv University in Israel where he completed his Doctorate degree. His areas of research interest include astronomy, black hole mass, accretion rate, and metal abundances in active galactic nuclei.

Wellness & Lifestyle

Digital Lifestyle Resources Workshop

RR Tues. Sept. 9; 10:00am - 11:30am

Digital resources are available that can help with budgeting and the creation of binders to organize your family's most important information in case of an urgent need. This workshop will review and demonstrate three digital resources for budgeting, family emergency planning, and home maintenance. Steve Simpson will speak from his own personal experience using these resources.

Steve Simpson is an experienced OLLI Instructor with a passion for teaching about “Cutting the Cable,” Photography, Drones, and High Tech Devices. He worked for over 20 years supporting the major mobile wireless phone carriers.

Facilitating Group Discussions With Confidence and Panache

RR Thurs. Oct. 23; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

CCY Tues. Nov. 18; 10:00am - 11:30am



In this lively, low-risk, non-threatening SODO (See One/Do One) demonstration, Dr. Derdeyn will instruct members in facilitating a group discussion format which works great for book clubs or reading groups, brainstorming sessions for club meetings, HOAs, businesses, organization project planning, family pow-wows, or any group activity that would benefit from stakeholder co-creation of outcomes. The demonstration will then move to a co-creation session. Members will read a short literary work together, and Dr. Derdeyn will model facilitating a co-created discussion-- an analysis/interpretation of the work by practicing together a modified Harkness Discussion.

LeeAnn Derdeyn, PhD, is a Clinical Associate Professor in UNT's College of Applied and Collaborative Studies. She has a BA in Medieval Literature and Spirituality, as well as an MA and PhD in Modern and Contemporary Literature. Her primary dissertation focus was T. S. Eliot and Modernism.

Medicare 101: What You Need to Know

FM Mon. Sept. 8; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

RR Thurs. Sept. 11; 2:45pm - 4:15pm

Unlock the mystery of Medicare with a course designed to empower and educate. In this engaging session, attendees will gain a clear understanding of how Medicare works - who qualifies, what it covers, and how to make confident, informed choices. Whether you're approaching eligibility, helping a loved one, or simply want to be prepared, this course offers practical insights delivered in a down to earth, easy to follow format. Leave with the knowledge you need and the confidence to navigate Medicare with clarity.

Sabrina Whitaker is a seasoned Medicare Sales Specialist with over 10 years of experience in healthcare support and client advocacy. She assists seniors confidently to navigate Medicare by offering clear, compassionate guidance and community-based solutions. Her expertise lies in building trust and delivering personalized care that empowers beneficiaries to make informed decisions.

Medicare Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Prevention and the ABDs of Medicare

RR Tues. Oct. 7; 1:00pm - 2:30pm
FM Mon. Oct. 20; 2:30pm - 4:00pm
LAN Fri. Oct. 24; 10:00am - 11:30pm

The presentation will provide hands-on tools and knowledge to prevent personal fraud, waste, and abuse of your Medicare benefits. In addition, the presentation will cover Medicare Parts A, B and D as well as services available for prescription reviews/savings and an overview of Medicare Wellness programs.

Jamie Horning is a volunteer for Texas Senior Medicare Patrol, an organization that helps Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries prevent, detect and report health care fraud.

Melinda Gardner is Benefits Counseling Supervisor for the North Central Texas Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging.

Parkinson's Disease: The Who, What, When, Where, and How

FM Wed. Nov. 5; 2:30pm - 4:00pm

In this presentation, members will learn about who is at-risk for developing Parkinson's disease, the common symptoms that describe Parkinson's vs. the less common symptoms, when most people realize that some symptoms are not just "old age," and when people commonly seek help. The presentation will also explore which regions nationally and locally have the highest number of Parkinson's cases and where people go for help. Finally, the presenters will discuss how seniors protect themselves from getting Parkinson's disease, how treatments are discovered, and how this disease is treated most effectively.

Michael Salvatore, PhD, is a Full Professor with tenure at UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth where he teaches and mentors doctoral and medical students. He is a world-renowned Parkinson's disease researcher and educator in academic medicine for 25-years. He is focused on targeting brain proteins affected by aerobic exercise that can be stimulated to improve cognitive and motor function in cross-species translational studies of aging and Parkinson's disease.

Vicki Nejtek, PhD, currently works in the department of Pharmacology and Neuroscience, at the UNT Health Science Center and is the Director of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology. Her current specialty is research on blood-based biomarkers and cognitive functioning in Parkinson's Disease. She also recently co-founded a new 501(c)3 non-profit charity, the Parkinson Discovery Institute with her husband and research collaborator, Dr. Michael Salvatore.

Pickleball Fever: Unlocking the Brain's Joy and Health Boosts in Every Swing

UNT Wed. Sept. 3; 1:00pm - 2:30pm
CCY Thurs. Oct. 23;
10:00am - 11:30am



Discover why pickleball is captivating retirees nationwide in this engaging presentation. Explore the social and psychological science behind its addictive fun, dive into the brain's "flow" state that mirrors video game excitement, and uncover how the sport's unique movements may boost health, including insights from Parkinson's research. Attend this session to learn how every paddle swing may enhance health and well-being.

Glynis Worthington, EdD, became fascinated by pickleball during the pandemic. Her dissertation "Flow in Pickleball" provided evidence players experience Flow during the game. As "Dr. Glynis, Pickleball Scientist" she uses social media to share the latest findings in the fields of social and psychological research surrounding the sport and is authoring a book based on her findings.

Retirement Reimagined: The Joy is in the Detail

ZOOM Tues. Nov. 4;
2:45pm - 4:15pm



Retirement isn't a one-time decision—it's a daily process shaped by the small choices we make. Unlike sessions that focus on finances or emotional adjustment, this one dives into the real-life nuts and bolts of retirement: how we find joy, build community, and create a lifestyle that truly fits through the everyday decisions that shape our next chapter.

Carola Hundrich-Souris, PhD, is a psychologist who has been working in mental health for more than two decades. After spending years focusing on mental illness and decreasing clients' symptoms, she has become a certified coach focusing on people's strengths, meaning, and purpose.

Travel Smarter

ZOOM Fri. Oct. 3, 10, & 17;
1:00pm - 2:30pm



Denise and George Bouhasin will demystify international travel in this three-session course. They help members learn to keep themselves, their money, and their possessions safe. They will share their many how-tos and tricks for trip planning, packing, security, technology, traveling more comfortably, and much more. The course is designed to be useful for experienced travelers and those who are planning their first trip overseas.

Denise and George Bouhasin have visited more than 75 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and South America, as well as Australia and New Zealand. Since George retired in 2009, they have made 27 international trips. Through his work before George's retirement, they had the opportunity to live for an extended period in Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and China. They have familiarity with several languages. Denise and George are looking forward to more enriching experiences through travel.

Traumatic Brain Injury in Older Adults: Prevention and Management Strategies

CCY Tues. Oct. 28;
10:00am - 11:30am



As falls pose a significant risk for traumatic brain injuries among older adults, this lecture will offer comprehensive coverage on both prevention techniques and effective strategies for managing such injuries should they occur.

Shannon Presley, M.S., CCC-SLP, is a speech-language pathologist and principal lecturer in the Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. She has worked at the University of North Texas since 2005 and has taught a graduate level course on traumatic brain injury for seven years. She is a certified brain injury specialist and trains students to assess and treat adults who have sustained various acquired brain injuries such as stroke, TBI, tumor, etc.

Understanding Your Dreams

UNT Wed. Oct. 8; 1:00pm - 2:30pm

In this session, members will learn the fundamentals of sleep and dreaming, as well as the history of dream interpretation. Members will be guided on how to begin exploring and understanding the meaning of their dreams.

Dr. Jim Cannici has been a licensed psychologist in the state of Texas for more than 45 years. He worked at the University of Texas at Dallas for 21 years prior to his retirement. In addition, Dr. Cannici has had a Private Practice in psychology since the early 1980s.

Unshakeable Living: Building Resilience, Purpose, and Confidence in Life's Second Act

UNT Wed. Nov. 5, 12, & 19; 10:00am - 11:30am

Discover how to live with greater confidence, purpose, and resilience in life's second act. This course draws from The Unshakeable Method, a framework used by global organizations to help individuals navigate change, strengthen relationships, and lead with clarity. Through engaging stories, guided reflection, and meaningful conversation, members will learn how to transform challenges into opportunities for growth and impact.

Kennith Allen Thomas is a Leadership and Personal Development Coach with over 20 years of experience helping individuals grow in resilience, communication, and purpose. He is the founder of The Unshakeable Method, a transformative framework used by Fortune 500 companies and universities to empower people to lead with confidence at any stage of life. Kennith's teaching is story-driven, faith-inspired, and designed to equip lifelong learners with practical tools for personal growth.

Fall 2025 Schedule

DATE & TIME **LOCATION** **TITLE** (*Highlighted = Special Event or Lecture Series*)

WEEK 1		
Monday, September 1 - Labor Day, University Closed		
Tuesday, September 2		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Frederic Church: 19th Century American Landscape Painter - Lane Banks
10:00am - 11:00am	UNT	Yoga SIG
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	I Didn't Know That!...the Life of George Washington - Bruce Ralston
5:30pm - 6:30pm	RR	One Diplomat's Supporting Role on History's Great Stage (OLLI After Five) - Steve Dubrow
Wednesday, September 3		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Women Fashioning the World - Annette Becker
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Pickleball Fever: Unlocking the Brain's Joy and Health Boosts in Every Swing - Glynis Worthington
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	The US Federal Reserve and Banking System - Stan Nelsen
Thursday, September 4		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Women Fashioning the World - Annette Becker
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	The Rise & Destruction of 19th Century Galveston (1st Offering) - Andrew Torget
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	That Nelson Riddle Sound - Max Morley
2:00pm - 3:30pm	UNT	Solo Travelers, Unite! SIG
Friday, September 5		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	I Didn't Know That!... the Life of George Washington - Bruce Ralston
WEEK 2		
Monday, September 8		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Another Look at the Trojan War - Don Vann
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	That Nelson Riddle Sound - Max Morley
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Medicare 101: What You Need to Know - Sabrina Whitaker
Tuesday, September 9		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Voices of the Eastern Shore: A Lens into Early American History - Dreanna Belden
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	Digital Lifestyle Resources Workshop - Steve Simpson
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	2026 Collette Trip Reveal
2:45pm - 4:15pm	DSC	Bookshelf Catch-Up SIG: <i>Memoirs of a Geisha</i> by Arthur Golden
Wednesday, September 10		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Small Modular Reactors - Jerry Davis
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	From Dogood to Fart Proudly: A Journey Through Franklin's Pen and Press - Darren York
Thursday, September 11		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	World War II as Seen Through Literature of the Past 5 Years - Jean Greenlaw
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Life in Poetry & Music As They Represent Stages of Life (G2K UNT Jazz Studies) - Richard DeRosa
2:45pm - 4:15pm	RR	Medicare 101: What You Need to Know - Sabrina Whitaker
Friday, September 12		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Seven Soliloquies: The Heart of Hamlet - Lynne Kelsey

DATE & TIME	LOCATION	TITLE (<i>Highlighted = Special Event or Lecture Series</i>)
WEEK 3		
Monday, September 15		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Decoding Leonardo's & Michelangelo's Paintings - Francesca Romano
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Seven Soliloquies: The Heart of Hamlet - Lynne Kelsey
Tuesday, September 16		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	That Nelson Riddle Sound - Max Morley
10:00am - 11:00am	UNT	Yoga SIG
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	The Many Ways That Coal Has Impacted Our Lives - Robert Finkelman
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Int'l Relations with Dr. Greig: Understanding the Conflicts in Today's Headlines - Michael Greig
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	How Do You Want To Be Remembered? - Patricia Baldwin
Wednesday, September 17		
2:45pm - 4:15pm	UNT	Book Talk SIG: Mysteries & Thrillers
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	I Didn't Know That!...the Life of George Washington - Bruce Ralston
Thursday, September 18		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Black Culture as Resistance during Enslavement - Kerry Goldmann
1:00pm - 2:00pm	UNT ENV BLDG	UNT Sky Theater - <i>Supermassive Black Holes</i>
Friday, September 19		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Contemporary Texas Authors Looking at Nineteenth Century Texas - LaDonna Womochel
Saturday, September 20 <i>(Yellow Rose Tours - Women in WWII Day Trip)</i>		
WEEK 4		
Monday, September 22		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Writing for Fun SIG
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Whatever Happened to Art? - Ray Pahler
Tuesday, September 23		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Decoding Leonardo's & Michelangelo's Paintings - Francesca Romano
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	Lone Star Literary Landscapes... (Session 1 of 2) - Rochelle Gregory
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	A Golden Dome for America?...President Trump's Missile Defense Proposal - Michael Greig
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	Where's Schiller? The Forensic DNA Identification of Friedrich Schiller - Michael Coble
Wednesday, September 24		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Jane Austen's Novel: <i>Mansfield Park</i> - Elaine Kushmaul
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Elder Scams, Fraud and Financial Exploitation: Financial Safety as We Age - Steve Benton
Thursday, September 25		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Jane Austen's Novel: <i>Mansfield Park</i> - Elaine Kushmaul
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	The Rise & Destruction of 19th Century Galveston (2nd Offering) - Andrew Torget
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Black Culture as Resistance during Enslavement - Kerry Goldmann
5:30pm - 6:30pm	RR	John Williams' Villain Themes (OLLI After Five) - Benjamin Graf
Friday, September 26		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Quantum Computing - From Principles to Possibilities - David McKinley
2:45pm - 4:15pm	UNT	Great Books SIG: <i>Narcissus and Goldman</i> by Herman Hesse

This catalog was printed in August 2025. Members will be notified by email of any changes to this schedule.

Fall 2025 Schedule

DATE & TIME	LOCATION	TITLE (Highlighted = Special Event or Lecture Series)
WEEK 5		
Monday, September 29		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	The Quest for Genuine Freedom: In Defense of Kierkegaard's...(Session 1 of 4) - Susan McRae
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Contemporary Texas Authors Looking at Nineteenth Century Texas - LaDonna Womochel
Tuesday, September 30		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Backyard Beekeeping Part 2: Sweet Sustainability - LeeAnn Derdeyn
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	Lone Star Literary Landscapes... (Session 2 of 2) - Rochelle Gregory
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Twist the Tune: The Art of Song Reinvention (G2K UNT Jazz Studies) - Rosana Eckert
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	Fish Biology: A Scientific Travelogue Through the Eyes of a Practitioner - Warren Burggren
Wednesday, October 1		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	The Quest for Genuine Freedom: In Defense of Kierkegaard's...(Session 2 of 4) - Susan McRae
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Will Your Living Trust Fail? - Leigh Hilton
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Native American Indians, Past and Present - Ken King
Thursday, October 2		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	In Their Own Words: The Stories of Six Civil War Brothers - Emily Richardson
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	Funding the Future...Public School Finance in Texas - Deron Robinson & Jeremy Thompson
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Evils of Imagination: Horror Fiction and Moral Panics from the Victorians to Today - Megan Bryan
5:30pm - 7:00pm	RR	Saving "The Texas News": The NBC 5 / WBAP-TV Video Collection (OA5) - Brian Hocker
Friday, October 3		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Immersive Experiences in Virtual Reality - Regina Kaplan-Rakowski & Fred McMahan
1:00pm - 2:30pm	ZOOM	Travel Smarter (Session 1 of 3) - Denise & George Bouhasin
WEEK 6		
Monday, October 6		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	The Quest for Genuine Freedom: In Defense of Kierkegaard's...(Session 3 of 4) - Susan McRae
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Stephen F. Austin Did Not Found a Nudist Colony...TWU's Pioneer Woman Statue - Light Cummins
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Claims of Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (Session 1 of 2) - Richa Yadav
Tuesday, October 7		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Evils of Imagination: Horror Fiction and Moral Panics from the Victorians to Today - Megan Bryan
10:00am - 11:00am	UNT	Yoga SIG
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Medicare Fraud/Waste and Abuse Prevention... - Jamie Horning & Melinda Gardner
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	From the Negro Leagues to the Majors: The Untold Story the Integration of Baseball... - Liam O'Neill
Wednesday, October 8		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	The Quest for Genuine Freedom: In Defense of Kierkegaard's...(Session 4 of 4) - Susan McRae
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Understanding Your Dreams - Jim Cannici
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Retire Smarter, Not Harder: Mastering Retirement Taxes to Protect Your Wealth - Joseph Dowdall
Thursday, October 9		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Winemaking in Texas - Andrew Snyder
1:00pm - 2:30pm	DMC	Spooky Charms Metalsmithing Workshop - James Thurman
3:30pm - 5:00pm	KEL	Solo Travelers, Unite! SIG
Friday, October 10		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	How the Natural Environment Gets Away with Murder! - Robert Finkelman
1:00pm - 2:30pm	ZOOM	Travel Smarter (Session 2 of 3) - Denise & George Bouhasin

DATE & TIME	LOCATION	TITLE (Highlighted = Special Event or Lecture Series)
WEEK 7		
Monday, October 13		
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Greyhounds: The Most Comely Hound - Jerry Davis
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Claims of Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (Session 2 of 2) - Richa Yadav
Tuesday, October 14		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Why Should We Care About Black Holes? - Ohad Shemmer
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	Lecture on Roman Sculpture and the Torlonia Collection - Neville McFerrin
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Stephen F. Austin Did Not Found a Nudist Colony...TWU's Pioneer Woman Statue - Light Cummins
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	Quantum Computing: From Principles to Possibilities - David McKinley
2:45pm - 4:15pm	DSC	Bookshelf Catch-Up SIG: My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman
Wednesday, October 15		
2:45pm - 4:15pm	UNT	Book Talk SIG: The Arts
Thursday, October 16		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	From Dogood to Fart Proudly: A Journey Through Franklin's Pen and Press - Darren York
4:00pm - 5:00pm	BLANK SPACE	Oktoberfest Beer & Cheese Pairing Lesson
Friday, October 17		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Retire Smarter, Not Harder: Mastering Retirement Taxes to Protect Your Wealth - Joseph Dowdall
1:00pm - 2:30pm	ZOOM	Travel Smarter (Session 3 of 3) - Denise & George Bouhasin
WEEK 8		
Monday, October 20		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Writing for Fun SIG
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Native American Indians, Past and Present - Ken King
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Medicare Fraud/Waste and Abuse Prevention... - Jamie Horning & Melinda Gardner
Tuesday, October 21		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Fringe, Flappers, and Flair: Let's Go Art Deco - Christy Crutsinger & Lynn Brandon
10:00am - 11:00am	UNT	Yoga SIG
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Alamo Drafthouse	OLLI at the Movies: The Haunting (1963) - Kerry Goldmann
Wednesday, October 22		
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	From the Negro Leagues to the Majors: The Untold Story the Integration... - Liam O'Neill
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Winemaking in Texas - Andrew Snyder
Thursday, October 23		
<i>(Yellow Rose Tours Cowboys & Comanches - Oct. 23-26)</i>		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Pickleball Fever: Unlocking the Brain's Joy and Health Boosts in Every Swing - Glynis Worthington
10:00am - 11:30am	RR	Elder Scams, Fraud and Financial Exploitation: Financial Safety as We Age - Steve Benton
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Facilitating Group Discussions with Confidence and Panache - LeeAnn Derdeyn
2:45pm - 4:15pm	RR	What is it Like Working in a Biomedical AI Lab? (Session 1 of 2) - Mark Albert
Friday, October 24		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Medicare Fraud/Waste and Abuse Prevention... - Jamie Horning & Melinda Gardner
2:45pm - 4:15pm	UNT	Great Books SIG: Oryx and Crate by Margaret Atwood

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Fall 2025 Schedule

DATE & TIME	LOCATION	TITLE (Highlighted = Special Event or Lecture Series)
WEEK 9		
Monday, October 27		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Federalism and American Democracy - John Booth
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Eating History: Cookbooks as Archives of...Life (Session 1 of 2) - Lois Levine-Elman
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Finance for Retirees (Session 1 of 3) - Kara Lebanik
Tuesday, October 28		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Traumatic Brain Injury in Older Adults: Prevention and Management Strategies - Shannon Presley
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Applied Christianity: Living with Purpose, Wisdom, and Faith (Session 1 of 2) - KM Johnson Davis
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	America's Humble Servant: Ben Franklin's Perspectives... - Darren York
Wednesday, October 29		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Evils of Imagination: Horror Fiction and Moral Panics from the Victorians to Today - Megan Bryan
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Eating History: Cookbooks as Archives of...Life (Session 2 of 2) - Lois Levine-Elman
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	A Golden Dome for America?...President Trump's Missile Defense Proposal - Michael Greig
Thursday, October 30		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	The Middle Passage & Enslaved Resistance - Bruce Ralston
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Applied Christianity: Living with Purpose, Wisdom, and Faith (Session 2 of 2) - KM Johnson Davis
2:45pm - 4:15pm	RR	What is it like working in a Biomedical AI Lab? (Session 2 of 2) - Mark Albert
Friday, October 31		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Whatever Happened to Art? - Ray Pahler
WEEK 10		
Monday, November 3		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Sophocles' <i>Antigone</i> : An Exploration - Don Vann
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Finance for Retirees (Session 2 of 3) - Kara Lebanik
Tuesday, November 4		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Abductions: The Theft (and Return) of the Motunui Panels to...New Zealand - Laura Evans
10:00am - 11:00am	UNT	Yoga SIG
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	The Man Who Shot J.P. Morgan, A Life of Arsenic, Anarchy and Intrigue - Mary Noe
2:45pm - 4:15pm	ZOOM	Retirement Reimagined: The Joy is in the Detail - Carola Hundrich-Souris
Wednesday, November 5		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Unshakeable Living: Building Resilience...in Life's Second Act (Session 1 of 3) - Kenneth Thomas
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Parkinson Disease? The...What, When, Where, and How! - Vicki Nejtek & Michael Salvatore
Thursday, November 6		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Cryptocurrencies: Hype vs. Reality - Darrel VanDyke
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	The Art of Improvisation: Making Music in the Moment (G2K UNT Jazz Studies) - Quincy Davis
Friday, November 7		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Evils of Imagination: Horror Fiction and Moral Panics from the Victorians to Today - Megan Bryan

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WEEK 11		
Monday, November 10		
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Marshal McLuhan's Global Village: The Medium Is the Message - Don Hancock
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Finance for Retirees (Session 3 of 3) - Kara Lebanik
Tuesday, November 11		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Public Opinion Polling in American Politics - Patti Richard
10:00am - 11:30am	ART 259	Exploring Lilli Wolff - Isabella McCord
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	The Blessings of Liberty (Session 1 of 2) - Elizabeth Whitsett
Wednesday, November 12		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Unshakeable Living: Building Resilience...in Life's Second Act (Session 2 of 3) - Kennith Thomas
2:45pm - 4:15pm	UNT	Book Talk SIG: Books worthy of gifting
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	The Man Who Shot J.P. Morgan, A Life of Arsenic, Anarchy and Intrigue - Mary Noe
Thursday, November 13		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	The Man Who Shot J.P. Morgan, A Life of Arsenic, Anarchy and Intrigue - Mary Noe
1:00pm - 2:30pm	RR	Abductions: The Theft (and Return) of the Motunui Panels to...New Zealand - Laura Evans
5:00pm - 6:30pm	UNT	PUSH Game Night
Friday, November 14		
10:00am - 11:30am	LAN	Cryptocurrencies: Hype vs. Reality - Darrel VanDyke
WEEK 12		
Monday, November 17		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Writing for Fun SIG
1:00pm - 2:30pm	UNT	Repatriation: The Bodies of War - Dale Spaulding
Tuesday, November 18		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Facilitating Group Discussions with Confidence and Panache - LeeAnn Derdeyn
1:30pm - 3:00pm	KEL	The Blessings of Liberty (Session 2 of 2) - Elizabeth Whitsett
Wednesday, November 19		
10:00am - 11:30am	UNT	Unshakeable Living: Building Resilience...in Life's Second Act (Session 3 of 3) - Kennith Thomas
2:30pm - 4:00pm	FM	Fish Biology: A Scientific Travelogue Through the Eyes of a Practitioner - Warren Burggren
Thursday, November 20		
10:00am - 11:30am	CCY	Art Appreciation: Even More Reasons to Appreciate Art - Elizabeth Ranieri
2:00pm - 3:30pm	UNT	Solo Travelers, Unite! SIG
Friday, November 21		
2:45pm - 4:15pm	UNT	Great Books SIG: <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>
WEEK 13		
Tuesday, November 25		
2:45pm - 4:15pm	DSC	Bookshelf Catch-Up SIG: <i>Leaving Cheyenne</i> by Larry McMurtry



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