Academy of Learning in Retirement
Spring 2016
Course Catalog
Academy of Learning in Retirement
at
North East I. S. D. Community Education
8750 Tesoro Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78217

ALIR is a continuing educational program
ALIR – (210) 407-0167 (Rhonda Roberts’ workstation)

ALIR Council
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  Bill Bornstein
  Judy Callier
  Leslie Ellison
  Ann Gruber
  John Hollingsworth
  Bill Howland
  Larry Johnson
  Elizabeth Neely
  Norma Rios
  Mel Waldgeir
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mission Statement</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration, Special Notes, Dates to Remember</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Art Appreciation</td>
<td>5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers and Technology</td>
<td>7-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics/Science/Math</td>
<td>8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Wellness</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History/Philosophy/Political Science</td>
<td>11-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>15-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature, Creative Writing</td>
<td>16-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music &amp; Drama</td>
<td>18-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation &amp; Leisure</td>
<td>20-21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academy of Learning in Retirement (ALIR)

Mission Statement:
Through volunteerism, the Academy of Learning in Retirement (ALIR), believing in lifelong learning, recognizes and utilizes its members’ wealth of experience and abilities to achieve educational stimulation in the arts, history, literature, languages, and sciences.

History:
The Academy of Learning in Retirement (ALIR) was established in 1989 as an extension of the University of Texas at San Antonio with Dr. John Lane and his wife Marci as catalysts.

Dr. Lane envisioned an all-volunteer learning academy patterned after an extension of the University of Delaware, which offered a wide variety of classes to an over-55 crowd. He recognized that many retirees settle into a pattern of inactivity and lose a sense of purpose. The academy would provide a purpose and satisfy the need for human contact. He presented the concept to UTSA officials who reacted favorably, and plans were set in motion.

In February 1989, ALIR opened its doors at the Institute of Texan Cultures under the aegis of UTSA. Eleven courses were offered to 61 members. Over the years ALIR membership, while at ITC, grew steadily reaching a peak of about 200 members and 50 classes.

In 2005, ALIR received the news that it would lose its home due to the burgeoning growth of UTSA and its need for downtown space. The search began for a new campus.

North East Independent School District (NEISD) welcomed ALIR to its Continuing Education Department in the spring of 2006. In addition, NEISD agreed to print ALIR classes in its continuing education catalog. With this campus, ALIR now has plenty of room for growth.

ALIR remains a continuing legacy of John and Marci Lane.
Course Registration:
A registration form is included with the catalog. Registration is required for all courses and class size is limited. Unless otherwise noted, all classes have a maximum enrollment of 37. Registration will begin on Friday, December 4, from 8:30 a.m. - noon. Walk-in registrations will be processed first, followed by those mailed. **To allow new ALIR members admittance into classes, please register only for those classes you are sure you will attend. You may register for yourself and one other person only.**

Lunch:
An important aspect of life at ALIR is lunchtime (12:15-1:00 p.m.) when members continue their discussions and chats and become better acquainted. Everyone is encouraged to bring a brown bag. Microwaves are available in the lunchroom. Other beverages and snacks may be purchased in the coffee area. NEISD does ask ALIRians to refrain from taking beverages and food into the classrooms.

Dates to Remember:

Instructors’ Meeting: Thursday, January 21, 2016  
New Member Welcome: Friday, January 22, 2016  
First Day of Classes: Monday, February 1, 2016  
Spring Break: March 14-18, 2016  
Second six week session begins: Week of March 21, 2016  
Last Day of Classes: Thursday, April 28, 2016  
Luncheons:  
Monday- February 29, 2016  
Tuesday – March 29, 2016  
Wednesday – April 27, 2016  
Art Show – Tuesday – April 19, 2016

Classes are held at 8750 Tesoro Drive, San Antonio Texas 78217. For more information contact North East Community Education at (210) 407-0167, or visit our website at www.communityed.neisd.net and click on ALIR.
ART & ART APPRECIATION

Exploring Pastels
(Georgia Stok)
Thursday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
This is a class for intermediate to advanced students wishing to explore pastels. Emphasis will be on color relationships, color harmonies, shading and composition. Supply list available at registration. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

Beginning Calligraphy
(Mary Bowman)
Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
This class will offer lessons in beautiful lettering and design with emphasis on using calligraphy in everyday life. Our concentration will be on the Italic alphabet. There will be a $5 paper fee for class materials and projects. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

Continuing Zen Painting
(Mary Bowman)
Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Continue the fun of this Zen in-the-moment style of Oriental painting aimed at products such as note cards and gift wrap. Special paint brushes and some supplies are available from the instructor and a paper fee of $5 is payable to the instructor on the first day of class. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

Basic Watercolor
(Jeanette Lowell)
Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Monday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Discover the fun of watercolor! While students of all levels are welcome, instruction is offered for complete beginners. A supply list will be available on the first day of class. Paper, brushes and paints will be available, on loan, in order to complete the first lesson. **Maximum Enrollment: 22**

History of Impressionism
(Louise Abbey)
Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
This Great Courses® DVD series with Professor Richard Brettell (University of Texas at Dallas) is titled “Monet to Van Gogh – A History of Impressionism.” It covers mostly 19th century art.

Fun With Paper (2nd 6-week session)
(Carol Johnson)
Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Discover what you can do with just a square piece of paper. We will explore all the facets of origami in a step-by-step way: fun, easy toys, dollar bill folds, cards, mobiles and
jewelry. The results will be great for sharing with grandchildren as well as creating and wearing inexpensive gifts. There is a supply fee of $10 payable the first day of class.

**Maximum Enrollment: 15**

**Beginning Zen Painting**
(Lauren O’Neal, Mary Bowman)

**Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
Discover the fun of Oriental style Zen brush painting and develop your artistic talents in a mindful new way. Brushes will be available for purchase for $12. Note cards and other papers will be furnished for $5 payable to the instructor on the first day of class. No previous experience is necessary for this class. **Maximum Enrollment: 22**

**New! Through Georgia’s Eyes** (1st 6-week session)
(Sue Telle)

**Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
American painter Georgia O’Keeffe viewed the world in a unique way. In this 6-week course students will learn about O’Keeffe’s life, study her work and create 6 art works inspired by her art. Students will use pastel and watercolor to create an artwork each week: flowers, skies, bones, landscapes and buildings (favorite O’Keeffe subjects). Materials will be supplied for a $3.00 supply fee payable at the first class session. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

**Creating a Legacy**
(Pat Bailey, Pat Diamanti)

**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Most people become overwhelmed at the thought of going through decades of photos and creating a scrapbook. We want to preserve our memories for future generations but simply don’t know where to start. This class begins with those pictures, gives you an orderly, obtainable way to begin and shows you exactly what to do. It also includes some instruction on telling your story (journaling) to accompany your photos. Anyone can accomplish this, one step at a time. This is a working class where we encourage one another as we work toward a finished project. After the first week, each student will need to purchase a scrapbook, some supplies and any special stickers or embellishments that they want to use. Some basic supplies are available at no cost. **Maximum Enrollment: 15**

**The Art of Quilting**
(Janice Liggett, Lisetta Ennis)

**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
For the first 30 minutes of class we will see new ways to quilt, then we will break up into 2 groups: new quilters and experienced quilters. We will discuss fabrics, threads, machines and new devices used to quilt. Students will purchase their own fabric, batting and backs for the quilt they make in class. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**
Acrylic Painting
(Suzan Pearson)
**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Instruction is for beginner acrylic painters. Students will learn a variety of painting techniques that can be used to create individual subjects of interest as well as in-class subject matter. Learn to mix most colors from three primary colors: red, yellow and blue. There is a $5 fee due to the instructor at the first class meeting. New students will be sent a supply list prior to the first class. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

Mixed Media Art Class
(Dave Landry)
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
We will work with various media including water color, acrylic and collage. Various art techniques will be taught to enhance your art work. Some art experience is helpful.  
**Maximum Enrollment: 22**

*New!* Great Artists of the Italian Renaissance
(Sandra Rightmeyer)
**Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
This Great Courses® class with Professor William Kloss surveys the early Renaissance historical art period with the High Renaissance period approximating 500 years of “Western Art.” The class contrasts the differing styles of artistic language associated with the late Middle Ages being replaced by new styles which stemmed from Florence in central Italy with Venice’s domination of northern Italy.

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Computer Workshop
(Thomas Lake)
**Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
This is a computer technology workshop. Class time will be allocated to student computer questions and concerns. Topics include Microsoft® Windows: accessories, movie maker, live mail, snipping tool, sticky notes and applications practice. We will address computer security threats and safeguards. You will learn techniques for improving Internet searches, saving and printing from the Internet, preventative maintenance and computer “glitches.” Discover how to use your digital photos.
**Maximum Enrollment: 20**

Computer Applications – Microsoft® Office
(Thomas Lake)
**Monday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Learn Microsoft® Office Suite. Word® (create letters, signs, fonts and formatting, outlines, envelopes, etc.), Excel® spreadsheets (create workbooks, develop formulas and functions, create charts and graphs, etc.,) PowerPoint® presentations (create slide
presentations, add transitions and animations, add sounds and music, create a show).

**Maximum Enrollment: 20**

**Basic Computer Skills**
(Bea Imken, Sylvia Braye)

**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
Become acquainted with your computer. Learn how to run and manage a computer. Students will get a basic understanding of technology, terminology and acronyms associated with computers. There will be an introduction to opening applications and programs. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

**New! iPad Basics (2nd 6-week session)**
(Helen Baker)

**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
This class is for beginning iPad users only. We will cover the basics: what are all those buttons on your iPad? We will examine the basic layout of the screen. Bring your iPad to this innovative, informative, fun, hands-on class. **Maximum Enrollment: 15**

**Improve Your Computer Skills**
(Morton Colbert)

**Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
This course is designed for students with some computer skills. They will learn operating system commands, how to save in various formats, create shortcuts, learn forms and control panel functions. A section will deal with security and troubleshooting. We will explore the internet and learn browser features, search useful free programs and other features. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

**ECONOMICS/SCIENCE/MATH**

**Answering Your Personal Finance Questions**
(Bill Howland)

**Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Discussions will revolve around credit, insurance, and investment risk management. We will explore credit, insurance and investment product decision-making, budgeting, tax planning, and vehicle lease vs. purchase pros and cons. All topics are welcome as we learn from each other while guided by the instructor’s decades of financial services marketing experience.

**New! Unexpected Economics Interactions**
(Bill Howland)

**Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
This is not your typical course in economics. This Great Courses® class with Professor Timothy Taylor includes discussions such as selection of our spouses; raising our children; how we make important decisions about our politics, religion and lifestyle; and the interactions of personal choice, motivation, and perceived outcome – the very heart of economics.
Astronomy and Star Gazing  
(Bob Keyser)  
Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  
This will be a repeat of the summer class but with one third more for FREE! We will explore the cosmos via a mix of 10 video lectures from the Great Courses® series “A Visual Guide to the Universe” with Professor David M. Meyer plus supplemental PowerPoint® and other presentations.

GENERAL STUDIES

New! Explore, Discover, Learn: Travel as Global Understanding (1st 6-week session)  
(Karen Marcotte)  
Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
This interactive series will explore how travel enables us to understand our world and its many issues. Topics will include the value of travel in cultural understanding; investigate genocide by examining the Holocaust and Anne Frank; research urbanization through the example of London, England. The environment will be studied via the Galapagos Islands; Ireland will be our example of migration on a global scale; and we will conclude with an overview of the small but powerful Benelux countries of Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg.

New! Introduction to Genealogy  
(Connie Baber)  
Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  
Genealogy is about more than just digging up the past. It’s a journey of self-discovery that can teach you as much about yourself as about those who came before you. But there’s an obstacle for many of us: uncertainty about how to go about it. This Great Courses® presentation with Professor John Philip Colletta will help you navigate the winding road into your family’s past, showing you the most helpful online and print resources available today. Class participation is encouraged.

New! The Golden Age of Radio (2nd 6-week session)  
(Larry Johnson)  
Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Before television there was the Golden Age of Radio. Remember when you ate dinner listening to Lux Hollywood Theater or the Lone Ranger? Join us as we re-live and listen to famous radio shows of George Burns and Gracie Allen, Jack Benny, the Green Hornet and more. Your favorite is sure to be one of them.

New! Newsmakers, Movers and Shakers of San Antonio  
(Joanne McGowan)  
Thursday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.  
Influential leaders from city, county, and state government, non-profits, the criminal justice system, health care organizations and corporate entities of San Antonio have been invited to speak to this class about their vision and plans for our community in order to
help us gain an understanding of the complexity of the issues and the rationale behind the decision-making process. By listening and interacting with individuals in powerful positions in the public and private sector, we’ll fulfill Thomas Jefferson’s ideal that “An enlightened electorate is indispensable for our survival as a free people.”

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Nutrition
(Fran Sullentrop)
**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
The class will focus on current issues in nutrition including nutrition and chronic diseases, dietary guidelines, weight loss diets, food labeling, food additives, supplements, phytochemicals in foods and food safety.

Beginning Line Dance
(Sylvia Braye)
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
If you have no background in line dancing, have two left feet, or are shy, this course is for you! We will not give up on anyone. It is so much fun you don’t realize you’re getting physical as well as mental exercise. **Maximum Enrollment: 35**

*New!* The Twilight Years: Passages for Fulfillment
(John Spencer)
**Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
This course will focus on the acceptance of aging. Topics include psychological and biological aspects of aging, communicating with those around us (grandchildren, children and friends), organizing personal and legal documents, best ways to enjoy life to its fullest, learning networking and conquering fears of death.

*New!* Beginners Only Ballroom
(Barbara Gadsby, Susan Crissy)
**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
Are you hesitant (terrified) to get on the dance floor? Tired of sitting on the sidelines while others are “cutting the rug”? Then this class is for you. Guaranteed you’ll learn enough to “trip the light fantastic.” No partner needed. Beginners only, please. **Maximum Enrollment: 10**

Continuing Ballroom
(Barbara Gadsby)
**Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
This ballroom dance class is for the advanced beginner to intermediate dancer. You will acquire new steps and improve your skill and style. Dances will be foxtrot, waltz, swing, rumba, cha cha, merengue and salsa. No dance partner required. Basic ballroom experience is needed.
Conversations with a Psychologist  
(Susan Pelzer, Ph.D.)  
**Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
Psychology presents many opportunities to learn new ways of expressing humanity and increasing a sense of well-being in the world.

Gentle Mat Yoga  
(Barbara Ritchie)  
**Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
Experience a gentle sequence of breathing, stretching, bending and twisting while incorporating yoga poses to bring about a calming to the body, mind and spirit. Balance, flexibility and toning are added benefits. Yoga experience is not necessary. Please bring a yoga mat. **Maximum Enrollment: 25**

Chair Yoga  
(Esther Vexler, Barbara Ritchie)  
**Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
Graceful, slow-moving movements combined with yoga breathing and postures help maintain harmony and balance and involve body, mind and spirit; the elements of meditation that are complementary to each other.

Mindful Living  
(Mark Stokes)  
**Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
We will discuss and practice a variety of ways - including meditation – to help improve mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health. We will learn how to let go of fears, worries, and regrets by freeing ourselves from the enslavement of our minds. Topics will include self-mastery, stress management, how to live peacefully and in harmony with the way things are. Mark is a practitioner of Eckhart Tolle’s book “Practicing the Power of Now.”

**HISTORY/PHILOSOPHY/POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Socrates Café  
(Mark Stokes)  
**Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
From the book “Socrates Café” by Christopher Phillips, the class discusses and delves into philosophical questions of life (e.g. what is truth?). It is not a lecture class on philosophy; students are encouraged to share their ideas and perspectives on the question of the day.
Editorials
(Vic Woodfield)
**Wednesday 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.**
This is a discussion class. Students will bring editorials for discussion from local, national, international newspaper and magazine publications. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

*New! The Sixties: Do You Remember When?*
(Anne Little)
**Monday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
It's hard to believe the 1960s were fifty years ago. How much do you really remember? Through a CNN video series (The Sixties: The Decade That Changed the World) and class discussion, we'll look back at topics that define the decade, from the Kennedy assassination and the war in Vietnam to “Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll.”

*New! Constitutional Law: Privacy, Property and Free Speech*
(Laurie Stiteler, Lauren O’Neal)
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
This Great Courses® class with Professor Jeffrey Rosen will focus on the right to privacy in various aspects of life: electronic communication, cell phones and computer, privacy and the body. We will learn about private property rights and eminent domain. We will also learn about the First Amendment right to free speech as it applies to Google, Facebook, and Wikileaks etc.

*New! Battle of the Alamo – The Rest of the Story* (2nd 6-week session)
(Don Glessner)
**Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
The story of this iconic battle is well known, so we will focus on the little-known and rarely-discussed facts which shared events both before and during the fight. We will meet people who played key parts in the battle, but remain largely unknown to history. Finally we will separate fact from myth and learn how they interact. Don has been a student of this battle for 25+ years and served 5 years as a volunteer docent at the Alamo.

*New! The Olympic Games: A History* (2nd 6-week session)
(Nancy Anderson)
**Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
In this course, on the eve of the summer games in Brazil in August 2016, we will discuss the history of the Olympics from its founding in ancient Greece to its revival in 1896 and its often contentious history in the modern world. Our study of Olympic history will allow us to examine the relationship between sports and nationalism and the role of sports in international politics, as in the controversial 1936 “Nazi” Olympics in Berlin. We will also discuss the gradual and hotly-resisted inclusion of women in the games.
New! Decisive Battles of World History
(Eugene Venable)
**Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
This Great Courses® class with Professor Gregory S. Aldrete examines decisive battles of World History, especially in Europe, from 331 B.C.E. when Alexander the Great defeats Darius III at Gaugamela to 1942 C.E. when Stalin defeats Hitler in Stalingrad. The question, “What makes a battle decisive?” will be explored, along with others.

Islam
(Susanne O’Brien)
**Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
This class will be a survey of the history and beliefs of Islam beginning with the life of Muhammad and continuing through the spread of Islam up to today’s Islamic world. The class will cover topics including the Quran, beliefs and practices, Islamic sects, Islamic law, women in Islam, past reform and revitalization, Islam today and terrorism. The class will include some lessons from the Great Courses® Great World Religions: Islam with Professor John L. Esposito as well as selections from PBS and History Channel DVDs relevant to the topic and other sources including books, papers and perhaps a speaker.

San Antonio’s Spanish Missions
(Valerie Jackson)
**Thursday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
World visitors have added UNESCO’s newest World Heritage Site to their Bucket List: have you? And it is in San Antonio! This series of presentations will explore the many reasons why San Antonio’s Spanish missions have been singled out for worldwide recognition. These lectures will provide insight into the Spanish presence and lasting legacy of New Spain’s 18th century frontier. Over the 12 weeks we will delve into the past that played a major role in creating the cultural identity that defines modern Texas and much of the American Southwest.

From Yao to Mao: 5,000 Years of Chinese History – Part 1
(Art Stopper)
**Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
This Great Courses® class with Professor Kenneth J. Hammond explores powerful dynasties that ruled China for centuries. Philosophical and religious foundations such as Confucianism have influenced Chinese thought and powerful personalities have shaped China’s history. For Westerners it is essential to understand where China has been in order to anticipate its future. This course offers a comprehensive political overview of one of the most fascinating countries in world history.
Foundations of Western Civilization I – Part 1
(Art Stopper)
**Monday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
From the late stages of the Agricultural Revolution to the beginnings of the Scientific Revolution, this Great Courses® class with Professor Thomas Noble covers roughly 3000 B.C.E. to 1600 C.E. when the foundations of the modern West come into view. The forms of political and institutional structures used by Western peoples to organize themselves and their societies will be explored. No other civilization has achieved the global reach of the West. This course will help to answer what “the West” is, or has been thought to be, and what distinguishes it from other world civilizations.

World War I
(Douglas Holden)
**Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Excellent work has been done by others to document World War I, but this session will show the horror of this war which has the highest casualties of any conflict, including World War II.

The Middle East Disaster
(Sue Oppenheimer, Maxine Cohen)
**Monday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
This course includes a brief history of the countries of the Middle East: a discussion of the Jihadists and the chaos engulfing the area at present.

*New!* The History of Christianity: The First 2,000 Years
(Millie Mayoral)
**Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
The History of Christianity is a comprehensive look at the apostles, Emperor Constantine, and King Charlemagne and events such as the Fall of Rome, the Dark Ages and the Reformation that have shaped the evolution of this religion through the past 2,000 years to the modern age.

*New!* America’s Golden Age and Progressive Era
(John Sells)
**Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
In this Great Courses® class with Professor Edward T. O’Donnell you will be introduced to one of the most colorful, tumultuous, raucous and profoundly pivotal epochs in American history. Stretching from the end of the Civil War in 1865 to roughly 1920, this extraordinary time was not only an era of vast and sweeping change, it saw the birth of the United States as we and the world at large now know it.
New! Understanding Cultural and Human Geography
(Nancy Bryant)
Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Where we live, the food we eat and the people we know are all part of a global chain of connections. This Great Courses® class with Professor Paul Robbins surveys the geographical context for human activity and can help you understand this chain of connections in order to help answer some of the biggest questions about human life on earth.

History of Mexico
(Jaime Pankowsky)
Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Jaime shares his research of the history of Mexico from Pre-Columbian times through the 20th century in this 12 week lecture presentation. This course will look at the conquest, reform and revolution of our neighbor Mexico.

New! History of Scotland
(John Fagin)
Thursday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
This course is a general history of Scotland from 900 to 1886. There will be attention given to the long struggle between Catholicism and Protestantism for control of Scotland. We will also explore the role of Robert the Bruce and the power struggle between the Stewart and MacDonald families that eventually led to the union of England and Scotland in 1603. The next 250 years would see a kind of love-hate relationship between the two countries.

World History: Connections - Part II
(Beverly Baucum)
Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
This is the second part of World History: Connections. It covers events from 1750 to 1914 (revolutions and nationalism) and from 1914 to present (the modern world.) The purpose of the class is to show how the past is connected to the present.

LANGUAGES

Beginning French
(William Weller)
Thursday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
This is a beginner’s class in French. We will be using the text “French Made Simple” by Eugene Jackson (ISBN 0-385-26521-2) and there will be a number of handouts to complement the text. We will put special emphasis on correct pronunciation.

Maximum Enrollment: 12
Advanced Hispanic Literature and Civilization  
(Jack Himelblau)  
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
This class gives the students the tools necessary to appreciate the analytical aspects of enjoying literature, understand Hispanic culture and assist them in their correct application of a foreign language. **Maximum Enrollment: 12**

**Literature of Spain and Latin America**  
(Mary Martinez, Estela Royal)  
**Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
The students will read a simplified edition of “El Sombrero de Tres Picos” by Pedro Antonio de Alarcon in Spanish. We will read and discuss the Spanish classic in the target language. The book (ISBN 0-13-273814-7) is available through Amazon. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

**Intermediate Spanish**  
(Sandra Benavides)  
**Monday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
Hola! We will learn Spanish through more practice in speaking it. The basis for new verbs and vocabulary will be traditional Mexican food, Mexican songs and children’s books. Instructor will provide handouts. Vengan! **Maximum Enrollment: 15**

**Intermediate German**  
(Fred Prassel)  
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
We will include pronunciation, phonetics, vocabulary building, grammar and Deutsche Volkslieder using “German Made Simple” by Arnold Leitner ISBN 0-7679-1860-6. **Maximum Enrollment: 15**

**Beginning Spanish (1st 6-week session)**  
(Maria Zambrano)  
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
Do you want to learn basic communication skills in Spanish? Then this is the course for you! We will practice using everyday expressions and vocabulary for shopping, ordering food, asking for and giving directions to name just a few. No book is required.

**Conversational Spanish**  
(Maria Colbert)  
**Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
Some knowledge of the Spanish language is required for this course. We will have conversations between students and the instructor about Mexican culture, history and literature. A small amount of grammar will be offered. The goal of the course is to improve the student’s ability to converse in Spanish. **Maximum Enrollment: 25**
New! A Literary Ride in “The Red Convertible” (2\textsuperscript{nd} 6-week session)  
(Patricia Gray)  
**Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
Louise Erdrich is widely acclaimed as one of the most significant writers of the second wave of the Native American Renaissance. She recently received the Library of Congress Prize for Best American Fiction for 2015. We’ll cruise around in “The Red Convertible” (2009) and meet fascinating characters in stories drawn from her Native American family, friends and others who live, work and dream in the modern world. Fasten your seat belts for active participation and conversation! The book is available at the public library, and it may be purchased at www.hpmbmarketplace.com, www.Alibris.com, and other book stores locally and online (ISBN 978-0-06-153608-3).

New! Rome’s Antony via Shakespeare (1st 6-week session)  
(Patricia Lonchar)  
**Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
We meet Antony in “Julius Caesar” and recognize him as a hero who is a faithful friend as well as honest judge of character. This is not the Antony we meet in “Antony and Cleopatra.” What happened? Why? What is Shakespeare asking us to consider about human nature and about leadership? This course explores those questions through “Julius Caesar” and “Antony and Cleopatra,” with a nod toward Dryden and other sources. We will read both plays.

Memoir Writing  
(Bob Richmond)  
**Monday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
It’s time to tell your story. Join us in our memoir class.

Writers’ Workshop II  
(Jean Jackson)  
**Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
Designed for those who write on their own, this workshop will focus on revision and editing. We will meet in a critique-group setting. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

New! Lost in the City: Stories of Being Black in Washington, D.C.  
(Sally Goldblum)  
**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
We will use “Lost in the City – The Short Stories of Edward P. Jones”, an author who has received numerous prestigious awards but still remains almost unknown. He writes about the black residents of Washington, D.C., a population almost ignored. The book, “Lost in the City,” can be purchased on Amazon and elsewhere. **Maximum Enrollment: 25**
Writing Poetry  
(Barbara Lazar)  
**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**  
This is a class for people who love poetry. We will read and write poetry while learning about making our poems stronger and clearer. **Maximum Enrollment: 15**

Short Stories  
(Andrea Mason)  
**Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  

Literary Greats: P. D. James  
(Marcia Epner)  
**Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
We will read, discuss and analyze three books by P.D. James: “Death to Holy Orders,” “The Black Tower,” and “Cover Her Face.” We will watch films made from these books to compare and contrast the two media.

**MUSIC & DRAMA**

Sing Along (2nd 6-week session)  
(Judy Howse)  
**Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
We sing all the oldies but goodies. No need to read music. We will supply the words. Shower singers welcome. If you think you can’t sing, come anyway and listen or hum. **Maximum Enrollment: 20**

Opera Appreciation (1st 6-week session)  
(Herb Brown)  
**Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
Fancy dress is not necessary to savor what opera-lovers have enjoyed for the past 400 years. We will sample the musical talent of composers from Mozart to Strauss on DVDs, full length where possible. Will anyone remember Madonna or Lady Gaga in 400 years? **Maximum Enrollment: 25**

New! Theatre: Seeing & Doing (1st 6-week session)  
(Diane Malone)  
**Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**  
This course will consider plays that are showing in San Antonio during the semester: “Stage Kiss” by Sarah Ruhl, “The Seagull” by Chekhov, “The Diviners” by Jim Leonard, “The House of Bernarda Alba” by Lorca and “How I Learned to Drive” by Vogel. We will study scripts and playwrights with the opportunity to attend live performances.
**New! I, Claudius**
(Marsha Surad)
**Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
“I, Claudius” is rated one of the “100 Best TV Shows of All Time” by Time Magazine. It spans the history of the Roman Empire from Augustus through Claudius. This Emmy-winning series was part of PBS’s “Masterpiece Theater” and starred Derek Jacobi, Patrick Stewart and James Falkner.

**Film Appreciation: Dancing Across the Screen**
(Marsha Surad)
**Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
We will look at some of the most iconic films involving dance from many eras. Starting with Busby Berkeley to John Travolta and Mikhail Baryshnikov, come join us and get your toes tapping.

**New! Culture Through Cinema: France** (1st 6-week session)
(Joanna McKinnis)
**Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
This class will help you to understand some little-known aspects of French culture through carefully chosen excerpts of films like “Breathless” and “La Cage aux Folles.” The in-class screenings will be in French, with the student option of viewing U.S. versions of them found in the public library and/or Netflix. This will help them, once again in the classroom, to compare and contrast our two cultures.

**Introduction to Ukulele**
(Rodolfo Salazar, John Hollingsworth)
**Tuesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
If you’ve attended “Let’s Play Ukulele” or have prior experience and want to learn about chord/melody, riffs and finger picking of selected tunes, this may be the class for you. Bring your ukulele, pen or pencil, notebook and music stand. Handouts will be provided.
**Maximum Enrollment: 16**

**Oh, My! Operetta!** (2nd 6-week session)
(Lou Sheridan)
**Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Explore the musical genre of operetta, the bridge between opera and musical theatre. We will see several productions on DVD and discuss the composers, music, dialog and staging. Lou will be assisted by Mary Jane Howe and Maria Cedillo.

**New! My Favorite Movie** (1st 6-week session)
(Beth Saltzman)
**Monday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
Come view a different movie each week presented by fellow ALIRians. Have you ever wondered what you would choose as your favorite film if asked? Join us in this new film class and find out what Bill Howland, Judy Callier, Susan Susser, Joan Lyons, Joanna McKinnis and Beth Saltzman chose. Each presenter will show a favorite movie and
discuss the reasons for their choice. Class discussion will follow. Enjoy a "date" at the movies with your friends every week!

New! Outstanding Immigrant Movie Directors (2nd 6-week session)
(Norma Rios)
Monday 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Film directors who have immigrated to Hollywood to practice their craft have contributed to the richness of the American cinema. Six of these directors will be discussed along with their films in this class. The directors are Fritz Lang, Michael Curtiz, William Wyler, Otto Preminger, Mike Nichols and Peter Weir.

Beginning Guitar
(Robert Mason)
Wednesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Students will learn the basics of guitar in this class. A book and handouts will be provided. Participants should have an electronic tuner for the first class. Once we are all “tuned up” the fun will begin. Maximum Enrollment: 12

Understanding the Fundamentals of Music
(Arthur Ephross)
Tuesday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Beneath the surface of music, beyond the joy or even the heartbreak of the sound, lies the mysterious realm of music theory—the structural and instrumental resources that composers use to create it. These Great Courses® lectures on pitch, mode, melody and other parts of music by Professor Robert Greenberg are designed to help lay people grasp the nature of the elements of music—pitch, mode, melody and other parts of musical structure.

RECREATION & LEISURE

New! It’s All About Birds (1st 6-week session)
(Marian Edson)
Monday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
This class is an introduction to bird identification techniques through use of videos and PowerPoint®. We will focus on the four keys to bird identification: size and shape, color pattern, behavior, and habitat. The basic birder's tools are a field guide and a decent pair of binoculars. The use and selection of binoculars will not be taught, but resources will be provided. Handouts, introduction to some great websites and a bit of conservation information will be provided during the six weeks.

New! Get Your Spring Garden Going (1st 6-week session)
(Numa Laiche)
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Time for your spring garden! Learn from the soil up. Select your site, build your beds, choose your plants, set a fertilizing and watering schedule, then harvest and enjoy.
**New! Food Development and its Impact on History** (2nd 6-week session)
(Numa Laiche)
**Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**
Food as we know it went through a long developmental stage. As grains stabilized through genetic modifications, man could become a villager. As such, he had time to sit, think and philosophize so culture evolved. This course will cover the importance of different plants and their effect on man and his society. It took 30,000 years for this to occur and is still happening today.

**History and Appreciation of Wine**
(Vic Woodfield)
**Thursday 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**
We will learn the history of wine: where it started, how it’s made, how the climate affects the wine, and the making of wine from “The Vine to the Bottle!”

**Maximum Enrollment: 30**

**Indian Cooking Class** (2nd 6-week session)
(Kris Challapalli)
**Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**
This class is an introduction to Indian spices and preparation of healthy meals with Indian spices. **Maximum Enrollment: 18**