



DELAWARE VALLEY  
UNIVERSITY

## CENTER FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

*CLR brings members of the retired and semi-retired community opportunities for personal growth through learning. For more than 30 years, CLR has provided a diverse selection of peer-led classes each semester for its 400-plus members each term.*

## SPRING 2025 PROGRAMMING

**SPRING 2025 MEMBERSHIP WILL BE \$50**

**SPRING 1** ..... 1/21-3/7  
**SPRING 2** ..... 3/17-5/2

**NO CLASSES**

**Spring break: March 10-14**  
**Day of Scholarship: April 24**  
**A Day: April 25**

**QUESTIONS:**

**Email CLR@delval.edu or Call 215.489.4990**

# SPRING 2025 ONLINE

## MONDAYS

### 100(A+B) INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSTITUTION

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE COURSE

9:25 A.M. - 10:40 A.M.

This course is a 12-week introduction to the U.S. Constitution. We will start in 17th England to understand the sources for the basic ideas, fears and understandings that were in the minds of our Founders. We will look at the failure of the Articles of Incorporation and then study the development of the Constitution from the 1787 Convention up to the modern era.

Instructor: Russ Bellavance

## TUESDAYS

### 200 (A+B) SPANISH CULTURE & CONVERSATION

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE COURSE

9:25 A.M. - 10:40 A.M.

This course is designed for intermediate students who have studied Spanish before and would like a refresher class or need to brush up before a trip to a Spanish-speaking country. Participants will expand their vocabulary, review the conjugations of verbs in the present, past and future tenses, and learn fun facts & idiomatic expressions. We will watch interesting videos, listen to Spanish songs, describe famous paintings and talk about current events in Spanish all in a relaxing, non-judgmental, and enjoyable atmosphere. Come join us, meet up with former classmates and make new friends. Hasta pronto!

Instructor: Shari O'Flanagan

### 201(A+B) ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS WORLDWIDE

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE COURSE

10:40 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

There are many environmental disasters that are never brought to light, though they should be. We will look at about 30 such disasters from the early days of the EPA to more recent emergencies. We will explore what happened at Times Beach, Love Canal, the Pipeline, Swanson Creek, Pickett Road and Tranguch. Also, Anthrax in Washington D.C. and Deepwater Horizon. And lastly, abandoned oil wells, Bhopal India, and Methyl Mercury Japan.

Instructor: Charlie Kleeman

# SPRING 2025 ONLINE

## TUESDAYS CONTINUED

### 202 (A) GREAT DECISIONS IN FOREIGN POLICY

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE SERIES

10:40 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

This is an eight-week program that will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 18. The series is produced by the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association and highlights critical foreign policy challenges facing America today. The course provides an informed analysis of political affairs and encourages an understanding of opposing viewpoints. Topics for the spring include, “Changing Leadership in the World Economy”, “India Between China and the West”, “Climate Change”, “The Future of NATO”, and more. Each session opens with a 25-minute video followed by class discussion. A briefing book of relevant essays is recommended but not required and can be purchased at the first class. Less expensive electronic versions are available from [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org).

Instructors: Betsy Bishop and Tom Lashnits

### 203(A+B) SATELLITES - SPIES IN THE SKY

SPRING 1, ONLINE COURSE

10:40 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

A look at what is involved in a Satellite System - how they are built, tested, flown, and used. Then a closer look at the development of this tool as a “Spy in the Sky “. The uses, the security needs and approaches, and the results.

Instructor: Jim Brown

### 204 (A+B) THE BEST YEARS OF THEIR LIVES--THE MOVIES OF POST-WORLD WAR II

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE COURSE

12:15 P.M. - 1:05 P.M.

When young Americans came home from fighting WWII, they were changed as was the country. The change in post-WWII American society was reflected in the films of those years. Using discussion and film clips, this course will explore the changes apparent in Hollywood films. Instructor: Lois Silverman

## WEDNESDAYS

### 301(A+B) JANE AUSTEN'S MANSFIELD PARK

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE COURSE

10:40 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

Jane Austen novels make use of the marriage plot but yield a much richer array of topics and viewpoints when closely examined. Inside jokes, witty comments by witty characters and some laugh out loud moments reward discerning readers. Was Austen a social critic, a feminist, a satirist? Find out more about Austen's life, her time and her art by reading Mansfield Park closely. We may learn why this novel has been called Austen's “problem novel.” Instructor: Elizabeth Steele

# SPRING 2025 ONLINE

## WEDNESDAYS CONTINUED

### 302(A+B) CONVERSATIONS ON CINEMA

1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, ONLINE COLLECTIVE

3:05 P.M. - 4:20 P.M.

This course will focus largely on discussing recent films in the “Art House Cinema” genre and the type of independent U.S. and foreign films which are shown at the County Theater (Doylestown, PA). Prior to each 75-minute class, members will have watched the designated film using one of the many online streaming services, with the customary rental charge. The facilitator will open the discussion with some background information on the director, actors, and script, along with some relevant behind-the-scenes information on the making of the film, then the floor will be open for discussion by class members. Conversation on Cinema will meet on Zoom on the first Wednesday of each month of the term, not in consecutive weeks. The meeting dates are February 5, March 5, and April 2.

Instructor: Bill Lieser

### 303 (A+B) CLR BOOK CLUB

2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, ONLINE COLLECTIVE

3:05 P.M. - 4:20 P.M.

Using suggestions and voting by members, we will read four books each semester. Our discussions, via Zoom, are on the second Wednesday of each month during the semester and generally last a bit over an hour. Come join us even if you have not finished the book. The Book Club will meet on the following dates: February 12, March 12 and April 9 Instructor: Lee Miller

## THURSDAYS

### 400(A) GREAT ART AND ART CITIES EXPLAINED

SPRING 1, ONLINE SERIES

10:40 A.M. - 11:40 A.M.

Have you ever stood before a masterpiece in Florence, Rome, Paris, London, or other cities and wondered about its story? This class offers an opportunity to uncover the fascinating histories of some of the world’s most iconic paintings and sculptures, exploring the works of renowned artists like Van Gogh, Michelangelo, Bernini, and more. While I don’t claim to be an art expert, I will be your moderator, guiding us through captivating videos from the Great Art Explained series. These sessions provide rich insights into the art, the artists, and the cultural contexts that brought these masterpieces to life. Additional sessions will take us on a virtual journey through Great Art Cities, including London, Paris, Istanbul, Florence, and beyond, highlighting the artistic treasures that define these cultural hubs. Participants are encouraged to share their experiences, reflections, and connections to art and the cities celebrating it. Whether you’ve admired these works in person or dream of one day doing so, this class promises to ignite your curiosity and deepen your appreciation for the stories behind the art and the cities that house them. Instructor: Gene Sosnowski

# SPRING 2025 ON CAMPUS

## THURSDAYS CONTINUED

### 401(B) RIDE ON THE MOTHER ROAD: ROUTE 66

SPRING 2, ONLINE SEMINAR

12:15 P.M. - 1:05 P.M.

Route 66 is often referred to as the “Main Street of America”. It has lots of historical significance, occupies a strong place in the culture of its times, and features many unusual roadside attractions. Our virtual road trip from Chicago to Santa Monica will recreate the spirit of adventure and exploration that is deeply engrained in the American psyche. This seminar will be on Thursday, April 17.

Instructor: Michael Martorelli

### 403 (A+B) THE AMERICAN SONGBOOK: SING ALONG

SPRING 1+2, ONLINE SEMINAR

90 MINUTES (1:40 P.M. -2:30 P.M.)

During this seminar, we will explore and sing examples from over the one-hundred-year evolution of The American Songbook, including from Musical Theatre, Jazz Standards, and other popular songs. PDFs of lyrics will be provided in advance. [Note: No past music/singing experience is necessary.] Part 1: February 13 and Part 2: April 10 \*\*Continuation of previous offering, participation not required\*\*

Instructor: Don Tenenblatt

# SPRING 2025 ON CAMPUS

## MONDAYS

### 101(A) NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCES - ARE THEY REAL?

SPRING 1, ON CAMPUS SERIES

9:25 A.M. -10:25 A.M.

Although I have not had an NDE, I have been fascinated by the subject for decades. We'll cover the amazing experiences of many NDEs that have been reported in numerous best-selling books. Be prepared to have your current thinking challenged! And don't be afraid to bring your thoughts to the class.

Instructor: Al Kille

## TUESDAYS

### 205 (A) THE BEATLES SOLO CAREERS

SPRING 1, ON CAMPUS SERIES

12:15-1:05 P.M.

In this four-week class, we will look at and listen to the music of John, Paul, George, and Ringo, post-Beatles. While the individual parts might never have been equal to their sum, they still gave us some great music, and are still giving, to this day. We'll discuss their music and how it continues to affect us. This series will meet on the following dates: January 21 and 28, February 4 and 11

Instructor: Larry Lefkowitz

## WEDNESDAYS

### 303 (A+B) SOCRATES CAFÉ

SPRING 1+2, 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, ON CAMPUS COLLECTIVE

3:05 P.M.-4:20 P.M.

Socrates Café is a discussion group that offers participants the opportunity to exchange views on social, philosophical, political and popular issues, based on their own backgrounds and experiences. For example, in the past we've discussed the consequences of inequality, the importance of friendship, and the meaning of family. We encourage a diversity of opinions to share knowledge, stimulate personal discovery – and just enjoy some lively conversation! Instructors will select the topic for the first session; after that, participants will choose the subject. Please note that Socrates Cafe will meet three times, at 3:05 on the third Wednesday of each month: February 19, March 19, April 16, 2025. \*\*Continuation of previous offering, participation not required\*\*

Instructor: Mark Muldowney

# SPRING 2025 ON CAMPUS

## THURSDAYS

### 404 (A) INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PART 2

SPRING 2, ON CAMPUS SERIES

90 MINUTES (9:25 A.M. -10:55 A.M.)

Having provided planning and coordination tools for traveling independently in the Fall Seminar, we can now explore specific, popular travel sites and itineraries throughout Europe. These will include destinations in the UK, France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland and Belgium / The Netherlands. The major cities and sites will be featured along with some of the charming towns and villages that might be missed as part of a tour group travel plan. Videos and photos will be presented which should pique your interest and provide some virtual travel escapes over the winter months. Travel is one of those things that you pay for, and it makes you richer! This will meet on the following dates: March 20 and 27, April 3, 10, 17 and 24.

Instructor: Bob Burian

## FRIDAYS

### 500 (B) TECHNOLOGY POTPOURRI

SPRING 2, ON CAMPUS SERIES

70 MINUTES (12:15 P.M. -1:25 P.M.)

Learn what's new in biotechnology, microbiology, genomics, climate change and of course AI. Questions and discussions are encouraged, Classes will begin on March 21 for six sessions. Each class will be 70 minutes, and four or five topics will be presented.

Instructor Jim Mattison