



The
Second Half

LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Learning Experiences for Adults 55 and Over

FALL 2026 CATALOG



WELCOME TO THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTION

FALL SEMESTER 2026

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING, SOCIAL INTERACTION, AND TRAVEL , ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE, AND THEREBY EMPOWERING LIFELONG LEARNERS TO AGE SUCCESSFULLY

Autumn is a perfect time to try something new, renew friendships , learn something to impress your friends and family and appreciate the joy of the Fall season

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am so glad that you are interested in joining or returning to our program for the Fall

Our Second Half classes will encourage and foster your opinions and thoughts. You matter to us, We are a community of learners, teachers, travelers, friends and potential friends.

The strength of our organization is in our members. The faculty at the Second Half are the best. You will be pleased with their expertise and their ability to convey new information on a varied array of topics. It is easy to register, it does not take too much time, and you will be glad that you took the step to join in on the fun.

This catalog gives you a brief description of classes, dates, and times.

Our Fall semester will begin in late September and run through December. Our classes will take place in person and some on zoom. The classes will run during the day and will run for at least 5 weeks - most even longer. Once you join, you might find your neighbor sitting next to you in class.

This is a great opportunity to meet like-minded people that are interested in the same subjects and have a desire to learn more.

Once you have read thru the catalog – please email me with questions at office@secondhalflli.org. or call 508-677-5694 . I do hope that you can join us this Fall

ROBERTA MELTON

THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



MONDAY CLASSES

4001 RECONSTRUCTION HISTORY AND THE 13TH, 14TH, AND 15TH AMENDMENTS: THEN AND NOW

9:30 – 11:30 A.M., September 28, October 5, October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16 NO CLASS ON OCTOBER 12 (Columbus Day)

The time after the Civil War, known as Reconstruction (1865-1877), is a little-studied but critically important period. During this period the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments Historians have called this period “The Second Founding.” We will discuss the debates leading up to these Amendments and the often-violent response. The Congress was confronted with the questions of the meaning of “freedom” and “citizenship.” The collapse of the Reconstruction era reforms led to nearly a century of Jim Crow. We will discuss how the spirit of the Amendments was rekindled in Brown V Board of Ed and the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts of the 1960’s. Finally, we will look at how the Roberts court is viewing these Amendments. Class will be lecture and discussion.

Enrollment is limited to 12 students

LOCATION: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth Street. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building. There is a ramp in front of the building.

FACULTY: Robert White

Bob is a retired Connecticut lawyer who lives in Westport. He currently teaches at Quinnipiac University School of Law. Bob began his practice as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan processing financial crimes. He is an amateur American History Buff.



MONDAY CLASSES

4002 SEND IN THE CLOWNS - PART 4 Revised for one more show

Discourse Series: The Human Experience and the Search for Freedom

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 5, October 12, October 19, October 26, November 2

Stephen Sondheim wrote a song made famous by Judy Collins and the title and refrain of the song is **“SEND IN THE CLOWNS.”** I have found the refrain useful when I begin to take myself too seriously and uniquely applicable to a specific group of men who meet weekly for breakfast where we discuss any and all subjects. Sometimes there is deep seriousness in our exchanges but there is always lots of laughter and good-natured ribbing. Humor and self-deprecation helps maintain this unusual bond of intellectual honesty and friendship. I know this because, in spite of our digressions and ramblings, I think we all know that we are nothing more than simple creatures of the universe trying to understand ourselves, others and the world we live in. Within that framework we have decided to answer the call one more time and to put our thoughts on the road to express ideas on the human experience and humanity’s continuing search for freedom.

INTRODUCTION Raymond Loranger

Robert Miller will be the speaker for the first class

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF MAGA?

When Trump’s term ends in 2029, the movement that he started needs a leader who has the ability to lead or govern the movements’ members.



MONDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

James Griffith is our speaker for the second class

The presentation will examine the notion of evolution on earth. We will consider religious beliefs but not dwell on them. This will be an attempt to clarify the IMMENSE complexity as well as the IMMENSE time it has taken for the improbable life to get started and yet reach contemporary levels of sophistication. Heavy dialog is welcome.

DAVID HOROWITZ is our third speaker for this class

THE PRICE OF INEQUALITY:

Our country now has its first trillionaire. The top 1% of households own ½ of all national wealth while the bottom 50% of households own only 2.5% of the nation's wealth. This session of the Clown's Class will focus on the impact of wealth inequality on our democracy and system of justice.

JOE COTE will be our 4th speaker for the class

BECOMING AMERICA:

The individuals and events that shaped the concepts of American liberty and Freedom.

RAYMOND LORANGER - will be our final speaker for this class

THE PILGRIMAGE OF MY MIND

My last lecture for the second time

Ray will discuss personal comments, and reflections and a search for inner freedom

LOCATION- Wamsutta Club 427 County Street, New Bedford, MA



MONDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4003 - BIRDING – FALL MIGRATION

9:30 – 11:30 A.M., September 28, October 5, October 19, November 9 - Classroom

October 12 – field trip to McIntosh Rhode Island Refuge in Bristol RI

November 23 – field trip to the Cape Cod Canal to see the annual “puddling” of geese and ducks at Mass Maritime Academy

In the Autumn with the Fall Migration the field trips will center on migrating geese and ducks. With discussion about feeding our winter species. Beginners are Welcome! Birding is a great way to enjoy the long winter months ahead and Armchair birding is less taxing.

LOCATION: Swansea Library 69 Main Street, Swansea Mass.

FACULTY: Mary Martha Murphy

Mary Martha is a long-time birder and has led many beginning bird walks for the Second Half. As she ages, the walks are less adventurous but still enjoyable all the same.



MONDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4004 COLONIAL NEW ENGLAND HISTORY PART 2

**9:30 – 11:30A.M., September 28, October 5, October 12, October 19, October 26
November 2, November 9, November 16**

This course will continue the progress made in the Spring Part 1 class, which means we will start at roughly the start of the 18th c., and run through the era of the American Revolution. It will, however, be a self-contained course, meaning there is no need for one to have taken the Part 1 class to do this one. We will cover a wide variety of aspects of life in this period, which, prior to the French and Indian /Seven Years' War, is rather underappreciated and studied by most Americans today, but contains several themes, especially with regard to various religious developments, and to the increasing development of a separate "American" identity, as the New England population is now several generations removed from the Mother Country.

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: Thomas Roche

Thomas Roche has a PhD in classics/ ancient history, who has also studied Colonial History extensively, both in graduate school and personal readings.



MONDAY CLASSES(CONTINUED)

4005 – ROMAN HISTORY, PART 1 , UP TO CEASAR

12(noon) – 2:00P.M., September 28, October 5, October 12, October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16

Discussion will begin on Rome B.C. running through its very early, and very murky, beginnings, to the assassination of Julius Caesar, which ended the old Roman Republic. No prior knowledge of Roman, or other ancient history, is needed to take this course.

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: THOMAS ROCHE

4006 - INDO-EUROPEAN LINGUISTICS

9:30 – 11:30A.M., December 7, December 14, December 21, December 28, January 4, January 11, January 18, January 25

We will discuss what we know of the ancient Indo-Europeans and their proto-Indo-European language, the source language for all IE subfamilies (including Germanic) and thus individual languages (thus including English), how this happened, and what we know about where and when it happened, and why it happened.

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: THOMAS ROCHE



MONDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4007 - My Musicals: My Great Aunts Would Be Proud!

12(noon) – 2:30P.M., September 14, September 21, September 28, October 5, October 12, October 19, October 26, November 2

When I was a young whippersnapper, I had two great aunts on my father's side: Grace and Alice and they loved movies and me. Me, the GAs, and films got along just fine, so we spent quite a few Saturdays going to the movies. From Ben Hur to the Ten Commandments, but most often Musicals. So, in memory of those two lovely ladies, I'll be showing 8 of our favorite musicals. Not to mention regaling you with anecdotes of some of their more idiosyncratic moments!

LOCATION : Wamsutta Club 427 County Street, New Bedford

FACULTY: DENNIS TWEEDY

Dennis is still retired and still Sesa's Grandpa – and this is enough for him.

4008 When "ROCK" was "POP" 1965-1970 Exploring 5 Transitional Years in American Music

12(noon) – 2:00P.M., October 5, October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16

Yes, the British invasion began with the Beatles in 1964, but American Music did not just stop! It was arguably the last great Era of "Pop Rock Music", and influenced, of course, by the prior genres of Folk, Doo Wop, Rock and Roll, Southern Rock, AOE Rock, etc., but none of these forms would truly be sold as "Pop Music" again to the mainstream record buying audience.



MONDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

CLASS 4008 CONTINUED

In our class, using vintage tube stereo equipment from 1965 and original vinyl :LP's and 45's, we will explore how the music changed, the key individuals who wrote, performed and produced these this, and how this music carried us along, while keeping in mind the backdrop of major changes in attitudes, politics, and social norms. This was a “parallel process” reflected in the music itself during this period and what came after 1970 when music “turned serious.” We will listen to a wide sample of American music from the lighter pre-1970 Music groups.

Songs will include The Buckinghams, The Four Season's , Neil Diamond to The Cowsills. The Monkees, The Beach Boys to the Seekers. To name a few.

Our class will be 95% listening and 5% talking, with class participants encouraged to bring their own records, as a means to discuss their own experience, a great way to get to know your fellow class members, while having fun with great music as part of the bargain. JOIN US!

LOCATION: Acushnet Council on Aging 59 ½ South Main Street, Acushnet

FACULTY: Lee Carroll

Lee is a lifelong enthusiast and record collector



TUESDAY CLASSES

4009 Econ History : 250 years of the United States Economy

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 6, October 13, October 20, October 27, November 3, November 10

Would the founding fathers recognize the US economy today, after 250 years? The colonies were concentrated on the Atlantic Coast, with almost nothing on the west side of the Appalachians. The workforce was almost entirely agricultural, with small farms in the North and some larger plantations in the South, but cotton was still a minor crop. Internationally, the industrial revolution was just getting started in England and beginning to spread to American and Western Europe. 150 years later, in 1926, employment was predominantly manufacturing and spread from coast to coast. After another century, manufacturing has shrunk as a share of employment, with employment shifting to service jobs. How did the economy change so much, and grow so fast?

LOCATION: Wamsutta Club 427 County Street, New Bedford, MA

FACULTY: David Wyss

David has a B.S. from MIT and Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard. He has worked for both the Federal Reserve and the Bank of England, as well as the President's Council of Economic Advisers. After 20 years of working for a consulting forecasting firm (DRI, now known as Global Insight) in both London and the United States, he became the Chief Economist at Standard and Poor's. Most recently, he was an adjunct Professor in the Economics Department of Brown University.



TUESDAY CLASSES(CONTINUED)

4010 Continued Exploration of Special Events in Abe Lincoln's Life

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 13, October 20, October 27, November 3, November 10, November 17

Abe Lincoln: After 20 previously unique classes, Mr. Lincoln still provides incredibly endless lessons in Morality, Leadership and Transformation. This semester we will examine more special events in his lifetime...his relationship with Frederick Douglass, Ulysses S. Grant and the reshaping of the war. We will be revisiting the Second Inaugural Address- Lincoln's greatest effort and other events. Whether you have attended none, some, many or all of our Lincoln classes, there is a place for you with us. Each episode in Mr. Lincoln's life can stand alone as part of his legacy...more relevant and important today than ever.

LOCATION: Gifts to Give Building, 4 Slocum Street, Acushnet , MA - 2nd floor

FACULTY: David Tatelbaum

Dave is a retired retailer, developed a profound love and reverence for Mr. Lincoln over the last 30+ years. He has attended lectures and events all over the country, as well as being a member of the respected Lincoln Group of Greater Boston and the New Bedford Civil War roundtable, sharing his favorite books and authors on Lincoln, among the thousands written, it is a particular joy. Lively discussion amongst our students to bring relevancy to his legacy to today's troubling times has been invaluable.



TUESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4011 “JASS TO JAZZ” the beginning of a movement, “No Cap”!

12(noon) – 2:00P.M., October 27, November 3, November 10, November 17, November 24, December 1, December 8, December 15

New Orleans, Louisiana, the early 20th century, and a new musical genre is born; Jas to Jass, soon to be known as Jazz explodes upon America and the world. We will look at the origins of Jazz and follow its’ growth from the brothels of NOLA to the places of kings and queens. The class will be divided into two-week chapters focusing on originators of the Jazz idiom such as Louis Armstrong and Miles David and the stars that shined around them. We will watch concerts and documentary films, as well as discuss our feelings on the music and the people that created it.

LOCATION: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth Street, Dartmouth. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building. There is a ramp in front of the building.

FACULTY: Dennis Tweedy

4012 Jealousies and Revenge in Baroque Italy: The Lives of Artists Caravaggio, Gentileschi, and Bernini

12(noon) – 2:00P.M., October 6, October 13, October 20, October 27 , November 3, November 10

Join us as we explore Counter-Reformation Italy through the lives of Caravaggio (1571-1610), Artemisia Gentileschi (1593 - 1654), and Gian Lorenzo Bernini (1598-1680)- artists whose fame, conflicts, and



TUESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4012 continued

rivalries helped shape the Baroque era. Caravaggio's life of violence, duels, imprisonment, exile, and scandal fueled his "bad boy" image and shaped his bold, innovative paintings. Artemisia Gentileschi, Working in a society that treated women as property, overcame immense barriers, marred by a famous rape trial, to become one of the most celebrated women artists of the pre-modern era, known for powerful images of strong female figures. Bernini, also an accomplished architect, became the leading sculptor of his time, developing an acclaimed style and vision that had a lasting influence. Together, their lives and work reveal the drama, ambition, and artistic transformation of Baroque Italy.

LOCATION: Wamsutta Club 427 County Street, New Bedford, MA

FACULTY: Dr. Kathy Marzilli Miraglia, EdD, MAE, BFA, Professor Emerita, is an educator, artist, and speaker with 40 years of experience. At UMASS Dartmouth she taught undergraduate and graduate art education and served as Chairperson of the Department of Art Education in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. As an exhibiting artist, she works primarily in pastel and egg tempera Byzantine icons and has shown her work in galleries including the Judith Klein gallery in New Bedford, MA. She is the Chairperson of the New Bedford Art Museum Board of Trustees and currently serves as Program Chairperson for the Mediterranean Studies Association.

4013 Art of The Short Story: Spanish Short Stories of the Last 200 Years, Part 1

**2:30 – 4:30P.M., September 29, October 6, October 13, October 20, October 27
November 10, November 17**

This class will examine the first 28 short stories in an anthology of Spanish stories(in translation.) The text is The Penguin Book of Spanish Short Stories, edited by Margaret Jull Costa, A Penguin Classic paperwork. As James Womack in the Literary Review concluded "An inspiring, interesting, thorough,



TUESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4013 Continued

beautifully translated collection. The range-stylistic and thematic-of the volume is fascinating (and) wonderful”

LOCATION: Westport Police Station Community Room, 56 Hixbridge Road, Westport

FACULTY: James Cronin and Margot Green

James Cronin – After a four-decade career in the law, first as a trial lawyer then as a juvenile court judge, Jim returned to earlier interests: teaching, literary studies, and writing. He has an undergraduate degree from Harvard in English Literature and has taken numerous courses in creative writing since 2007. He has taught THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY for more than thirteen years at the Second Half. His first book of poetry, “World of Shadows,” was published in 2018 by the Poetry Loft Press of Cranston, RI. His second book of poetry, “The Mortal Angels,” has been published. “Whimsical and Wise, Cronin’s work find a sweet spot between the old and new, where poetry is animated with passion and compassion, and buoyed by hope.” Tina Cane, Rhode Island Poet Laureate Emerita, and Author of the Year for “The Murder Hornet.”

Margot Green received B.A. and M.A. degrees from Simmons College and stayed on as an Administrator in the Art and Music Department from 1965 – 1985. She taught at Bristol Community College from 2000-2015 and has served as a facilitator in courses for The Second Half since its inception. She has been a member of the Yale writers Conference since 2014.



TUESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4014 Take Me Away: Travel Through the Eyes of Artists

2:30 – 4:30P.M., January 12, January 19, January 26, February 2, February 9, February 16

For centuries, artists have painted beloved cities and towns, landscapes, and scenery. During this six-week course we will travel and explore with them, spending time at favorite destinations, visiting Europe, Great Britain, and the US. We will visit capital cities, small towns and villages, cafes, restaurants, the beach, the woods, and the park. During our journey we will learn a little about the artist, the location, and their motivation. Join me and let the art and artists take us away during these six weeks to lands familiar and exotic as time allows.

January 12: France

January 19 - Italy

January 26 – Great Britain

February 2 - The US

February 9 - Exotic Islands

February 16 - The beach, the park, the woods

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

Faculty: Elizabeth (Liz) M. Lafleur

Liz, a member of The Second Half since 2016, enjoys reading, art and traveling.



WEDNESDAY CLASSES

4015 BEGINNER'S SPANISH

11:00 A.M. – 1:00P.M., September 30, October 7, October 14, October 21, October 28, November 4

!Bienvenidos! Welcome! Learn Spanish the Fun Way! This is a beginner's Spanish class, will be learning everything from Spanish pronunciation, alphabet, numbers, and basic Spanish vocabulary to the most common Spanish phrases and questions for conversation. You will have an amazing sense of accomplishment while having fun learning Spanish. It's never too late to get started learning a new language!

LOCATION: Dartmouth Council on Aging 628 Dartmouth St, Dartmouth . The classroom is in the Bullard Building, behind the main building . There is a ramp in front of the building.

FACULTY: Carol Oliveira

Carol is a retired educator for 35 years in the New Bedford School System. She received her B.A. in Spanish from Salve Regina College and her M.Ed. from Bridgewater State College. Carol has a great love and interest in languages-especially Spanish.



WEDNESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4016 BOOK CLUB FOR THE MIND AND SOUL

12(NOON) – 2:00P.M., September 23, October 7, October 28, November 18, December 9

THEO OF GOLDEN by Allen Levi - September 23

One spring morning, a stranger named Theo arrives in the small Southern city of Golden. He does not explain much about where he came from or why he is there-but he visits the local coffeehouse, where pencil portraits of the people of Golden hang on the walls, he begins purchasing them, one at a time, and giving each portrait to the person depicted. In exchange, he asks only for the person's story. And so, portrait by portrait, person by person, secrets are revealed, regrets are shared , and ordinary lives are profoundly altered. – 399 Pages

HORSE by Geraldine Brooks - October 7

KENTUCKY, 1850. An enslaved groom named Jarret, and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South.

NEW YORK CITY, 1954. Martha Jackson, a gallery owner celebrated for taking risks on edgy contemporary painters, becomes obsessed with nineteenth-century equestrian oil painting of mysterious provenance.

WASHINGTON, DC, 2019 Jess, a Smithsonian scientist from Australia, and Theo, a Nigerian-American art historian, find themselves unexpectedly connected through their shared interest in the horse.

- 464 Pages



WEDNESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4016 continued

THE LION WOMEN OF TEHRAN by Marjan Kamali - October 28

In 1950s Tehran, two young girls form a deep friendship across social classes, but their bond faces challenges as they navigate Iran's political turmoil and personal betrayals.

In 1950s Tehran, seven-year-old Ellie lives in grand comfort until the untimely death of her father, forcing Ellie and her mother to move to a tiny home downtown. Lonely and bearing the brunt of her mother's endless grievances, Ellie dreams for a friend to alleviate her isolation.

Luckily, on the first day of school, she meets Homa, a kind girl with a brave and irrepressible spirit. Together, the two girls play games, learn to cook in the stone kitchen of Homa's warm home, wander through the colorful stalls of the Grand Bazaar, and share their ambitions of becoming, "lion women."

Together, the two young women come of age and pursue their own goals for meaningful futures. But as the political turmoil in Iran builds to a breaking point, one earth-shattering betrayal will have enormous consequences. – 333 Pages

THE BRIAR CLUB by Kate Quinn - November 18

In 1950s Washington DC, five women form unlikely friendships at Briarwood House boarding home until violence threatens their sanctuary, forcing them to confront potential enemies among themselves.

Grace's weekly attic-room dinner parties and window-brewed sun tea become a healing balm on all their lives, but she hides a terrible secret of her own. When a shocking act of violence tears the house apart, the Briar Club women must decide once and for all: who is the true enemy in their midst? -431 pages



WEDNESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4016 Continued

GONE BEFORE GOODBYE by Harlon Coben and Reese Witherspoon December 9

Maggie McCabe is teetering on the brink. A highly skilled and renowned Army combat surgeon, she always lived life at the edge where she could make the most impact. And it was all going to plan...until it wasn't. Upside down after a devastating series of tragedies leads to her medical license being revoked, Maggie has lost her purpose, but not her nerve or her passion. At her lowest point, she is thrown a lifeline by a former colleague, an elite plastic surgeon who anonymous clientele demand the best care money can buy, as well as absolute discretion. Halfway across the globe, sequestered in the lap of luxury and cutting-edge technology, one of the world's most mysterious men required unconventional medical assistance. Desperate, and one of the few surgeons in the world skilled enough to take this job, Maggie enters his realm of unspeakable opulence and fulfills her end of the agreement. But when the patient suddenly disappears while still under her care, Maggie must become a fugitive herself-or she will be the next one who is....Gone Before Goodbye. 364 Pages

LOCATION: 1600 Highland Ave. Fall River, MA

FACULTY: Anne Maranda and Maureen Audet

Anne is a retired elementary school teacher. She taught in Boston, Acushnet, and New Bedford public schools. She also taught at Dominican Academy in Fall River.

Maureen retired from Verizon Telecommunication Company. She finally has time to read as many books as she wants, and time to enjoy them.



WEDNESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4017 CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH: INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

12(NOON) – 2:00p.m., September 30, October 7, October 14, October 21, October 28, November 4, November 11, December 2, December 9, December 16

This is an ongoing, progressive learning class. It focuses on increasing the participants' familiarity with the Spanish language and their ability to express themselves both orally and with the written word. Class discussions are in Spanish. Review of written exercise and increased mastery of grammar are major components of the class.

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: Mariano Merino

Mariano Merino is a native of Spain. After graduate studies in Madrid, he continued his graduate education at Boston University and Rhode Island College. He has worked in the field of mental health. Retired for over a decade, he enjoys engaging in new learning and continuing education. He has facilitated several courses for The Second Hall.



WEDNESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4018 WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE? A LOT!

**2:00 – 4:00P.M., SEPTEMBER 30, OCTOBER 14, OCTOBER 21, OCTOBER 28 ,
NOVEMBER 4**

This class will include 5 sessions, and it designed for people interested in learning more about climate change and climate justice, becoming more effective in communicating with others about it, and taking action to mitigate its impact on our planet and ourselves.

We will start with the problems, basic science, and equity issues involved, but we spend most of our time understanding the wide range of available climate change solutions and how you can get involved, both individually and working with others.

Each class might include a short homework assignment that is designed to enrich the subsequent class discussion.

LOCATION: Westport Library 408 Old County Road, Westport, MA

FACULTY:

LEAD TEACHER: MARY-ELLEN BOYLE

Mary-Ellen is a scholar of organizational sociology and Professor Emerita at Clark University, where she spent more than 25 years researching and teaching in the areas of organizational and social change, liberal education, corporate citizenship, and food systems . She holds a Ph.D. and MBA from Boston College and a BA in American Studies from Yale University.



WEDNESDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4018 Continued

CO -TEACHER: TOM RAWSON

Tom is a retired science teacher. He leads Can We Stop Climate Change courses and works on climate change education with Mass Audubon.

CO-TEACHER: TONY LEE

Tony began working on environmental and non-profit causes in 1980 with Friends of the Earth. He has developed and led Can We Stop Climate Change courses in conjunction with Elders Climate Action.

CO-TEACHER: MARGIE LEE

Margie's background is in government and public policy. Margie is an educator for grassroots initiatives like Energyfast, Beyond War, and Foundation for Global Community. She has a B.A. in Government from Skidmore College, and a Graduate Certificate from the Boston College program on Women in Politics and Public Policy.



THURSDAY CLASSES

4019 PREPARDNESS AND SURVIVAL – ARE YOU READY?

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 1, October 8, October 22, October 29, November 5, November 12

No matter your age, sex, social standing, or level of learning, we all have at least one thing in common- we all need to be prepared for emergencies and know how to survive during those times.

Whether the emergency is natural or man-made, we all need basic skills that may save your life and lives of your family – or at least make you more comfortable until help arrives.

WEEK 1 Personal Preparedness for yourself and family - Food, Hydration, Shelter

WEEK 2 Home planning and supplies

WEEK 3 Types of situations and what you will need

WEEK 4 Attitudes, situational awareness

WEEK 5 Wilderness survival

WEEK 6 Home safety, security, and Cybersecurity

LOCATION : TBA

FACULTY: Michael Rezendes

Michael has always been a lifelong learner. He is retired from Raytheon Company after 48 years. Most recently as the lead Maintenance Engineer, among other things, developing the maintenance procedures for the new Zumwalt Class Destroyer. He and his wife Elaine have three children and 5 grandchildren



THURSDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4019 Continued

He has been active in many community organizations including the Boy Scouts, Freemasonry, and a Board member for the Somerset Federal Credit Union. Every facet of his life has helped him to develop the skill needed and desire to learn more. He is always prepared for the next adventure.

4020 BRIDGE- FOUNDATIONS 1

9:30 – 12:00(noon) September 17, September 24, October 1, October 8, October 15, October 22, October 29, November 5

Do you play Bridge and come up short of your Bid?

Do you Bid less than Game while others make game?

Do you know the most common uses of Double?

Join us for 8 classes that will hopefully upgrade your play and learn/relearn the basics of Modern Bridge.

LOCATION: Fairhaven Council on Aging 229 Huttleson Avenue, Fairhaven, MA

FACULTY: Caroline Cooper

Coco has been teaching Beginner and Advanced Beginner bridge for a few years now and would like to take those who are confident or self-confident at this level to gain more insight to what they are playing and advance their game. Coco plays both social and duplicate bridge.



THURSDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4021 – THE WAY OF THE BREATH: MINDFULNESS MEDITATION PRACTICE IN OUR DAILY LIVES

10:00 – 11:30A.M., October 15, October 22, November 5, November 19, December 3, December 10

This six-week course will offer strategies, guided mediation, and opportunities for discussion to help us become more adept at taming our internal dialogue. Four decades of research into this 2,500 -year-old practice have shown it to be beneficial for many stress -related emotional and physical conditions. It is also helpful in nurturing an atmosphere of inquiry into our internal lives and our own relations.

THE CLASS IS LIMITED TO EIGHT STUDENTS

LOCATION: 209 Bedford Street, Fall River, MA Suite 205

FACULTY: Kenneth Pinter

Kenneth is a part-time psychotherapist who has studied and practices mindful meditation for approximately 27 years. He currently maintains his own individual and weekly group practice.

4022 SELECTED MUSICAL GEMS

2:30 – 4:30P.M., September 24, October 1, October 8, October 15, October 22, October 29, November 5

Musical compositions that may or may not be well known but hopefully entice the ear to enjoy a listen. The musical gems will be chosen from CD's, DVD's YouTubes, and other available sources. The goal is to hear music that you will enjoy even if you are not familiar with the composition. There will be a variety of composers, styles , and time periods. Come and give a listen.



THURSDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

4022 Continued

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM - TO MAKE COMMUNTING LESS STRESSFUL AND TIME CONSUMING

FACULTY: Thom Sargent

Thom is the Emeritus Parish Music Director and Organist of St. Anthony of Padua Church in New Bedford. He is retired as Music Director of Classical High School, Providence, Rhode Island. His formal education includes degrees in church music, music education, and choral conducting. He truly enjoys all kinds of music, and he loves to share his expertise and knowledge with his students.

FRIDAY CLASSES

4023 MYSTERIES OF SCIENCE: MICROBIOLOGY – PARASITES AND FUNGI

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23, October 30 , November 6

This course will focus on some of the most off-putting creatures that we humans encounter, but with some reverence for what some of them do for us, and some exposure of myths. We will explore their inner workings with no previous Microbiology experience needed. Some of the great diseases of humanity await.



FRIDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4023 Continued

LOCATION: Wilks Branch Library, 1911 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford Meeting Room

FACULTY: Jim Griffith

Jim has a B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. (Infectious Disease), was a Chancellor Professor (Medical Laboratory Science) for 42 years at UMASS DARTMOUTH. He has also worked in healthcare policy for decades at the local, state, and national level. In addition, he is the [Managing Partner](#) of Forensic DNA Associates where he acts as an expert witness on cases before the court when DNA evidence is at issue.

4024 MODERN HORROR MASTERS: THE WORK OF STEPHEN KING

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23

Stephen King is a modern master of horror. In this class we will go over the literature and film adaptations of his books including classics such as the Shining, Pet Semetary, and Salem's Lot along with several short story collections. We will discuss his signature blend of horror, deep psychological trauma, and sharp social commentary on American life. Perfect for October,

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: Carol Gafford

Carol is the Youth Services/Outreach Librarian at the Swansea Public Library and has been involved with genealogy for over twenty years. Like many librarians, she wear many hats. Besides running the Tuesday Club (a gathering of family historians) at the library, she is a member of the Mass Society of



FRIDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4024 CONTINUED

Genealogists (Bristol Chapter) Bristol Historical Society genealogy group, and the Rhode Island Genealogical Society.

4025 AUTHORS IN THE TRENCHES: THE POETRY OF WORLD WAR I

9:30 – 11:30A.M., October 30, November 6, November 13, November 20

This course explores how soldiers and civilians used verse to record the trauma, horror, and disillusionment of the 1914-1918 conflict. We will read the poetry of major figures like Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, and Rupert Brooke, contrasting romanticized early-war patriotism with grim trench realism. Learn about the lives of these poets along with the history of World War 1.

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: Carol Gafford

4026 TED TALKS – 3

9:30 – 11:30A.M., November 27, December 4, December 11, December 18, January 8, January 15, January 22, January 29

Join us as we continue our journey, sharing wisdom and knowledge with experts in many subjects from Art to Science, Music to Museums. Each week we will watch a Ted Talk, read



FRIDAY CLASSES(CONTINUED)

Class 4026 continued

articles pertaining to the topic, have meaningful discussions and share resources. There are many inspiring and educational Lessons Worth Learning!

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM

FACULTY: Carol Gafford

4027 EXPLORING THE NIGHT SKY

10:00 – 12:00(noon) , September 18, September 25, October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23

How often do you look up at the night sky and wish you knew just a little more about the constellations, planets, etc. This course will start with some history of how we humans understand our surroundings. We will spend a little time understanding the size and scale of our solar system, our galaxy, and the universe. We will start our adventure into the night sky by first discussing what can be seen with only the un-aided eye, a common binocular and a small telescope. This will include hints and suggestions concerning how to buy binoculars and telescopes.

We will discuss many constellations, how they got their names, the mythology behind the constellation, and how to identify the constellations. There are also separate sessions for investigating our solar system, Stars (including our Sun), Nebulae & Galaxies.

We will conclude with how to use your smart phone to find constellations and planets. While I will cover a great deal of deep sky objects , my sole intent is to leave you with a slightly better



FRIDAY CLASSES(CONTINUED)

CLASS 4027 Continued

understanding of what you see when you look up into the night sky. There is no homework and no quizzes – just come and have fun!

LOCATION: Dartmouth Council on Aging 628 Dartmouth Street, Dartmouth, MA The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building. The building behind the main building – There is a ramp in the front.

FACULTY: Roger Menard

Roger is a member of the Astronomical Society of Southern New England. He has his own observatory and has his own astrophotography website. He has been an avid astronomy enthusiast and astrophotographer for several years and would like to share his knowledge and experience.

4028 TRIVIA

12(NOON) – 2:00P.M., October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23, October 30, November 6, November 13, November 20

Are you tired of having all that trivial information in your head and no one to share it with? Are you afraid that someday your head might explode if that trivia has no place to go? The Second Half has heard you, and we are ready to provide a solution. Join our trivia class and realize all that pent up knowledge in a fun and painless way. Each year your Trivia Master will ask questions of participants taken from a variety of trivia games and sources. All you need is a paper pad, a pen or pencil, and your fabulous brain! During the game we will also explore some of the more obscure trivia answers to fill your brain with even more useless information.

A winner will be declared each week. So, if you know that Boston was the first United States City to have a subway, that Knute Rockne popularized the forward pass in football, or that when doing a tequila shot,



FRIDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4028 Continued

the order is salt, tequila, lemon, that this class is for you! **WARNING:** Some questions may require serious thoughts!

LOCATION: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth, Dartmouth. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building, which is behind the main building, ramp in front.

Faculty/ Trivia Master : Susan Richard

Sue is a retired English teacher and department head who spent 36 years working with high school students. Working with adults is a joy and a pleasure! She is also the President of the Governing Board of Your Theatre Inc., and an avid theater patron. Although she has not been active on stage for some time, she has directed and performed in community theatre.

4029 THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

**12:30 – 2:30P.M., October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23, October 30
November 6**

The Immune System Everyone has one. Whether it works correctly or not is a matter of genes, exposure, lifestyle, and (sadly) age. What cells in the body are involved in the immune system and how do they work? What happens when they are a little slow? Manufactured antibodies have names that end in MAB or M1B and they seem to be all of the new exciting treatments for malignancies, allergies, GI tract disorders and so on. What are they? How do they fit into the immune system? And are we really all immunosuppressed? No previous biological or medical knowledge is necessary.

LOCATION: Wilks Branch Library - in their Meeting room. 1911 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford



FRIDAY CLASSES (CONTINUED)

Class 4029 Continued

FACULTY: Susan Leclair

Susan has B.S., M.S. , and Ph.D. degrees (clinical hematology). She retired as a Chancellor Professor from UMASS Dartmouth, where she taught hematology, genetics, bioethics, and a science course for non-science majors. She served four terms as editor-in-chief of the award-winning journal in her field: “Clinical Laboratory Science” . She is recognized internationally for her work in helping patients understand their various hematologic conditions.



THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

FALL 2026 REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - THANK YOU

NAME _____ PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER _____

STREET _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PHONE _____

ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER PLEASE CIRCLE YES I AM - WELCOME

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US? _____

WHICH CLASSES WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE THIS FALL?-- JUST USE THE NUMBER OF THE CLASS FROM THE CATALOG

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

PAYMENT IS DUE WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM

___ \$50.00 Membership Fee dues - Your Membership will run from September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027

This covers you for both semesters

You only have to pay Membership dues once per school year – Fall 2026 – Spring 2027

___ \$ 150.00 Fall Tuition - you can take up to 2 classes this fall with this Tuition payment

___ \$ 30.00 per course if you would like to take any additional classes this Fall

___ Donation to the Second Half

\$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed - Thank You

If you have any questions or need additional information email me at office@secondhalflli.org

Please make check payable to THE SECOND HALF and mail it to me at our mailing address

THE SECOND HALF PO BOX 825 PORTSMOUTH, RI 02871

THANK YOU AND WE ARE SO GLAD THAT YOU ARE PART OF THE SECOND HALF



IMPORTANT INFORMATION - REALLY

#1 HOLD ONTO YOUR FALL 2026 CATALOG - You might want/need to refer to it in the future. If your friend wants a copy You or your friend can email and ask me to send out a catalog and I will send it out by mail and or email your friend a copy of the catalog.

#2 WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I HAVE COMPLETED MY REGISTRATION FORM AND SENT IT TO YOU - Good question

When I receive your completed form, I will register you into the classes that you have requested. I will send out a confirmation to you by email and remind you of dates, times, etc. If the class fills up quickly , I will call you and we will work out a replacement class – not to worry

#3 ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS – YOU MUST TURN TO THE STUDENT ON EACH SIDE OF YOU AND INTRODUCE YOURSELF - Also a good time to introduce yourself to your teacher. Remember you are all interested in the same subject – that is why you joined the class.

#4 WITHDRAWAL OR TRANSFER FROM ONE CLASS TO ANOTHER – that is ok with us, we do not need to know why BUT you must contact me right away, please do not wait too long and remember classes fill up quickly.

#5 ENJOY YOURSELF – HAVE A GREAT CLASS – MEET NEW FRIENDS AND LEARN SOMETHING THAT YOU DID NOT KNOW BEFORE YOU JOINED THE CLASS

FINALLY, ALWAYS EMAIL WITH QUESTIONS OR IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SECOND HALF

EMAIL ME AT OFFICE@SECONDHALFLLI.ORG

ROBERTA

THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO BOX 825

PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND 02871

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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