EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVER.

Trying something new can take you to places you’ve never investigated. Pursue your painting or photography passion. Join a writing workshop. View a film and share impressions.

Keeping the minds, bodies, and spirits of adults age 50+ flexible since 1989, the Renaissance Institute is a lifelong learning community housed on the main campus of Notre Dame of Maryland University.

Renaissance Institute offers two semesters of noncredit courses, designed and led by the members themselves. As a member, you may take as many classes as you wish from our varied catalog of offerings and, when ready, share your acquired knowledge by teaching courses on subjects you are passionate about. Course topics have included literature, public affairs, philosophy, history, music, art, languages, tai chi, film, science, computers, yoga, acting, and more.

We also offer member-sponsored activities and travel opportunities. Past trips have included Costa Rica, the Canadian Maritimes, the Grand Tetons, and the Southwest U.S.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

• Take as many courses as you like each registered semester
• Audit one Notre Dame of Maryland University course per year
• Access the Notre Dame library, computer lab, and dining hall
• Receive a Notre Dame ID card that can be used for student discounts
• Gain access to an Amazon Prime Student account through your Notre Dame student email account. See Amazon.com for details
• Enjoy free on-campus parking

COST: $400 annually, or $215 per semester

DATES AND TIMES: 13-week semesters each Spring and Fall; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MORE INFORMATION: 410-532-5351 | ndm.edu/renaissance
1.) EARLY MORNING EXERCISE
September 3 – December 3       13 weeks
8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Instructor: Bob Greenfield
This course is a gentle, seated exercise class.
Presentation: Pre-recorded tapes will be used; sessions last about 20 minutes. Items such as batons, neckties and light weights are also used.
Bob Greenfield has degrees from the Universities of Rochester (B.A.) and Michigan (A.M.L.S.). Bob is a former bicycle enthusiast and racer of large yachts and has long been a supporter of physical fitness. Bob works out regularly at Roland Park Place Center. He is an exercise nut who made 94 because of it!

2.) MINI-MED 2019
September 3 – October 8       6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Hannah Flaks
This six-week course is sponsored by MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital and the Center for Successful Aging, under direction by Dr. George Hennawi, a geriatric specialist. The course will feature clinicians from various specialties who will lecture and lead discussions on medical issues of interest to the aging population.
Hannah Flaks, RN, is a graduate of Sinai Hospital School of Nursing and has worked in the fields of chemical dependency and HIV/AIDS clinical trials. She was a member of a treatment team for persons with severe and persistent mental illnesses. Board certified in Chemical Dependency Nursing, HIV/AIDS Nursing and a Certified Clinical Research Coordinator, Hannah is also a certified Case Manager/ Delegating Nurse.

3.) SOMETHING HAPPENED:
A POLITICAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE 1970’S
September 3 – October 8       6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Edward Berkowitz
Through lectures and discussions, this course will examine the history of the nineteen seventies. The topics to be considered include Watergate, inflation and the oil embargo, the Vietnam War, the rise and fall of Jimmy Carter, the emergence of new minority groups, the television programs of the era, and the movies, such as The Godfather, that commanded America’s attention.

4.) FROM THE MAGIC CARPET
September 3 – October 8       6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Maria Drumm
In From the Magic Carpet, we will visit mystical places around the globe. Come and take a look at history and culture that has created some very intriguing venues. Our visits will include the five Stans of Central Asia, The Caucasus (Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia), Burma and who knows where. This is a lecture class with videos.
Maria Drumm has taught other classes at RI including, Traveling the Silk Road, Lost and Found Civilizations, The History of India and How to Make a Book. In trips to over 107 countries, Maria took all the photos used in her presentations. Check out her photography @ mariadrumm.com.
5.) ART IN SPAIN
October 15 – December 3 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Joseph Cassar
This is a new art history course that addresses the most important artistic developments in Spain. The course covers drawing, painting, sculpture and architecture. Some of the artists we will cover are: Goya, Ribera, Murillo, Velazquez, Zurbaran, Dali, Miro, Picasso, Chillida, Gonzalez and Gaudi. The lectures will be accompanied by PowerPoint presentation with rich colorful images.

Joseph Paul Cassar, Ph.D. is an artist, scholar, curator and educator. He lectures in art history and appreciation and teaches studio art: drawing, painting and sculpture. He lectures at the Smithsonian Institution, Johns Hopkins, Towson University and is currently designing online art courses for The New York Times Knowledge Network and the University of Maryland University College with a focus on Art History and Graphic Design.

6.) OEDIPAL ISSUES: SOPHOCLES’ OEDIPUS THE KING, OEDIPUS AT COLONUS, E.M. FORSTER’S “THE ROAD FROM COLONUS”
October 15 – December 3 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Susan Marshall
In this course we will study Sophocles’ Oedipus the King and Oedipus at Colonus (Robert Fagles’ Translations) and E.M. Forster’s short story “The Road from Colonus” examining elements of Greek tragedy and archetypal themes that resonate through today.

Susan Marshall studied in the Continuing Education program at Notre Dame, earning her undergraduate degree in English in 1988. She returned to earn a Master's Degree in Liberal Arts in 1994.

7.) IF ONLY I HAD KNOWN – THE ART OF ASKING QUESTIONS
October 15 – December 3 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Betty Loafmann
How many decisions do we regret because we failed to ask the best questions that could have produced information necessary for a better decision? This workshop will enable members to improve their questioning skills and will focus on many types of questions.

Betty Loafmann has spent years experimenting with questions, trying to find which ideas work. She has taught classes for the past eight years and loves discussions.

8.) DIGGING THE CLASSICAL WORLD: ARCHAEOLOGY OF GREECE & ROME
October 15 – December 3 7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Robert Baer
The civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome made major contributions to our western heritage. Our knowledge of these influential cultures is due in large part to the discoveries made by archaeology. This highly illustrated course will explore the history and significance of archaeological exploration of the Classical Greek and Roman worlds. The most important discoveries will be presented and evaluated.

A college administrator with over thirty years in higher education, Robert Baer has a Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in history, and doctorate in higher education. History instructor at York College-CUNY, Community College of Baltimore County, Osher Institute, and Howard and Norwalk Community Colleges.
9.) **YOGA FOR POST-PRIME BODIES**

September 3 – December 3  
13 weeks  
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Betty Lewis

This course is a gentle yoga class appropriate for all levels. We will use chairs, walls, belts, blocks and blankets to help you access poses. The course includes yoga postures, breath work and meditation. For your own safety and comfort, please bring a yoga mat, two blocks, one belt and a blanket.

Betty Lewis has been teaching in the Baltimore Metropolitan area since 1997. She is a certified Iyengar Yoga teacher and a Yoga Alliance Registered Yoga Teacher. She has traveled to India several times, studying with B.K.S. Iyengar and his family.

**CLASS SIZE LIMITED.**

10.) **QIGONG**

September 3 – December 3  
13 weeks  
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Pamela Tanton

Qigong is a Chinese moving meditation and internal healing art. It stimulates energy flow in the body, triggers a relaxation response with deep breathing and repetitive movements, improves balance through the constant shifting of weight, and enhances one's sense of well-being and overall health. In this class, we will learn several forms from the qigong system called Sheng Zhen, which means "Unconditional Love."

Pamela Tanton started studying qigong in 2002 with Master Li Junfeng, founder of the Sheng Zhen system. She attended teacher training seminars and later certified as a teacher with Master Li. She continues to attend weekend workshops and seminars. Pamela has taught for many years in the Baltimore area. She currently teaches at several local assisted living centers. She enjoys the movements and has a light-hearted touch.

11.) **MEDITATION**

September 3 – December 3  
13 weeks  
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Linda McGill

Discover the power of a peaceful mind. This course will help you bring gentle and loving attention to the present moment. When you meditate, you are cleansing your subconscious mind – the storehouse of your life experiences and your reactions to them – so that your natural happiness and radiance can shine more brightly. Bring a yoga mat and blanket.

Linda McGill is a certified 200-hour yoga teacher who has been teaching for the past three years at a senior center and JHU. She enjoys teaching Meditation to seniors. She is a Roland Park native of 30 years.

12.) **SPANISH 102**

September 5 – December 5  
13 weeks  
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: James Ward

This highly participatory course is designed for students with some previous Spanish knowledge. The course will focus on studying more complex grammar and vocabulary and expanding conversational proficiency with real-world applications. Topics will include: pastimes, giving directions, narrating past events, etc. Students will learn through group activities, listening exercises, videos and PowerPoint presentations.

James Ward obtained his B.A. in Spanish and Latin American Studies from Goucher College and his M.A. in TESOL from UMBC. He has experience working as a foreign and second language instructor, as well as a Spanish translator and copy editor.
13.) WRITERS’ WORKSHOP/MEMORY PICTURES
September 3 – December 3 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Elizabeth Fanto
Writers will write on self-selected topics in and out of class; respond to mini-lessons on fiction, non-fiction and poetry, share their efforts in response groups, and revise works as they choose. Beginning writers are welcome; write what you can when you can.

Elizabeth Fanto is a graduate of Towson State University with a B.S. in Education and a Master’s in English who taught high school English and Creative Writing in Baltimore County Public Schools. She has taught 1-4 writing and literature classes a semester for 20 years at RI.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED

14.) FINANCE FOR SENIORS
September 3 – October 8 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: John Danz
This course will present basic economic and financial information in an informal, discussion-based setting to help participants better understand financial developments and news. The course will be lecture based supported by audio-visual material. Participants will be guided through practical application of the material presented throughout the course. Class discussion will be encouraged. Current news items and newspaper articles will be used to engender discussion.

John Danz has 40 years’ experience in investment and retirement management. A graduate of VA Tech, he has also studied at the Darden Graduate School, UVA and University of Chicago. He was Adjunct Faculty, Towson University, for Financial Management and Entrepreneurial Finance. John has taught and lectured frequently on economics, investments and personal finance.

15.) OPERA REVISITED
September 3 – October 8 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Bob Greenfield
Casual study of two operas (TBA) with discussion and presentation.

Bob Greenfield is a big opera aficionado who has enjoyed opera since 1942.

16.) BIBLE REJECTS
September 3 – October 8 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Don Burggraf
Do you know that there have been debates about which books were accepted to form the Bible? And some books didn’t get in? In this course we will look at some Hebrew and Greek books that didn’t make the cut.

Don Burggraf served as a Lutheran pastor for over 40 years before his retirement. He has taught many courses in Bible study through the years.

17.) CATS AND HUMANS IN ANCIENT TIMES
October 15 – December 3 7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Helen Jones
Wild cats walked into the lives of ancient farmers about 12,000 years ago. A working relationship was established that was beneficial to both of them. We will travel through ancient lands such as Syria, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, Greece and Rome to find out how cats established a “paw-hold” that still exists today on the lives of humans.

Helen Jones taught kindergarten, primary grades and special education in BCPS. She also taught courses in the teacher education program at Carroll Community College. She has two cats, Nathaniel and Oscar, to whom this class is dedicated.
18.) MORE TED TALKS
October 15 – December 3  7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Nancy St. Pierre

TED Talks are a collection of videos by some of the world’s most inspired thinkers. We will watch some current videos and discuss each.

Nancy St. Pierre is a retired IT Specialist who enjoys quilting, exploring spirituality and teaching at Renaissance.

CLASS SIZE LIMITED.

19.) FAVORITE POEMS: DAN’S, DORIAN’S, YOURS
October 15 – December 3  7 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructors: Dorian Borsella and Dan Maguire

Across the entire spectrum of poetry, many of us have poems that we particularly cherish, poems that we want to share with others. Dorian and Dan will submit theirs. Class members, please send a favorite to us before class starts so that we can include your favorite in the syllabus. All sent poems will be read and analyzed. This is not a requirement. Class format will be reading and studying poems.

Dorian Borsella earned a Masters of Liberal Arts degree from Johns Hopkins University, and a Masters of Social Work from University of Pennsylvania. She has taught numerous RI courses. Also a poet, her true bliss is Victorian England.

Dan Maguire is a published poet who has read at the Library of Congress and won National and Regional awards. (His sometimes coordinator partner, Dorian, adds that Dan is a dynamic and delightful longtime RI teacher who always packs classrooms.)

20.) OUR EMERGING UNIVERSE
September 3 – December 3  13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Sr. Kathleen Feeley

Through lecture and discussion, we will explore new knowledge that has been uncovered in the last sixty years about our cosmos. We will relate the new understanding of creation to its impact on our daily lives, including our understanding of and relationship with the Creator, our own spirituality, and our call to care for our planet Earth.

Sr. Kathleen Feeley has been teaching all her adult life, largely in Baltimore, but also in many countries around the world. She deeply appreciates teaching adults because their life experience resonates with whatever she teaches, and they are willing to share that resonance.

21.) STILL LIFE DRAWING
September 3 – December 3  13 weeks
11:00 – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Alina Kurbiel

The workshop explores the fundamentals of drawing through observational skills. Students will become familiar with graphite and ink pen drawing techniques. Using still life setups, students will develop their understanding of line, shape, proportion, value and composition. This course is designed for students of all levels who wish to enhance their ability to draw.

Alina Kurbiel, born in Silesia, Poland, has worked as a software engineer and a graphic designer in Maryland. After several years in front of computers, she decided to switch career paths to traditional art. She mainly works in watercolors, ink and graphite pencils. Her favorite subjects are animals and landscapes. She is a passionate art instructor at various Baltimore sites. Google Alina Kurbiel to see more of her beautiful art.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED
TUESDAY CLASSES

22.) RENAISSANCE SINGERS
September 3 – December 3 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Nancy Heinold

The singers rehearse and perform music of varied genres. The choir consists of four voices; soprano, alto, tenor and bass. We welcome anyone who enjoys singing, and we love new members. No auditions are required.

Nancy Heinold has a B.A. from Towson University and an M.L.S. from the University of Maryland. She worked for 30 years in both academic and public libraries. She has been an organist and choir director in the Episcopal Church for over 50 years.

23.) THE NEW YORKER ROUNDTABLE
September 3 – December 3 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Brian Young

In each class, 4-5 preassigned articles from The New Yorker magazine will be discussed. The assigned articles will include current events, short stories, book and artistic reviews and occasionally humor and poems. We will discuss the content, context, writing style, and perspectives that have influenced the reader.

Brian Young is a retired aerospace executive who has developed an interest in The New Yorker magazine since his retirement, and enjoys discussions of its articles in a group setting.

24.) SPANISH 101
September 3 – December 3 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: James Ward

This highly participatory course is intended for beginning language learners. Students will learn basic pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar, as well as develop basic conversational skills for everyday life. Topics will include: introductions, describing others, daily routines, expressing preferences, etc. Instruction will include listening activities, videos, partner activities, and PowerPoint.

See Course No. 12 for Instructor's Bio.

25.) YOGA SOMATICS
September 3 – December 3 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Instructor: Linda McGill

Somatics is a type of yoga class that creates a new freedom of movement. It works on strengthening the posture and core and helping the body feel stronger and better aligned using simple movements, breath and relaxation. Other benefits include relieving neuromuscular pain, regaining voluntary control of habitually tight muscles, improving coordination, balance, flexibility, while increasing self-awareness and mindfulness. Bring a yoga mat and blanket.

See Course No. 11 for Instructor's Bio.
26.) WATERCOLOR
September 3 – December 3    13 weeks
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Alina Kurbiel

This program is for both artists who tried watercolor painting before and for those who are new to this medium. We will use simple wet-on-wet, wet-on-dry and dry-on-dry techniques. We will also learn how to paint using negative painting techniques to build up layers of color and create stunning abstract art. We will draw from photographs and also from observation of still life setups. The ability to draw from observation is important in this course.

See Course No. 21 for Instructor’s Bio.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED

27.) MAH JONGG
September 3 – December 3    13 weeks
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Ann Martin

A chance for mah jongg players to enjoy a few games in the afternoon. Anyone interested in learning should contact the coordinator so a newbies table can be arranged.

Ann Martin is fond of electrical gadgetry, computers, IPad, digital camera. She was introduced to mahjongg in 2014 and loves the stimulation and camaraderie of the game.

28.) ONE WAY TO LOOK AT A WORK OF ART
September 3 – October 8       6 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Betsy Cumming

Participants will look at works of art using line, color, shape, pattern and texture.

Betsy Cumming is a former docent at the BMA and a former curatorial assistant at the BMA. She has a B.A. in Art History.

29.) UNIQUELY BALTIMORE – THERE’S MORE
October 15 – December 3       7 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Marty Sharrow

Uniquely Baltimore is an engaging and interactive series of PowerPoint presentation about the people, places and things that are unique to Baltimore and the stories behind them. This course will focus on Baltimore’s illustrious history, especially the many “firsts” for which the city is noted.

Marty Sharrow spent 41 years with the Baltimore City Public School System and since 2012 has been an adjunct at CCBC, Renaissance and Osher. Marty teaches courses on local weather, Baltimore and Maryland history and geography, and local sports history.

30.) HOW EUROPE BECAME EUROPEAN
October 15 – December 3       7 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Warren Bentley

Through lectures, questions and answers we will examine how and why Europe went from glacial debris to ruling the world in ten thousand years. We will also discuss anthropology, languages, DNA, and some artifacts and see a mixing bowl of refugees and adventurists slowly forming a stew, not a soup.

Warren Bentley has over 50 years’ experience in software development. He has frequently examined the question of, “Why is Europe special?” He has taught from Scouting and Sunday School through professional development courses and college courses in software.
31.) NIA MOVEMENT
September 3 – December 3  13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Instructor: Amy Taliaferro

Music, movement and magic. That’s what NIA is all about. Weaving dance arts, martial arts, and healing arts into a blend comprised of 52 moves and endless possibilities for expression, NIA promises variety, joy for the spirit, and a great workout that YOU direct, based on your own body’s way. If you want greater strength, agility, stability and flexibility, NIA is the class for you!

Amy Taliaferro has been working as a bodyworker since 1993 providing massage, craniosacral therapy and helping people build resilience through movement and somatic experiencing trauma work. Her NIA classes are fun, creative, and a great workout.

32.) POETRY WORKSHOP
September 3 – December 3  13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Instructor: Susan Marshall and Dan Maguire

In this course members meet weekly to share and gently critique each other’s poetry in a welcoming and supportive atmosphere.

Susan Marshall studied in the Continuing Education program at Notre Dame, earning her undergraduate degree in English in 1988. She returned to earn a Master’s Degree in Liberal Arts in 1994.

Dan Maguire is a published poet who has read at the Library of Congress and won National and Regional awards. (His sometimes coordinator partner, Dorian, adds that Dan is a dynamic and delightful longtime RI teacher who always packs classrooms.)

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED
33.) EARLY MORNING EXERCISE
September 5 – December 5       13 weeks
8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Instructor: Bob Greenfield
See Course No. 1 for Course Description and Instructor's Bio.

34.) FIVE-ELEMENT ACUPUNCTURE THEORY: LIVING IN HARMONY WITH THE SEASONS FOR OPTIMAL HEALTH
September 5 – October 10       6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: Linda McLaurine
Acupuncture treatments can help us to move through our blockages -- physical, mental or spiritual, but our words, thoughts and observations in our lives can also move us forward. You may learn how to see symptoms as teachers as you participate in the healing process. We’ll rethink attitudes, shifting stress into something that can improve our health and help us to see ourselves more objectively.

Linda McLaurine graduated from nursing school in 1977 from Essex Community College and the College of Notre Dame with a B.S. degree in Nursing and a Master’s Degree in Acupuncture in 2000 at The Traditional Acupuncture Institute. Linda has enjoyed combining western and eastern healing modalities.

CLASS SIZE LIMITED

35.) DRAMA TRAUMA!
DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN EUROPEAN THEATRE
September 5 – October 10       6 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructors: Dorian Borsella and Dan Maguire
Henrik Ibsen, considered Father of Modern Drama, shocked Victorian England with his plays about “irresponsible wives” and the s-word: Syphilis! We’ll look at other jolting theatricals in early 1900’s: Beckett’s and Ionesco’s Theatre of the Absurd, Pirandello, and the noir of Jean Genet. (Lecture, discussion, DVDs, optional reading of A Doll’s House.)

See Course No. 19 for Instructors’ Bios.

Book Recommended: Henrik Ibsen A Doll’s House

36.) DAILY LIFE IN CLASSICAL GREECE
October 17 – December 5       7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Instructor: John Russell
You may know about the battles and the lives of royals and aristocrats of ancient Greece but what about the lives of the lower 95%? What was it like to grow up in classical Greece; to be a Greek citizen, a Greek woman, or a Greek slave? Find out in this course based on a Great Courses Lecture Series. A continuation of a course offered during the Spring 2019 semester, but may be taken independently.

In previous incarnations, John Russell, was an undergraduate Ancient History Major and a secondary school history teacher. Exploring the past has distracted him from the present throughout his life.
37.) INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE SCIENCE
October 17 – December 5       7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Janet Currotto

Cognitive science combines research from psychology, computer science, philosophy, neuroscience, and other domains to learn about the mind and its processes. In the course we will look at what cognitive science research tells us about how we think, learn, interact, and grow over time. After a short review, we will pick up where we left off in the Fall 2018 class (new and returning students welcome!). Classes will be conducted through lecture and discussion.

Janet Currotto spent her entire career as a Federal Financial IT developer/manager, after receiving a B.S. in Mathematics at University of Maryland. Upon retirement, she earned an M.S. in Educational Studies at Johns Hopkins University, focusing on mathematics learning and the use of IT in education.

38.) ADDING WOMEN’S WISDOM TO THE NEW TESTAMENT
October 17 – December 5       7 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Betty Loafmann

Women lived at the time of Jesus. However when The Gospels and Epistles were written, no one asked the women to contribute their wisdom to these writings. We will try to reconstruct what the women in Jesus’ day would have wanted to share with their daughters.

Betty Loafmann is an ordained minister. Since attending seminary (1965-68) she has struggled to join her faith with her belief in the wisdom of women.

Recommended Book: The Bible or at least The New Testament

39.) LIVING A VIRTUOUS LIFE: A WAY TO REVITALIZE AMERICAN SOCIETY
September 5 – December 5       13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Sr. Mary Fitzgerald, SSND

This course will survey the understanding of virtue from Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates through contemporary writers. Presentations will be interactive. The format will be discussion-oriented with videos if appropriate. Stress will be on application to 21st Century life.

Sr. Mary Fitzgerald joined the faculty at Notre Dame of Maryland University in 2007 after having taught at the secondary level for several years and having been a high school administrator for twenty-three years. She firmly believes that education is the strongest force for transforming attitudes of persons, societies, and the world.

40.) NDMU FACULTY POTPOURRI
September 5 – December 5       13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

In this course, a different Notre Dame faculty member will present on a topic of their choosing each week.
41.) OPEN STUDIO FOR PROSE WRITERS
September 5 – December 5 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructor: Donna Bertling

This is a prose writing class for serious writers who want in-depth feedback. Students are encouraged to bring their short stories, memoirs or chapters of books in-progress or completed. Course will include suggestions on where to get work published. Class size is limited to allow ample time for each reading and critique.

Donna Bertling holds a B.A. in English from Loyola University of Maryland. Her novel, Runaway Fire, was published in October, 2017.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED

42.) GREAT CONVERSATIONS ON CONTEMPORARY WOMEN’S WRITING
September 5 – December 5 13 weeks
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Instructors: Whitney Jacobs & Elizabeth Ruppert

Join us to discuss Her Own Accord: American Women on Identity, Culture, and Community. Contemporary poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and journalistic works address all aspects of women’s lives, including identity, family, sex, relationships, work, creativity, activism and politics. Although our topic is American women, we hope some of R.I.’s men will participate to share their experiences and points of view.

Whitney Jacobs is a retired teacher. She has taught several courses at RI.

Elizabeth Ruppert attended Sarah Lawrence College, Art Institute of Chicago, Goodman Theater and UMAB (MSW). She is currently working privately as a psychotherapist/family therapist.

Book required: Her Own Accord: American Women on Identity, Culture and Community

43.) CIVIL WAR
September 5 – October 10 6 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Danny Warrenfeltz and team

We will discuss various aspects of the American Civil War including:
• The life of a soldier
• Small arms and accoutrements
• Artillery pieces and projectiles

We will use a show and tell format for most subjects.

Our group talks with school groups and other visitors about various aspects of the war when they visit a national battlefield. Collectively, we have over 50 years’ experience in doing living history.

44.) BEGINNING ROBOTICS
September 5 – October 10 6 weeks
11:00 – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Whitney Jacobs

Participants will learn some history, development and current uses of robots and practice very basic programming steps. The last four classes will be spent at a local elementary school where we will learn from young teachers how to program and use beginners’ robots. Limited number is due to the equipment available.

Whitney Jacobs is a retired teacher who occasionally builds or programs a robot with a grandchild.

CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO 12.
45.) ART TALKS II  
September 5 – October 10    6 weeks  
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Instructor: Terry Weisser  

This course, taught by several speakers, will explore the many roles curators and conservators play to bring art to the public, to enhance our historical and technical understanding of art, and to preserve cultural heritage. Subjects will focus on the “back stories” about art, i.e. information and discoveries you will not find on a museum label. Format will be PowerPoint presentations, and questions and discussion will be encouraged.  

Terry Weisser was Director of Conservation and Technical Research at the Walters Art Museum for 41 years. Graduating from Swarthmore College and the Institute of Archaeology in London, she continues to teach, lecture, publish and advise on preservation in Iraq.

46.) A CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNEY  
October 17 – December 5    7 weeks  
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Instructor: Josef Nathanson  

Centering on years 1954-1968, the course will attempt to capture the sights and sounds of a turbulent time in American history, that of the Civil Rights Movement. Key events taking place in Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham, Alabama and elsewhere in the South will be presented in talks and videos and by guest speakers. Class participation is a requirement.  

Josef Nathanson has a B.Arch. from MIT and a city planning degree from Penn. He has worked in public agencies and as a private consultant. A lifelong interest in history and a tour of Civil Rights Movement sites last year inspired this course.

47.) ORGANIZE/DOWNSIZE  
October 17 – December 5    7 weeks  
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Instructor: Vivian Appel  

Whether you are moving to an apartment or condominium, or just organizing old photos, this course will send you on your way. Amy Bloomer, a professional organizer, will be a weekly guest.  

Vivian Appel, a retired lawyer and court administrator, entered law school at age 40 after several trial careers. Vivian downsized and organized when she moved from a 3-bedroom home to a 1-bedroom apartment. She loves travel, hiking, golf, birding, knitting, sewing, Mah Jongg, and adventurous dining.

48.) THE GREAT SONGWRITERS  
October 17 – December 5    7 weeks  
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Instructor: Bill Messenger  

The 1920’s and 1930’s are considered the “Golden Age” of popular song, with Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, Jerome Kern and others following Gershwin’s lead. We’ll hear stories and explore musical influences behind the songs of Johnny Mercer, Duke Ellington, and many others. Some content of the Spring, 2019 course will be included, along with additional composers, lyricists, songs and history.  

Bill Messenger studied composition at the Peabody Conservatory of Music and acquired two Master’s Degrees from Johns Hopkins University. Messenger, a music critic and author of 200 published articles, has taught at synagogues, Jewish cultural programs, colleges and universities throughout the United States. He helped found the Elderhostel program at Peabody where he taught for over 25 years.
49.) SELECTED GREAT SHORT WORKS OF RUSSIAN LITERATURE
September 5 – December 5 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Dorothy Strohecker

Guided discussion of classic works by Gogol, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Turgenev, and Chekhov. Critiques will go beyond simple analysis and appreciation of text and theme to include detailed examination of social mores, cultural milieu, psychological examination of characters, historical elements, literal and abstract interpretations of plot, and relevance to the literary canon of Russia.

Dr. Dorothy Pula Strohecker is an alumna of Notre Dame, R.I. literature instructor for over 20 years, lecturer, literary expert, and active international Joseph Conrad scholar on whom she did her PhD at U of MD. Bob Poor acts as course administrator.

50.) VIEWS OF THE NEWS
September 5 – December 5 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructors: Hollis Jackson and Team

Participants are invited to share opinions, concerns and critiques of current items in newspapers, books and other media.

Hollis Jackson, LCSW-C, was a social worker for over 40 years. She has an MSW from the University of Maryland. She also has an MS in Education from the University of Miami.

51.) SO YOU THINK YOU CAN’T DRAW?
September 5 – December 5 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Carolyn Sutton

Drawing is a skill that can be developed by learning to think and see like an artist. If you’re afraid of drawing, or have tried it and felt like a failure, this class is for you. You will develop an understanding of what it takes to transfer what your eye sees to what your hand records. We will have fun and build confidence each week!

Carolyn Sutton has a Master’s Degree from the Rhode Island School of Design and taught art for 45 years. She was Director of Arts at The Park School for 20 years. She enjoys teaching drawing, painting, graphic design and digital illustration.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED

52.) SHORT STORY MASTERPIECES
September 5 – December 5 13 weeks
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Instructor: Elizabeth Fanto

The course offers a balance between well-known “classics” and works by new contemporary voices from the United States and abroad. The class is limited to 24 to allow for optimal informal discussions by members. New stories are taught each semester.

See Course No. 13 for Instructor’s Bio.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED
53.) THURSDAY MOVIES
September 5 – December 5  13 weeks
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructors: Ted Walman and Vickie Lapicki
Our film selections will hopefully remind you that life is rich and that laughter is life’s sweetest creation.
Ted Walman, retired optometrist, has a great love of movies. He leads a movie group which attends movies at least twice a month.
As a lover of movies, Vickie Lapicki takes great pleasure in sharing the experience of film with the members of Renaissance Institute. Vickie joined Renaissance eight years ago, and the experience has changed her life.

54.) ART COLLABORATIVE
September 3 – December 3  13 weeks
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Instructors: Josef Nathanson & Paula Murphy
Join us to collaborate in painting with watercolors and drawing with pencil or pastels, encouraging curious fellow artists, and sharing ideas, techniques, ongoing and finished work. We will revel in the joy of a supportive and welcoming camaraderie. No prerequisites required. Bring your own supplies.
Josef Nathanson was able to take oil painting classes in his high school years courtesy of the School District of Philadelphia. Watercolor is an entirely new medium which he took up a few years ago. He finds the support and critiques by others in Art Collaborative to be very rewarding.
Paula Murphy is a retired math teacher and emergency nurse. She has a lifelong interest in drawing and watercolor painting. After a long hiatus she renewed her friendship with both media, mostly due to the opportunities presented at R.I.

55.) THE PUZZLE CIRCLE
September 5 – October 10  6 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructors: Janet Currotto & Whitney Jacobs
A Puzzle Circle is a group of people who enjoy tackling brain teasers and other puzzles. The group may include “experts,” but also novices who would like to get a start in puzzle solving. Participants will be encouraged, but are not required, to bring in their favorites including stumpers, and we’ll apply the collective group’s creativity to come up with solutions.
Janet Currotto is a retired IT specialist who thought Sudoku was the ultimate good time, until this semester’s puzzle circle helped her broaden her puzzle horizons.
Whitney Jacobs is a retired teacher who likes to play a healthy dose of puzzles daily.

56.) COMPOSE YOURSELF
September 5 – October 10  6 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Carol Vellucci
Jump start your creativity with Compose Yourself. Based on The Amherst Writers and Artists Method for writing prompts and positive feedback as well as principles of group trust, cohesion, and confidentiality, participants experience a safe environment in which to explore and expand their writing.
Carol Vellucci is an experienced group leader, a freelance writer, and a counselor who believes most people can have fun and learn about themselves through writing.
57.) WHO AM I AND HOW DID I GET HERE?
October 17 – December 5       7 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructors: Susan Brooks & Margaret Boeckmann

This course is for those interested in exploring their genealogy and sharing what they find. The goal is not only to delineate your genetic makeup but also to determine how you arrived at this particular place. We will establish guidelines, but the course content will be provided by participants sharing why they began their inquiry, how they proceeded, and what they discovered.

Course coordinators Margaret Boeckmann and Susan Brooks are amateur genealogists who delight in discovering “new” relatives, past and present.

58.) THE SHAPE OF OUR SPACE:
TWO - THOUSAND YEAR MYSTERY
OF THE FIFTH POSTULATE
October 17 – December 5       7 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Gregory Pevzner

The course, delivered via lecture, is about the history of geometry. It will focus on the turbulent history of the fifth postulate of Euclid and people who influenced the creation of this mystery, those who failed and those who succeeded in resolving the mystery, and finally those who created a new understanding of our world based on the solution. No geometry knowledge beyond a few basic notions is required.

Gregory Pevzner is a retired software engineer/manager. He was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Russia. He holds graduate degrees in physics from St. Petersburg Polytechnical University and an MS in Computer Science from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Greg has a keen interest in history and mathematics and is an avid reader eager to share his knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject with others.

59.) MODERN POETRY: THE BEST OF THE VERSE
September 5 – December 5       13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: Warren Moore

This course will be an opportunity to read, analyze and discuss a variety of outstanding modern and contemporary works by poets such as Robert Frost, T. S. Elliot, Robert Lowell, Richard Wilbur, Mary Oliver and a myriad of others.

Over the last 50 years Warren Moore has read, written and taught poetry, primarily at Loyola College and The College of Notre Dame.

60.) STORIES BY LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS
September 5 – December 5       13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Instructor: James Ward

In many anthologies of Latin American literature, female writers are often overlooked. This class is an attempt to bring female Latin American writers into the foreground. We will read stories by authors such as Isabelle Allende (ARG), Cristina Rivera Garza (MEX), and Angela Hernandez (D.REP). Photocopies of readings and other materials will be provided.

See Course No. 12 for Instructor’s Bio.
61.) INTRODUCTION TO BALLET
September 5 – December 5  13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

_Instructor: Susan Sklar_

Introduction to Ballet is designed to use the techniques of classical ballet for the purpose of improving strength, flexibility, coordination, posture, range of motion and balance. Tap into your creative spirit, cultivate musicality and grace, and experience the joy of movement. Absolute beginners welcome.

_Susan Sklar received her training at Goucher, the University of Maryland, and at various local studios. She has performed in productions of Giselle, Swan Lake, LaBayadera and The Nutcracker._

62.) MATHEMATICS: RHYME AND REASON
September 5 – December 5  13 weeks
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

_Instructor: Mel Currie_

The instructor will lecture on the aesthetic value of mathematics and the culture of the mathematics community. Drawing on his book, _Mathematics: Rhyme and Reason_, which was released in 2018 by the American Mathematical Society, he will cover some of the gems of mathematics and the human beings who first encountered them. Only an acquaintanceship with rudimentary high school algebra and geometry is required.

_Mel Currie earned a B.A. in Mathematics/Economics at Yale and a Ph.D. in Mathematics at the University of Pittsburgh. Professorships at Auburn University and the University of Richmond followed. He retired from the National Security Agency after twenty-five years._

_Recommended Book: Mathematics: Rhyme and Reason, ISBN: 978-1-4704-4796-0, price $30.00._
THURSDAY CLASSES

SEPT. 5 – DEC. 5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>NAME OF COURSE</th>
<th>COORDINATORS</th>
<th>COURSE LENGTH</th>
<th>FIRST CHOICE</th>
<th>SECOND CHOICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45–9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Early Morning Exercise</td>
<td>B. Greenfield</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>9:30–10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mini-Med</td>
<td>H. Flaks</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Something Happened … 1970's</td>
<td>E. Berkowitz</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>From the Magic Carpet</td>
<td>M. Drumm</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Art in Spain</td>
<td>J. Cassar</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Oedipal Issues</td>
<td>S. Marshall</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>If Only I had Known</td>
<td>B. Loafmann</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Digging the Classical World</td>
<td>R. Baer</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Yoga for Post Prime Bodies</td>
<td>B. Lewis</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Qigong</td>
<td>P. Tanton</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Meditation</td>
<td>L. McGill</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Spanish 102</td>
<td>J. Ward</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Writers’ Workshop/Memory Pictures</td>
<td>E. Fanto</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Finance for Seniors</td>
<td>J. Danz</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Opera Revisited</td>
<td>B. Greenfield</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Bible Rejects</td>
<td>D. Burggraf</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Cats and Humans in Ancient Times</td>
<td>H. Jones</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>More TED Talks</td>
<td>N. St. Pierre</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Favorite Poems: Dan’s, Dorian’s, Yours</td>
<td>D. Borsella/D. Maguire</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Our Emerging Universe</td>
<td>Sr. K. Feeley</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Still Life Drawing</td>
<td>A. Kurbiel</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Renaissance Singers</td>
<td>N. Heinold</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>The New Yorker Roundtable</td>
<td>B. Young</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Spanish 101</td>
<td>J. Ward</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Yoga Somatics</td>
<td>L. McGill</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00–3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Watercolor</td>
<td>A. Kurbiel</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Mah Jongg for Players</td>
<td>A. Martin</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>1:15–2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>One Way to Look at a Work of Art</td>
<td>B. Cumming</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Uniquely Baltimore: There’s More</td>
<td>M. Sharrow</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>How Europe Became European</td>
<td>W. Bentley</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>NIA Movement</td>
<td>A. Taliaferro</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Poetry Workshop</td>
<td>S. Marshall</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>TIME</td>
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<td>8:45–9:15 a.m.</td>
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<td>Early Morning Exercise</td>
<td>B. Greenfield</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>9:30–10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>5-Element Acupuncture Theory</td>
<td>L. McLaurine</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Drama Trauma</td>
<td>D. Borsella/D. Maguire</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Daily Life in Classical Greece</td>
<td>J. Russell</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Introduction to Cognitive Science</td>
<td>J. Currotto</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Adding Women’s Wisdom to The New Testament</td>
<td>B. Loafmann</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Living a Virtuous Life</td>
<td>Sr. M. Fitzgerald</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>NDMU Faculty Potpourri</td>
<td>P. McLaughlin</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>Open Studio for Prose Writers</td>
<td>D. Bertling</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Great Conversations on Contemporary Women's Writing</td>
<td>W. Jacobs/E. Ruppert</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Civil War</td>
<td>D. Warrenfeltz</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>Beginning Robotics</td>
<td>W. Jacobs</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Art Talks II</td>
<td>T. Weisser</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>A Civil Rights Journey</td>
<td>J. Nathanson</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Organize/Downsize</td>
<td>V. Appel</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Great Songwriters</td>
<td>B. Messenger</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Selected Great Short Works of Russian Literature</td>
<td>D. Strohecker</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Views of the News</td>
<td>H. Jackson</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>51</td>
<td>So You Think You Can’t Draw</td>
<td>C. Sutton</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Short Story Masterpieces</td>
<td>E. Fanto</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30–2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Thursday Afternoon Movies</td>
<td>T. Walman/V. Lapicki</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00–3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Art Collaborative</td>
<td>P. Murphy/J. Nathanson</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15–2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Puzzle Circle</td>
<td>J. Currotto/W. Jacobs</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>Compose Yourself</td>
<td>C. Vellucci</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Who am I and How Did I Get Here?</td>
<td>S. Brooks/M. Boeckmann</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td>The Shape of our Space</td>
<td>G. Pevzner</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>Modern Poetry: The Best of the Verse</td>
<td>W. Moore</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>Stories by Latin American Women</td>
<td>J. Ward</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>Introduction to Ballet</td>
<td>S. Sklar</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>Mathematics: Rhyme and Reason</td>
<td>M. Currie</td>
<td>13 weeks</td>
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Annual Membership: $400.00 for both Fall 2019 & Spring 2020 or $215.00 for a single semester.

☐ Check: Make payable to Renaissance Institute.  ☐ Credit Card: ☐ VISA ☐ Master Card

Account # ___________________________________________ Exp. Date __________ Sec. Code ______

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☐ Gift: I want to support the Renaissance Institute with a gift of ___________________________

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Date ________________________________

NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 15, 2019