



Spring 2021 Lifelong Learning Courses

#1 ESSENTIAL CLASSICS with Larry King

Monday, 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

Starts March 22 through May 3
(6 sessions, No Class April 19)

This course is an exploration of different forms of classical music from symphonies, concertos and ensembles to opera, spiritual themes and classical music that became a part of our popular culture.

LARRY KING is the evening announcer/host on the World Classical Network, heard locally on Cape Classical 107.5, WFCC, formerly announcer and manager at WCRB, Boston's heritage classical station, and formerly, the weekend afternoon announcer/host on WGBH's all classical WCRB in Boston. Larry has a degree in music history, enjoys teaching adult education classes, and sharing his passion about classical music.

#2. UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT 2020 CASE OPINIONS, BEFORE AND AFTER

with Bill Bigelow

Tuesday, 10:00 AM-11:30AM

Starts March 23 through April (6 sessions)

In preparation for more in-depth discussion, this course will begin with a quick review of the Constitution, Supreme Court history and early consequential cases. Each class will include a presentation and discussion of opinions covering issues such as Native American history and its consequences, 1st Amendment and religious laws, presidential powers and restrictions, and abortion and civil rights. Time will be dedicated to reviewing recent court opinions as well as cases pending.

Recommended Text: The United States Constitution; what it says, what it means: A Hip Pocket Guide by JusticeLearning.org

BILL BIGELOW has a BA from St. Lawrence University, and LLB, LLM Degrees from Boston University. He practiced law in New Hampshire and since retirement, has studied US Supreme Court cases and Justices.

#3 THE POETS' CORNER with Peter Trenouth

Tuesday, 10:30 AM-Noon

Starts March 23 through May 11 (8 sessions)



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This course is a weekly gathering of people who are curious about poetry. Each class will include discussion on an eclectic range of works in forms both simple and intricate by women and men whose verses have delighted, informed, provoked, and soothed their many readers. Discussions will focus on how the craft and sense in each poem intermingle, leading to multiple interpretations, which are always new because what we take from poetry flows from the experiences we bring to it. We are drawn to poetry because we pay attention to life. Everyone's viewpoints and questions broaden the possibilities and deepen our understandings of poetry's connection to us. The poets that we will read include: Robert Frost, William Shakespeare, Susan Sanchez, W. H. Auden, Wilfred Owen, Liz Rosenberg, Robert Hayden, Hilda Doolittle, Philip Larkin, Billy Collins, William Wordsworth, Joy Harjo, Mari Evans, W. B. Yeats, John Donne, Marge Piercy, Michael Drayton, Ha Jin, Ellen Kay, Yusef Komunyskaa, Emily Dickenson, Elizabeth Bishop, Amy Lowell, William Blake, John Keats, Sarah Teasdale, Edward Arlington Robinson, Jericho Brown, Countee Cullen, and Katharyn Howd Machan.

The facilitator will email poems to the participants. Class members are welcome to recommend other poems.

PETER TRENOUTH holds a B.S. in English from Suffolk University and M.A in English from the University of Massachusetts, Boston. A retired high school English teacher, Peter instructs Tai Chi classes at the Duxbury Senior Center and elsewhere. He is a published writer and occasional actor and director in local theater, including the Bay Colony Shakespeare Company.

#4 FILM NOIR IV: Foreign Film Noir with Carl Meier and Jon Lehman

Tuesday, 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

Starts March 23 through May 11 (8 sessions)

"Film noir" is a term used to categorize American films of the '40s and '50s that generally involved crime, police work, and psychological study of the characters. During this course, participants will watch and discuss a "film noir". It is not necessary to have been part of a previous class to enjoy this one. This semester we will look at noir, or noirish, films made in other countries. The films selected for this semester include *Brighton Rock*, 1947, British; *The Bicycle Thief (The Bicycle Thieves)*, 1948, Italian; *Stray Dog*, 1949, Japanese; *The Third Man*, 1950, British; *Rififi*, 1955, French; *Shoot the Piano Player*, 1960, French; *Le Doulos*, 1962, French; *Insomnia*, 1997, Norwegian.

The facilitators will provide hints and links for seeing the films at home.



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CARL MEIER holds a BS in Philosophy from Hamilton College, MSSc from Maxwell School, Syracuse University, and taught History and Philosophy in the Duxbury School System from 1966-1998.

JON LEHMAN received a B.A. in English literature from the University of Chicago. For many years, he was the arts editor and theater critic of *The Patriot Ledger*.

#5 CULTURAL CLASHES IN THE NEW YORKER with Gene Blanchard

Wednesday, 10:30 AM-Noon

Starts March 24 through May 12 (8 sessions)

This course is an open-format discussion of pre-assigned readings in *"The New Yorker"* magazine (three articles per session) and is known for its lively conversation on politics, books, science, the arts, current events or just about anything. Whether you come to share your thoughts or just listen, all are welcome!

Required Magazine: "The New Yorker" magazine. Check out student subscription rates.

GENE BLANCHARD a practicing attorney, is a graduate of Brown University, majoring in American Civilization, and Harvard Law School. Active in civic affairs and a regular reader of *"The New Yorker"* for many years, he has lived in Turkey and traveled widely in Europe, the Middle East and the Far East.

#6. TELLING STORIES WITH MUSIC: CLASSIC TALES IN CLASSICAL MUSIC with Susan Thanos

Thursday, 10:00 AM-11:30AM

Starts March 25 through May 6

(6 sessions, No Class April 15)

Although we may not be aware of a story within a classical piece of music, it is often there. In this course we will read several enduring tales that have been celebrated in classical composers' instrumental pieces and learn to recognize the ways these stories are communicated. Each week we will prepare by reading a narrative or play and then in class study the remarkable way that tale is interpreted as we listen to the full piece of music. Instrumental pieces will include Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* and Tchaikovsky's ballet *Romeo and Juliet* besides several others.



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Students should have their own copy of the play Romeo and Juliet. Copies of other shorter stories will be supplied by the facilitator.

Susan Cook Thanas is a retired English teacher from DHS and DMS who has always delighted in literature and music. She looks forward to sharing these two passions with others who also enjoy these subjects.

#7 THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ROBERT BENCHLEY with Beth Cameron-Kilbridge

Thursday, 10:30 AM-Noon

Starts March 25 through May 13 (8 sessions)

In this course we will join Robert Benchley, “a master of wicked wit”, along his life’s journey from Worcester, Massachusetts in 1889, on to Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard University, then onwards and upwards writing and acting from New York’s “Vanity Fair” and “New Yorker” magazines to Hollywood’s radio and film roles with friends including Dorothy Parker and Robert E. Sherwood and the Algonquin Round Table until his death in a New York hospital and burial in the family plot in 1945 on the island of Nantucket. We will look back on his illustrious family, colonists from Northern Ireland and Wales, to his grandfather’s service as Massachusetts Senator to Lieutenant Governor in the 1850’s and forward to his grandson’s successful novel, JAWS!

The facilitator will provide a packet of handouts prior to the first class to be used as reference for the session.

BETH CAMERON-KILBRIDGE has been involved in international public speaking, performing arts, education and travel for over 40 years. As an educator, storyteller and world traveler, Beth thrills to opening the windows on personalities behind the authors’ written words, to learn about the world that made them sparkle. Beth continues to bring her popular “Life and Times” series of literary lectures to the Duxbury Life Long Learning community.

#8. READING SHAKESPEARE’S: Twelfth Night with Carrie Meier

Friday, 10:00 AM-11:00AM

Starts March 26 through May 7

(6 sessions, No Class April 2)



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Shakespeare's plays were written to be performed on stage. Although not on stage, participants in this class will be assigned roles in each play and will read aloud. The facilitator will provide introduction and encourage discussion between scenes as this is often the best way of encountering them. The class will also select a second play to read.

Required Text: *Twelfth Night, Folgers Edition.*

CARRIE MEIER majored in creative writing and literature in graduate studies. She taught history for 25 years before leading courses in poetry and Shakespeare in the Lifelong Learning Program since 2008.

#9. HOT TOPICS ON BEACON HILL with Senator Patrick O'Connor, Representative Josh Cutler and Representative Kathy LaNatra

Friday, 10:30 AM-11:30 AM

Starts March 26 through May 7
(6 sessions, No Class April 2)

This course provides an opportunity to explore issues that the Legislature will consider this political session. Each week participants discuss "hot topics" of the week and learn all sides of the issue. Group participation is key to the success of this course.

STATE SENATOR PATRICK M. O'CONNOR represents the Plymouth & Norfolk District in the Massachusetts State Senate, including the towns of Cohasset, Duxbury, Hingham, Hull, Marshfield, Norwell, Scituate, and Weymouth. He is a lifelong Weymouth resident and has been working within the legislature for over a decade. He currently serves as a member of the Committees on Housing, Education, Municipalities and Regional Government, Labor and Workforce Development, Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, Personnel and Administration, and Global Warming and Climate Change.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOSH CUTLER is the State Representative for the Sixth Plymouth District, which includes the towns of Pembroke, Duxbury (precincts 2-6) and Hanson. He is a South Shore native. He currently serves as a member of the Small Business and Community Development, Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, Election Laws, and House Post Audit and Oversight committees.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE KATHLEEN LANATRA is the State Representative for the Twelfth Plymouth District, including the towns of *Kingston*, North Plymouth, and South Duxbury. She has lived in Kingston for nearly two decades and is a businesswoman and a previously elected member of the Board of Selectmen. She currently serves as a member of the House Committee on Technology and Intergovernmental Affairs, Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, Joint Committee on Elder Affairs and Joint Committee on Election Laws.



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#10. American Politics Through Film *with John Sullivan*

Friday, 1:00-2:30 PM

Starts April 9 through May 14 (6 sessions)

There has never been a period in our history which has been filled with so much turmoil. This course will explore the challenges the President faces. The films discussed in this course illustrate these obstacles and focus on the issues unique to the presidency. Participants will watch these films on their own and discuss them in class; *The Best Man* (1964), *Advise & Consent* (1962), *Seven Days in May* (1964), *All the President's Men* (1976).

The facilitator will provide hints for seeing the films at home.

DR. JOHN SULLIVAN was a teacher of history and psychology at Duxbury High School for 38 years. He also has taught at Boston University, his alma mater, as well as Quincy College, Massasoit, and Cape Cod Community College. He presently is an instructional consultant for Class Measures.