You Can Still Register!

While our initial course request period is over, you can still register for classes. Thanks to Zoom, we do not have many wait lists this semester and a lot of wonderful courses are still available. Click here to register.

Catalog Changes

There have been several changes to our spring catalog. The changes can be found on our website or you can click here for more information.

Thank you to those of you who have let us know that your catalogs have arrived. Moreover, thank you to all of you who have taken the opportunity to move forward with your registrations even without having your traditional paper catalog. The USPS is still working on delivering our bulk mail order as the pandemic impacts heighten. Your patience, support, and understanding during this unprecedented time have been so very much appreciated. If we can assist you in any way while you await your catalog arrival, please call the office at 757-221-1506 or email osher@wm.edu.

Scholarships Still Available

Help Us Spread the Word!

Several Kernodle-Wren scholarships, funded by a grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation, that pay the full cost of a Regular membership in the Osher
Institute are available each of our twice-yearly semesters. Recipients must be 50 or older with an annual combined household adjusted gross income of $50,000 or less. If you need assistance for the spring semester and fit the criteria listed above, please do not hesitate to apply! And if your friends or family have wanted to become members but are concerned about the cost, please encourage them to contact us. Applications are available by emailing osher@wm.edu or leaving a voicemail at (757) 221-1506.

Take Advantage of Your Membership With Unlimited One Time Lectures!

A new one time lecture has been very recently added to the schedule. Leonard Heere will be teaching COVID-19 Vaccine Safety - Should You Take It? on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:30 - 3:30PM via Zoom. Leonard will help you (1) understand how the vaccine works, and (2) make an educated decision about taking the vaccine.

It's not too late to go back into your registration and add this class if you're interested (one time lectures are unlimited for our regular membership holders).

Happy 30th Birthday to Osher Please Share Your Memories

In January of 1991, our program presented its first course offerings and our co-founders, the late Wayne and Ruth Kernodle, would be so proud of the legacy they began. From our early beginnings as the Christopher Wren Association all the way to today as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at William & Mary, we plan to celebrate our history throughout the year! We invite you to share your memories with us. If you would like to contribute a favorite Osher story, photo, or other piece of our history in an upcoming newsletter, please email us at osher@wm.edu.

Blackboard Course - 2-Part Member Training

Still thinking of taking a Blackboard course? Some still have space...
In Memoriam

We are saddened by the news that one of our instructors, Bob Maccubin has passed. Bob, who formerly taught at William & Mary, shared his love for Robert Louis Stevenson with us through teaching a course about Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. You may find more information about Bob here. He will be missed by our Osher family and so many others.

Registration System Changes
Coming This Spring

Some of you may have already heard the news (or perhaps rumors of the news) that we'll be making the shift to a new registration system this spring. We're very excited to share the news officially that yes, during the month of February we'll be rolling out our new registration system. The current implementation timeline has our "go live" date planned for February 8. This has a few implications that we'd like you to begin planning for now.

1. Brand new members joining Osher beginning on February 8 will register in our new system.
2. Existing members will be unable to access their current registration in our present system beginning on February 8. However, not to worry ... we have a few helpful hints planned to make the transition a smooth one for you!
   - if you have any classes you'd like to add into after February 8 you can contact the office for assistance. We'll also be sharing out additional information with current members about how to log into the new registration system and adding classes you may wish to take on your own.
   - Make sure you've saved your class list and meeting times so you can easily access your class schedule using an alternative method (paper printout, marked on your calendar, added to your electronic calendar, saved in your email, etc.) as you won't be able to log back into your original registration to check on the date of your next class.

We'll be continuing to update you about this large project we're working on but if you have any questions, feel free to email us!

Volunteering with Osher

Online courses require more staff time so we appreciate the willingness of those who have volunteered to help us manage our 106 online courses this past semester.

If you are interested in being a class assistant for this semester, please email us at osher@wm.edu or leave us a message at (757) 221-1506. Spring semester begins on February 1 and we still have a variety of classes available in need of Zoom Assistants.

We're happy to train you on what you'll need to know for Zoom in order to
assist. And, you'll get to attend the class while volunteering at the same time, all from the comfort of your home!

**Instructor and Class Assistant Training**

**Mark your calendars!**

Zoom Training for instructors and class assistants will be offered on January 21. Instructor training will be at 10am and Class Assistant Training will be at 1pm.

**Osher Institute Policies**

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| Please note that the Osher Institute at William & Mary fees are membership fees. They are used to cover overall expenses of operating our lifelong learning program in a given semester and are not directly related to the number of courses you may take (i.e., there are no “per course” fees, and therefore, no “per course” refunds).

The deadline for submitting membership fee refund requests to [osopher@wm.edu](mailto:osopher@wm.edu) is the first day of each semester.

**For Spring 2021, the refund deadline is February 1.** Members are free to register for open courses (up to 8 course max) at any time, even after a semester begins.

The Osher Institute at W&M will cancel courses, activities, events, and/or training for weather if William & Mary University Events and Activities are canceled. A notice will be on the Osher Institute at W&M office voice mail (757-221-1506).

Please note, you will not be personally contacted.

**Important Dates**

**January 18:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
The office will be closed in honor of the holiday. We will reopen at 8am on Tuesday, January 19.

**February 1:** First Day of Classes for Spring Semester!

**February 8:** New Registration System Implemented

**May 21:** Last Day of Classes for Spring Semester

**May 31:** Memorial Day
The office will be closed in honor of the holiday and will reopen on Tuesday, June 1 at 8am.