It’s never too late, to educate.

Dr. Irene Deitch,
Chair Emerita & Program Founder
OPTION 01

BROADCAST MEDIA CONVERSATION

David Frankel

Mondays
12:20pm – 1:10pm

5 Sessions
9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/18

A discussion of TV, radio, and cinema. Students can voice their opinions on the topics covered for lively discussions.

OPTION 02

LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR AND SING

Intermediate Level

“Mr. Lou” Russo

Mondays
1:25pm – 2:15pm

7 Sessions
9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1

I will show you what the guitar is all about, including the early basic fundamentals. If you already have some knowledge, or have taken my previous “Options” Guitar course, that will help. If not, I will give you special time to catch up. I will cover learning the fretboard, notes, strings, and some readings too. I will teach you songs that you can actually play and sing. I will touch upon classics like Malaguena, the Beatles, Folk, Blues, Rock, and Tin Pan Alley. You will even learn “finger picking.” Students should be prepared with a guitar, acoustic or electric. A tuner, such as a “SNARK” and a “CAPO” are a good idea, but not mandatory.
OPTION 03

SHAKESPEARE

*Tragedy of Richard II*

Joan Hartman

Mondays
1:25pm – 3:20pm

6 sessions
11/8, 11/5, 11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13

We will finally discover the origins of the family feud that led to the Wars of the Roses, the feud between the House of York (the red rose), and the House of Lancaster (the white rose). This feud was not resolved until Henry Tudor, the grandfather of Queen Elizabeth, defeated Richard III, the last of the Yorkists, and ascended the throne. Richard II is one of early Shakespeare’s more complex characters. We will look at the play’s background, plot, character, language, and cinematic stagings.

Please buy the Folger edition of the play. Unfortunately now it’s the more expensive large-paper edition.

OPTION 04

EMBROIDERY

Betsy Wilson

Mondays
2:30pm – 3:20pm

7 Sessions
9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1

Join the circle, sit and stitch, share, and talk.
A brief history of embroidery, and an interest in this delightful expression of creativity will be explored.

**Supply List:**
- A set of embroidery needles
- A set of embroidery threads
- Hoop
- Stamped design
- Little scissors
OPTION 05  

THE BATTLE OF BULL RUN, In Detail

Len Warner

Tuesdays
9:00am – 11:30am

3 Sessions
11/23, 11/30, 12/7

This class is a study of the first major battle of the Civil War in July 1861. The Battle of Bull Run, also called Manassas, which resulted in a rude awakening on both sides that this war was going to be long and bloody. We will look at the details of this battle through pictures and videos, day-by-day and hour-by-hour, as well as the events after the capture of Fort Sumter that led up to it.

OPTION 06  

EXTRAORDINARY MINDS WE NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT

Peter Whitehouse

Tuesdays
10:10am – 11:00am

7 Sessions
9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26

Do we really need to know these minds? Well, no, but you’ll be sorry if you don’t. And you’ll be glad if you do. Presumptuous? Not at all. These minds are that engrossing. You’ll see. You’ll agree. Some of the people you’ll meet are:

Emmy Noether
Emile Cezanne
Aldous Huxley
Robert Browning
Meyer Schapiro
| OPTION 07 | “GOOD GRIEF CHARLIE BROWN” | Tuesdays  
| Light-Hearted Treatment of Heavy-Hearted Experience | 11:15am – 12:05pm  
| | 7 Sessions | 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26  
| | John Petersen |  

Based on ten years of bereavement counseling on Staten Island (with my wife Veronica), we will explore: Developmental Psychology, Behaviorists (e.g., John Bowlby), current researchers, methods, goals, purpose, and success/failures.

| OPTION 08 | THE CONSTITUTION | Tuesdays  
| | Allan Meyers | 12:20pm – 1:10pm  
| | | 14 Sessions  
| | | 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14  

The goal of this course is to illuminate the original foundation of our American civic culture by reenacting THE GREAT DEBATE over ratification of the proposed Constitution. We will focus on the more profound intellectual and prolific levels of the controversy centered on the competing republican vision held by the proponents of the Constitution, the “Federalists,” and their opponents the “Anti-Federalists.”
OPTION 09   THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS   Tuesdays
            1:25pm – 2:15pm
Harold Hellman

5 Sessions
9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12

Happiness is our birthright. Observe young children and see how easily joy comes to them. They approach life with an open heart, free to love without placing conditions on the object of their love. The “Pursuit of Happiness” is more than a class, it is a journey back to ourselves. You will see how things like judgmentalism and perfectionism interfere with our happiness, and how choice, unconditional love, gratitude, and compassions put us on the road back to happiness. The course includes guided meditations and other experiential elements in which the participants will develop “happiness skills.”

OPTION 10   THE GREAT ITALIANS   Tuesdays and Thursdays
            1:25pm – 3:20pm
Snjezana Smodlaka

4 Sessions
Tues. 11/16, 12/07
Thurs. 11/18, 12/09

This year, we celebrate the great Italian poet, Dante Alighieri, on occasion of the 700th year of his death. The Divine comedy, his masterpiece, influenced Italian and world literature and culture. In two presentations, we will see how his poetic verses deeply moved and inspired artists from the 15th to 20th centuries who illustrated in more than a hundred artworks the episodes of Hell.

In the additional two presentations, we will see two women artists from Bologna: Lavinia Fontana (1552-1614) and Properzia de’ Rossi (1490-1530), both cultured, talented, and creative, who had very different experiences and professional success. Fontana, a paintress, as a favorite of high society in Bologna and Rome, had early recognition and financial wealth. De’ Rossi, a sculptrress, probably the first woman in Western European art to dedicate herself to sculpture, met with open hostility and envy of other sculptors.
OPTION 11

KNOW YOUR ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Madeline Mandel

Tuesdays
2:30pm – 4:00pm

5 Sessions
9/14, 9/21, 9/28,
10/5, 10/12

Explore the history of objects and eras in the field. Bring and show an item for research and appraisal.

OPTION 12

THE THEATRE APPRECIATION EXPERIENCE

Christine Zahra and Victoria Venezia

Tuesdays
4:00pm – 5:00pm

6 Sessions
9/14, 9/21, 9/28,
10/5, 10/12, 10/19

Journey to another world with Moonlight Productions’ THE THEATRE WORLD! Learn what it’s like to live there and how easy it is for you to be part of it. Full of fun activities and loads of laughs!

Please note: This class is being offered twice this fall! Students are welcome to sign up for both offerings of the class.
OPTION 13
THE THEATRE APPRECIATION EXPERIENCE CLASS 2
Christine Zahra and Victoria Venezia

Tuesdays
3:35pm – 4:25pm
6 Sessions
11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7

Journey to another world with Moonlight Productions’ THE THEATRE WORLD! Learn what it’s like to live there and how easy it is for you to be part of it! Full of fun activities and loads of laughs!

Please note: Students are welcome to sign up for both offerings of this class.

OPTION 14
PANDEMIC 3
Where Do We Go From Here
Catherine Bridges

Wednesdays
9:05am – 11:00am
3 Sessions
9/22, 9/29, 10/6

Meditation
Body, Mind, and Spirit Exercises
Group Share and Self-Care Focus
OPTION 15

“THE SUPREMES GREATEST HITS”

Allan Meyers

Wednesdays
12:20pm – 1:10pm

14 Sessions
9/15, 9/22, 9/29,
10/6, 10/13, 10/20,
10/27, 11/3, 11/10,
11/17, 11/24, 12/1,
12/8, 12/15

The goal of this class is to somehow determine what a group of 18th-Century scholars, farmers, businessmen, soldiers, and politicians really meant by the words they wrote. We will also explore what they would have done if they were faced with a 21st Century they could not have hoped to envision.

The power of “Judicial Review” is virtually limitless. It encompasses the right to void the decisions of township officials, mayors, governors, and the President of the United States. It includes the right to strike from the book any township ordinance, state law, or an act of Congress!

John Adams first called it a government of laws, not men.

OPTION 16

KNITTING TOGETHER

Dianne Frankel

Wednesdays
1:25pm – 2:15pm

8 Session
10/6, 10/13,
10/20, 10/27,
11/3, 11/10,
11/17, 12/1

First-time knitter or seasoned knitter, please join me for the calming, fun, and therapeutic benefits of knitting. Learn to knit, read a pattern, and gain new skills. First-time knitters will learn how to knit a simple scarf. Supplies required: 400 yards of worsted-weight yarn, and Size 9 needles (10” long)
The Law of Attraction can be understood as “like attracts like.” What this means is that whether we realize it or not, we are responsible for bringing both positive and negative influences into our lives. A key part of the Law of Attraction is understanding that where you place your focus can have an intense impact on what happens to you.

Great pennant races, promising careers derailed by injury, great pitching duels, MVP controversy, and more. That’s what we will be discussing this year.

1. Captivating Cuba: Yesterday through Today and Tomorrow
The history of Cuba began with the arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1492 and the subsequent invasion of the island by Spaniards. The rise of Fidel Castro had a profound effect on Cuban society, leading to doubts about the ability of the Cubans to govern themselves.

After seizing power in the Caribbean Island nation of Cuba in 1959, leftist revolutionary leader Fidel Castro (1925-2016) aligned himself with the Soviet Union. Under Castro, Cuba grew dependent on the Soviets for military and economic aid.

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, leaders of the U.S. and the Soviet Union engaged in a tense, 13-day political and military standoff in October 1962 over the installation of nuclear-armed soviet missiles in Cuba, just 90 miles from U.S. shores.

2. Mysterious Places
Mysterious places will transport audiences to areas on the planet they have never been before, to see things that are beyond their normal vision, yet are literally right in front of their eyes.

We will explore unearthed archaeological evidence of technologically advance civilizations.

The most mysterious and strange places on Earth are sometimes hard to understand, even by scientists. A lot of things about the world are not well known, but there are still theories going around.

3. Seductive Sicily
Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea and one of the 20 regions of Italy. It is one of the five Italian autonomous regions and is officially referred to as Regione Siciliana.

The region has five million inhabitants, and its capital city is Palermo. In ancient times, the island was home to the Greek civilization, and there are plenty of Greek ruins all over Sicily.
4. **St. Maarten and the Conquest and Development of the Caribbean**

The conquest of the Caribbean began when Columbus arrived in the Bahamas in 1492. The Spanish conquest of the islands of the Caribbean region constituted the first stage in a process of conquest and colonization in the Americas that lasted more than 300 years.

The Caribbean Island of St. Maarten (St. Martin) is shared between two countries. St. Maarten is the smallest landmass in the world, belonging to the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the capital is Philipsburg. Under the sovereignty of France, the country of St Martin’s capital city is Marigot.

5. **Pirates – Heroes of Villains**

We'll take a fascinating look at the history of pirates. Pirates have been the subject of countless books, movies, and plays, as well as a look at the golden age of pirating--the men, women, ships, and haunts.
The coronavirus pandemic finds most of the nation at home and people are communicating online even more than ever before. Lonely people are more susceptible to romance scams as they turn to online dating or social networking sites to meet someone.

Phishing is a type of online scam that targets consumers by sending them an email that appears to be from a well-known source, an Internet service provider, a bank, or a mortgage company, for example. It asks the consumer to provide personal identifying information. Then a scammer uses the information to open new accounts or invade the consumer’s existing accounts.

Romance scammers create fake profiles on dating sites seeking their perfect targets of people over 50, widow/widower or divorced. The scammers strike up a relationship with their targets to build their trust, make up a story, and eventually ask for money in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

I will encourage student participation in learning how they can identify and protect themselves from scammers. I will reveal their persuasive techniques and manipulative tactics.
OPTION 22  “MORE BULL”  Thursdays
Thomas Wortmann
12:20pm – 1:10pm
5 Sessions
9/23, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28

We’ll continue our journey with more idioms, terms, and words.
Join us as we learn more terms, review others, and learn some history as we go along.
So, if you are still wondering why we say certain things, as well as sayings and phrases we use every day, join us and learn.
Our language comprises many languages and along with its development came old sayings.
We’ll discuss each one in a free and open discussion about this interesting aspect of our language.
You will be surprised at what you could learn. When the class is over, you will know why and what you are really saying.

OPTION 23  ASTRONOMY 2  Thursdays
Patricia Brady
12:20pm – 1:10pm
4 Sessions
11/4, 11/11, 11/18, 12/2

We will explore such topics as the solar systems, star galaxies, Luna eclipse, and asteroids.
INTRODUCTION TO DRAWING AND PAINTING

“Mr. Lou” Russo

I will show students how to properly look at objects and analyze them as shapes first, and then put them into proper perspective and capture them on paper or canvas. I will explain the difference between “just another picture,” and real “ART.” I will touch upon Da Vinci, Disney, Frida Kahlo, and even Naruto “Anime.” Ideally, students should be prepared (though not mandated) with large Strathmore pads, tracing pads, basic watercolor sets with brushes, charcoal drawing sticks, black pencils, a kneaded eraser, and color markers. Acrylics or oil paints and small canvas are optional.

THE LANGUAGE OF FILM

John Paul Culotta

View and discuss classic and contemporary movies.

THE LANGUAGE OF FILM

Fred Grieco

View and discuss classic and contemporary movies.
OPTION 27
LEARN THE COMPUTER
Doriann Hyland

Fridays
2:30pm – 3:20pm

6 Sessions
9/17, 9/24, 10/1,
10/15, 10/22, 10/29

Introduction to Zoom
Learn how to create a personal Zoom account, schedule with friends and family, and host meetings.

Introduction to Email
Learn how to create an email account, send emails, attach documents, and manage emails.

Introduction to the Internet
Learn how to surf the Internet safely.

Introduction to MS Windows
Learn how to customize your desktop and the Microsoft Windows operating system basics, including understanding terminology like desktop, start menu, start bar, folders, files, etc.

Introduction to MS Word
Learn the basics of MS Word. Get your MS Word questions answered, including formatting and saving a document.

Introduction to MS Excel *
Learn the basics of MS Excel: Get your MS Excel questions answered, including formatting a document, doing basic calculations, and saving a document. * This class will run for two hours - 2:30pm to 4:25pm

STUDENT CLUB
“THE GROUP”
Fridays
12:20pm – 2:15pm

14 Sessions
9/17, 9/24, 10/1,
10/8, 10/15, 10/22,
10/29, 11/5, 11/12,
11/19, 11/26, 12/3,
12/10, 12/17

COME JOIN THE FUN!
We get together every Friday.
Meet and socialize with other Options members.