SPRING 2019
COURSE GUIDE
AND SCHEDULE
Registration begins March 5
From our first breath, we are learners. The world around us shapes how we think, how we feel, and how we react. And as we add to our body of experiences – through work, play, and education – we further strengthen our status as “lifelong learners.”

The Learning Enrichment Institute (LEI) is an opportunity for individuals 50 years of age and older to broaden their experiences through a schedule of short-term, non-credit courses that promote creativity, free thinking, and personal growth and development.

LEI combines the educational resources of The Ohio State University at Marion, other community organizations, and dozens of volunteers to offer two terms (fall and spring, each lasting approximately five to seven weeks) of programming that meet the diverse needs and interests of adults 50 and older.

LEI is a community service/outreach effort modeled after more than 600 successful “lifelong learning” programs across the country.

Course offerings and cost/registration information can be found on the next few pages. If you have additional questions, please call 740/725-6340.

go.osu.edu/LEI
THE HARDING PRESIDENTIAL CENTER: CHANGING THE NARRATIVE OF WARREN G. HARDING

April 1 • 9–11 AM
Instructor: Sherry Hall

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the election of Warren G. Harding as President, new research and scholarship is re-evaluating the nature and importance of his administration. The new Harding Presidential Center being built in Marion will be a showcase for Harding and a full, balanced story of his Presidency. Decisions on what to display—and how to display it—will help change the historical narrative of Harding. In this class, you will hear about the process, the angst, and the global thinking that is going into bringing Warren G. Harding into the 21st century.

Sherry Hall is the director of the Harding Home Presidential site, a former journalist, and author of Warren G. Harding and the Marion Star: How Newspapering Shaped a President.

SHOWCASE OF CREATIVE WRITING

April 22 • 2–4 PM
Instructor: Joan Pearse

Experience different stories from the members of the Delaware, Ohio, creative writing group at SourcePoint, Delaware’s senior center. They will share characters and humor, as well as personal philosophies and experiences in short fictional and non-fictional works. Listen, laugh, relate, and get inspired to try your hand at writing your own stories.

Joan Pearse is the creative experiences manager at SourcePoint in Delaware, Ohio.
Religious Pluralism in America, 1492–2018
April 2, 9, 16 • 2–4 PM
Instructor: Dr. Richard Shiels
The United States is today the most religiously pluralistic nation on Earth. Although built on the notions of religious freedom and immigration from other countries, both the limits of religious toleration and its meaning have changed over time. Whereas public schools were once expected to inculcate Christian, even Protestant, values, public education today embraces cultural and religious pluralism. In this class, we will examine the key ideas, recall the key people, and trace the thread of religious pluralism through American history with the goal of better understanding our current situation.

Dr. Richard Shiels is an emeritus professor of history at The Ohio State University (Newark campus). He is actively engaged in trying to gain UNESCO World Heritage site status for American Indian earthworks in several Ohio counties.

Women in Law Enforcement
May 7 • 9–10:30 AM
Instructor: Dana Jagger
Although women have been members of law enforcement since at least the early 20th century, it has only been since about the last quarter of the century that women have become a major and respected part of policing. However, women still face discrimination and other trials because of their gender. On the other hand, they also have strengths and abilities that provide different ways of dealing with conflict and that give them skills ideal for the job. In this class, we will discuss the role of women in law enforcement and hear about some of their experiences.

After working in an agricultural business field for a while, Dana Jagger decided to become a police officer. She has served on the Marion force for over four years.
Gourds from Beginning to End
May 14 • 1–3 PM
Instructors: Representatives from the Ohio Gourd Society

Gourds are one of the earliest domesticated plants; bottle gourds have been discovered in archaeological sites from as early as 13,000 BCE. In this class, we will discuss varieties of gourds, how they are grown and harvested, and how they are used current day. There will be many examples of gourds in various stages of development. Representatives from the Ohio Gourd Society will demonstrate how to clean and dry a gourd for use in a variety of creative ways.

Members of the Ohio Gourd Society have grown and used gourds to create useful items and creative pieces of art. They have competed and won many ribbons for their skill and talent.

Senior Awareness and Self Defense
May 7 • 10:30 AM–12 Noon
Instructor: Mark Beaschler

In this class, Sergeant Mark Beaschler will share current issues affecting the safety of senior citizens in today’s world and how we can avoid potentially dangerous situations. We will also discuss what tools and actions are available to the group to use in self-defense situations. This course is taught in a relaxed environment and there will be no physical practice of these techniques.

Mark Beaschler, Sergeant with The Ohio State University Police Department, has been on the Marion Campus for two years. He is a retired lieutenant from the Marion City Police Department where he worked for 25 years as a patrol officer and bike officer.
**Wednesdays**

**Connecting the Dots: Restoring the Harding Home**

*April 3 • 9–11 AM*

**Instructor: Chris Buchanan**

Where do you start when you go about restoring a President’s home? You begin with lots of detective work, deep research, and finding the answers to some head-scratching questions. Although the Harding home was built in 1891, the goal of this restoration is to return the home to how it looked during Harding’s 1920 Presidential campaign, a daunting task as few interior photographs from that time exist. Learn about the challenges and some of the solutions entailed in such a massive project and some of the old-house quirks that have been discovered.

*Chris Buchanan* is the Restoration Project Coordinator for the Harding Home restoration. For 11 years, he has been an architect at the Ohio History Connection, where he specializes in historic restoration projects.

**Bridge 101: An Introduction**

*April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8 • 6:30–8:30 PM*

**Instructor: Tim Kohl**

With an estimated 25 million players in the United States alone, bridge is one of the world’s most popular card games. This basic introduction to the game will include lessons on bidding, the play of hands, and proper game etiquette. Designed for beginners who have never played or those novices who want to improve, these lessons will also include instruction on hand evaluation, hand shapes, trump and no-trump, and more. Textbooks and other aids to learning will be provided. The class will conclude with an actual bridge tournament with prizes and rewards furnished by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL).

*A retired teacher, Tim Kohl has become more involved with bridge since his retirement. He is an ACBL-certified instructor.*
Why We Read What We Do
May 1, 8, 15, 22 • 10 AM–12 Noon
Instructors: Gary Branson and the Staff of the Marion Public Library

Why are different genres in literature so popular? We will take a look at various categories and talk about current authors and titles that inspire us to read them. Mystery, romance, fantasy, and science fiction all have their individual appeal factors that cause us to gravitate toward them. Join us to explore what makes genre fiction so engaging. Also, there will be cookies!

Gary Branson is the director of the Marion Public Library. The staff of the library will be discussing titles that inspire them and why they read the different genres.

Neonatology: Caring for Newborns
May 1 • 1:30–3:30 PM
Instructor: Dr. Richard Flaksman

Neonatology is a specialty of pediatrics focusing on the care and treatment of newborn babies, particularly those who are premature, ill, or otherwise at increased risk. In this class, we will review the definition and history of neonatology. We will also explore some of the common problems newborns face, such as transitioning from a water to an air environment at birth, why it is important to maintain a normal temperature during that transition, and newborn jaundice (also called Jaundice 101). We will also discuss the care of premature and seriously ill infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

With a medical degree from the University of Louisville and over 40 years of practice in neonatology, Dr. Richard Flaksman currently helps to staff the nursery at Grady Memorial Hospital in Delaware.
THURSDAYS

MARION MATTERS, INC., AND THE BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY MOVEMENT IN MARION

April 25 • 6:30–8:30 PM
Instructor: Heidi Jones

Marion Matters, Inc., is a community movement that is changing lives in Marion, Ohio. Based on the nationally-recognized Bridges Out of Poverty program, Marion Matters works to break the cycle of situational and generational poverty through education and skills development. Class participants will learn not only about the Bridges Out of Poverty movement and programs offered by Marion Matters, but also about program results and how they have changed individuals, businesses, and the community.

Heidi Jones is the executive director of Marion Matters, Inc., and a lifetime certified Bridges Out of Poverty trainer. Under her leadership, nearly 200 families have worked to stabilize their lives.

HISTORY OF THE BLUES

May 2 • 10 AM–12 Noon
Instructor: Silky Ray Macklin

The blues is a musical genre with deep roots in the South, particularly the African American South in the 19th century. The blues evolved from spirituals, work songs, and other musical traditions of slaves, former slaves, and sharecroppers. The blues form is also an important influence in jazz, rhythm and blues, and rock and roll. In this class, we will study the history and struggles behind the music and learn about certain iconic artists of the blues, as well as the history of the African Americans who built the genre.

Silky Ray Macklin is a blues singer and walking encyclopedia when it comes to blues music and its history.
**Tour of WDIF-LP**
May 9 • 10 AM–12 Noon
**Instructor: Spencer Phelps**
WDIF-LP is an independent, locally run, low power, non-profit radio station. It is Ohio’s only all-blues station, but it also has programming on local issues, gospel music on Sundays, and more. In addition, the station uses sponsorships and volunteer projects to fund free music lessons for local children. We will have a tour of the station and learn about the world of low-power FM radio.

*Spencer Phelps* is the station manager of WDIF-LP, Ohio’s only blues radio station and the only LPFM blues station in the country.

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**Global Climate Change: The Urgency of the Next Decade**
April 12 • 10–11:30 AM
**Instructor: Dr. Joel Barker**
A recent special report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has highlighted the urgency of the next decade with respect to mitigating global climate change. While, collectively, the global community has identified global warming as the major issue of our time, progress in addressing climate change has been slow. This class will review the current state of the global climate and describe why the next ten years will be crucial in determining the trajectory that global climate takes over the next 100 years and beyond. To borrow a coal mining analogy, the canary is getting light-headed.

*Dr. Joel Barker* is an assistant professor in the School of Earth Sciences at Ohio State Marion. He studies Earth's frozen regions and has witnessed first-hand the accelerating pace of climate warming.
Religions of Africa  
April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17 • 1:30–3:30 PM  
Instructor: Zak Nyongesa  
Religions in Africa are varied, and, as elsewhere in the world, are an important influence on art, culture, and society. Most people are believers in Christianity, Islam, or one of the Traditional African Religions (TARs), many of which are unique to specific regions or peoples. In this class, we will explore these religions as they are manifested in Africa and investigate their impact on African society.

Born in Kenya, Zak Nyongesa has been teaching African Studies at Ohio State Marion since 1984. He studied in both Kenya and the United States.

Going Solar with Your Neighbors  
May 3 • 10–11:30 AM  
Instructor: Luke Sulfridge  
Do you think that, as an individual homeowner, you cannot afford to produce solar-powered energy or use solar power in your own home? Since 2007, the non-profit Solar United Neighbors has helped communities and neighborhoods (nearly 4,000 homes) go solar, organizing solar cooperatives and working to change solar energy policies. The goal of this class is for participants to become more knowledgeable energy consumers and learn about opportunities to produce their own power. We will learn about the basics and terminology of solar power, explore the economics of a solar energy system purchase, and investigate a cooperative purchasing model.

A native Appalachian, Luke Sulfridge is dedicated to creating a clean, sustainable future for the region. He is the Ohio program director for Solar United Neighbors.
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FEES:

FOR A $50.00 (Non-refundable)

FEE, LEI PARTICIPANTS MAY SIGN UP FOR AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF COURSES FOR THIS TERM.

All courses require a minimum of five participants to run. Notices of cancellations will be made.

Certain courses require additional fees or supplies, as noted in the course description.

REGISTRATION BEGINS ON March 5

MONDAYS
- The Harding Presidential Center: Changing the Narrative of Warren G. Harding
- Showcase of Creative Writing

TUESDAYS
- Religious Pluralism in America, 1492–2018
- Women in Law Enforcement
- Senior Awareness and Self Defense
- Gourds from Beginning to End

WEDNESDAYS
- Connecting the Dots: Restoring the Harding Home
- Bridge 101: An Introduction
- Why We Read What We Do
- Neonatology: Caring for Newborns

THURSDAYS
- Marion Matters, Inc., and the Bridges Out of Poverty Movement in Marion
- History Of The Blues
- Tour of WDIF-LP

FRIDAYS
- Global Climate Change: The Urgency of the Next Decade
- Religions of Africa
- Going Solar with Your Neighbors
CHECK COURSES FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO REGISTER

TO REGISTER:

ONLINE registration can be done at go.osu.edu/LEI

PHONE registration and credit card payment can be made at 740/725-6340

MAIL a copy of this form and a check payment to:
Community Relations, LEI
The Ohio State University
1461 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Marion, Ohio 43302

A confirmation letter with room assignments will be mailed approximately one week before the beginning of classes.

REGISTRATION OPENS ON March 5

Space is limited, register early! After March 29, please call for availability.

________________________________________
NAME

________________________________________
ADDRESS

________________________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP

________________________________________
PHONE

________________________________________
DATE OF BIRTH

________________________________________
E-MAIL ADDRESS

Gender:  
- Male  
- Female

Payment:
- Visa
- Check (Payable to OSU)
- MasterCard

Total Amount $________________________

($50 non-refundable fee/person)

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED.

LEI registrations with credit card payments will be accepted online at go.osu.edu/LEI beginning on March 5.