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Center for Learning  
in Retirement



# SPRING 2026 CATALOG

# MEMBERSHIP AND COURSE REGISTRATION

## ABOUT THE CENTER FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT (CLR)

*The Center for Learning in Retirement (CLR) brings members of the retired and semi-retired community opportunities for personal growth through learning. For more nearly 40 years, CLR has provided a diverse selection of peer-led classes each term.*

[Membership and Course Registration Information](#)

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- No age requirement
- No geographic requirement
- No deadline to register-online registration is rolling
- \$50 membership fee per season entitles members to register for an unlimited number of courses on a first-come, first-served basis; courses are not individually priced
- Varying class start dates, durations, and times

## REGISTER FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Registration Opened:** November 14

**Spring Season:** February 2, 2026 – May 8, 2026

**A-Day:** April 25 –26, 2026

*Upon successful checkout, you can build your schedule using our new [course registration form](#).*

### STEP 1: PURCHASE MEMBERSHIP

Begin the registration process by adding the required \$50 membership to your cart and then check out. [Click here](#) to purchase your membership.

### STEP 2: CHECKOUT

Please complete all required remaining fields in the Buyer, Contact and Payment Information sections. Don't forget to hit "Continue" after each section. You will then be prompted to enter your payment information. Click "Review Order" when finished, then click "Submit Order." You should receive via email an order confirmation receipt confirming your membership.

### STEP 3: CHOOSE YOUR CLASSES

Upon successful checkout, you can build your schedule using our [new course registration form](#).

# LETTERS FROM YOUR CPS TEAM

Dear CLR Community,

Hi, I'm Gabrielle! It's a pleasure to introduce myself as the new director of Continuing & Professional Studies at Delaware Valley University. While my role supports a diverse range of learners, I'm particularly excited to work with the Center for Learning in Retirement—a program that truly embodies lifelong learning.

**A Little Bit About Me:** I'm a proud first-generation college graduate from Philadelphia, and my educational journey has taught me that learning never stops. Outside of work, I love reading speculative fiction, writing and taking portraits—creative pursuits that keep me curious and always looking for new perspectives. This lens shapes my philosophy of education: it's best when it's engaging, accessible, and meets people exactly where they are. I am eager to listen, learn and collaborate with you as we strengthen CLR together. I want to understand what draws you to this community and how we can continue co-creating programming that enriches your lives. You are the heart of this program, and I'm committed to supporting a vibrant, welcoming and intellectually stimulating environment. I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming months and hearing your stories, ideas and hopes for CLR. Until then, thank you for being part of this wonderful learning community.

Warmly,

Gabrielle S. Clark, M.Ed.

[Gabrielle.Clark@delval.edu](mailto:Gabrielle.Clark@delval.edu)

Dear CLR Members,

Hi, I'm Carrie! It's a joy to formally introduce myself as your community engagement coordinator at Delaware Valley University.

**Get to Know me:** I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from Rider University as well as a Master of Science in Communication from Drexel University. My journey in my career thus far has taught me your biggest setbacks are your strongest lessons. Outside of work, I love to dance, strength train at the gym and plan Disney trips with my friend. I am your resource and willing to listen with open ears and an open mind as we work to enhance CLR. You are the heart and soul of this program, and I will do what I can in my power to make sure your voice is heard.

Thank you for being a part of this community of lifelong learners.

Kindly,

Carrie Lettiere, M.S.

[CLR@delval.edu](mailto:CLR@delval.edu)



Students in "Meet the Beatles": Fall 2025

## TUESDAYS

### THE PIN AND THE POSTAGE STAMP: THE AMAZING CHIP

**Format:** On-campus Seminar

**Time:** 9:25-10:40 AM

**Dates:** March 24, April 14

**Instructor:** Alan Freedman

**Location:** Student Center, Room 207 - Coffeehouse

The backbone of modern society and artificial intelligence (AI), the chip, is the most extraordinary invention mankind has ever developed. Even if you have no technical background, you will come away with a greater understanding than 99% of the country.

### WALT DISNEY: ANIMATOR... INVENTOR... IMAGINEER...

**Format:** On-campus Series

**Time:** 10:40-12:05 PM

**Dates:** March 24, 31 and April 7, 14

**Location:** Life Sciences Building, Room 200

**Instructor:** Mark Muldowney

The name "Disney" is synonymous with happiness for many generations, starting with preschool children all the way to grandparents. We will delve into how and why this happened by examining Walt Disney's early family life, the animation years and Disneyland. The focus will be on the methods and technologies created by Walt and the Studio in their quest to bring happiness and laughter while creating a world class entertainment enterprise that would never be finished, long after the initial seeds for the dream were planted by Walt.

### GREAT DECISIONS IN FOREIGN POLICY

**Format:** On-campus Series

**Time:** 12:15-1:30 PM

**Dates:** March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7, 14, 21

**Instructors:** Betsy Bishop and Tom Lashnits

**Location:** Mandell Hall, Room 114

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 "Trump Tariffs and the Future of the World Economy", "Ukraine and European Security", "US Engagement of Africa", "Future of Human Rights and International Law" 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 from the instructor for \$30 in the first class. Less expensive electronic versions are available from [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org).

### THE MUSIC OF MOTOWN

**Format:** On-campus Series

**Time:** 12:15-1:05 PM

**Dates:** February 3, 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10

**Location:** Student Center, Rm 207 - Coffeehouse

**Instructor:** Larry Lefkowitz

A look back at the American music that filled our youth with promise and joy and went toe to toe with the best of the Brits. The music still holds up because it was crafted by artists. We'll look at the musicians behind the hits and see why those hits still resonate.

### LEARN BASIC MAHJONGG

**Format:** On-Campus Series

**Time:** 10 AM-12 PM

**Dates:** February 3, 10, 17, 26

**Instructor:** Barbara Struble

**Location:** Student Center, Rm 100 - Moumgis Auditorium

In this hands-on seminar, beginners will learn the fundamentals of American mahjongg by playing one or two guided games each session. Participants will become familiar with the tiles, the Charleston, reading the card, building winning hands, and understanding gameplay etiquette. Each week introduces new skills and strategies, with plenty of practice time to reinforce learning in a relaxed, supportive environment.

# SPRING

# IN PERSON OFFERINGS



## WEDNESDAYS

### AI: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

Format: On-campus Series

Time: 10:40-12:05 PM

Meeting Dates: March 24, April 14

Campus Location: Student Center, Room 207 (Coffeehouse)

Instructor: Arnold Feineman

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has driven the stock market to record highs in 2025 in anticipation of widespread adoption in the coming years. AI covers a wide range of applications from robotic factories to helping students with their homework. What benefits may we gain from AI, and what are the downsides and risks for us as individuals and for our society? This offering will provide a basic understanding of what AI is about, and how it may change our lives.

### A CITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS: PHILADELPHIA - THE EARLY YEARS

Format: On-campus Seminar

Time: 12:15-1:05 PM

Meeting Date: April 8

Campus Location: Student Center, Room 207 (Coffeehouse)

Instructor: Alan Shein

In this one day, 50-minute seminar, we will explore the city's colonial beginnings through its waves of immigration and industrial growth, and how it laid the groundwork for the many neighborhoods that would follow.

### AMERICAN CARS 1950-1980

Format: On-campus Seminar

Time: 1:40-2:30 PM

Meeting Date: April 8

Campus Location: Feldman Hall, Room 113

Instructor: Larry Lefkowitz

Most of us grew up traveling in largely American-made cars, "Detroit Iron" so-to-speak, which was the family car. As they got bigger, more costly to buy and fix, and with fuel and safety growing in importance, the American car became just part of the transportation fleet mixed with cars of varying makes from various countries of origin. We will re-live some of those days and watch how that part of the American Dream changed our great love affair with the automobile.

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR STORYTELLING? THE FUTURE OF THEATRE, FILM AND TELEVISION

Format: On-campus Seminar

Time: 1:40-2:30 PM

Meeting Date: April 15

Campus Location: Student Center, Room 205 (Sigety)

Instructor: Sara Weisman-Shein

What's next for the stage and screen? In this seminar we'll look at how theatre, film and television are evolving in an era of rapid change. From the growth of vertical shorts to the use of artificial intelligence and immersive experiences, we'll explore how technology, audience habits and global collaboration are shaping the stories of tomorrow.

### SOCRATES CAFÉ

Format: On-campus Collective

Time: 3:05-4:20 PM

Meeting Dates: February 18, March 18, April 15

Campus Location: Life Science Building, Room 105

Instructor: Mark Muldowney

Socrates' Cafés are gatherings where people from different backgrounds get together and exchange philosophical perspectives based on their experiences. Discussion is taken from our own lives, not to debate, but to engage in a common quest for a better understanding of human nature.

### CONVERSATIONS ON CINEMA

Format: On-campus Collective

Time: 3:05-4:20 PM

Meeting Dates: February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6

Campus Location: Life Science Building, Room 105

Instructor: Bill Lieser

The course will focus largely on discussing recent films in the "Art House Cinema" genre and the type of independent and foreign films which are shown at the County Theater (Doylestown, Pa). Prior to each class, members will have watched that class's designated film using one of the many online streaming services. The facilitator will open the discussion with some background information on the director, the actors and the 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 participants. Members will be provided with advance notice for each film 7-10 days before each class.

# SPRING

# IN PERSON OFFERINGS



## THURSDAY TED TALKS — EXPLORING NEW IDEAS

Format: On-campus Series

Time: 12:15-1:30 PM

Meeting Dates: March 19, 26 and April 2, 9, 16, 23

Location: Mandell Hall, Room 114 (March 19-April 16)

Student Center, Room 207- Coffeehouse (April 23)

Instructor: Tom Lashnits

This class is for people interested in new ideas and open to different perspectives. In each class, we will watch two or three different TED Talks focused on a particular topic. These short, powerful talks – each 10 to 15 minutes long – are offered by some of the most knowledgeable and inspired thinkers, covering science, technology, medicine, politics, psychology and other issues. The videos are then followed by class discussion where participants are encouraged to express their own views and share their experiences. Join us . . . We'll have fun and learn a few things!

## THERE WAS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY, NOW WHAT?

Format: On-campus Seminar

Time: 1:40-2:40 PM

Meeting Date: April 9

Campus Location: Life Sciences Building, Room 104

Instructor: Lauren Cronmiller

Learn how to be prepared when there is a death in the family, steps that need to occur to put the estate in order, and how to avoid fraud.

## SENIOR FRAUD

Format: On-campus Seminar

Time: 1:40-2:40 PM

Meeting Date: April 16

Campus Location: Life Sciences Building, Room 104

Instructor: Lauren Cronmiller

Learn about scams aimed at senior citizens, how to avoid them and how to protect yourself from fraud.



Members at the Welcome Back Reception held in August 2025.

# SPRING

## HYBRID OFFERINGS NEW FOR SPRING 2026



### FIGURE DRAWING AROUND THE GLOBE

Format: Hybrid Course

Time: 12:15-1:30 PM

Meeting Dates: Mondays, February 2 - 23 (On-campus),

March 2 - May 4 (Online)

Campus Location: Student Center, Room 207 (Coffeehouse)

Instructor: John Deitz

There is a vibrant, interactive global art community that is working together and sharing approaches and methods of all kinds of painting and drawing.. Meet with me to explore the best of these sites with weekly recommendations. Each week I will give reviews of online site(s) offering an opportunity to draw the figure. I will avoid sites that have long term commitments and focus on sites that cost \$5 an hour or less. We will meet on campus for the first four sessions and will meet online weekly after that. The first few meetings will be all about organization and help with working online. You should be comfortable with Zoom and Vimeo before taking this course. Our online sessions are show and tell. Bring your work to class and exchange experiences with other students. All artists will be working from the same point of view, so there are no terrible seats. I am a guide rather than an instructor. This is a community, so please be present. Camera on is appreciated. I hope to see you.



Kathleen and James Zoto attend an in person seminar.

### OUR MIND MATTERS: CARING FOR MENTAL WELLNESS FROM COVID AND BEYOND

Format: Hybrid (On-Campus Seminar with Zoom available for those who wish to connect remotely)

Time: 10:40-12:10 PM

Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 6

Instructor: Carrie Lettiere

Campus Location: Student Center, Room 226 (Rosenfeld)

We've all heard the saying, "You can't pour from an empty cup." The COVID-19 pandemic touched everyone's lives and brought unique challenges, especially for older adults. Now, more than ever, tending to our mental health is an important part of overall well-being. In this seminar, we'll take a thoughtful look at how the pandemic has affected mental wellness, explore common issues such as stress, isolation, and resilience and share practical strategies to help keep both mind and body calm and balanced in today's world.



CLR Members outside the Student Center working with flowers.

# SPRING

# ONLINE OFFERINGS



## MONDAYS

### TURNING POINTS IN WESTERN CIVILIZATION

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 9:25-10:40 AM

Meeting Dates: Mondays, February 2, 2026 - May 4, 2026

Instructor: Russ Bellavance

What is Western Civilization? Where did its ideas and values come from? What were the key turning points in its evolution? Where is it headed? Russ Bellavance will lead the class through these and many other questions in 12 short weeks.

### SPANISH CULTURE & CONVERSATION: BEGINNER

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 9:25-10:40 AM

Meeting Dates: Mondays, February 2, 2026 - May 4, 2026

Instructor: Shari O'Flanagan

Hola, Amigos! This course is for students who have studied some Spanish in the past & could use a refresher class on basic vocabulary & verb tenses of regular & irregular verbs concentrating mostly on the simple present, past & future tenses. We will be striving to expand our vocabulary & knowledge of the Spanish culture with the goal of eventually being able to have simple conversations about our lives in Spanish using a variety of different mediums such as magazine articles, videos, songs & paintings all in a fun, relaxing & nonjudgmental atmosphere. Hasta pronto!

### THE MYSTERIES OF OUR MAPS

Format: Online Seminar (Zoom)

Time: 10:40-12:05 PM

Meeting Date: February 23

Instructor: Michael Martorelli

This seminar will look at the reasons that led to the unusual shapes of many of our states' maps.

### BEYOND THE BRIDGE AT RABBIT RUN

Format: Online Series (Zoom)

Time: 10:40-11:40 AM

Meeting Dates: March 2 and March 9

Instructor: Cindy MacMillan

The course looks at the lives and creations of four forgotten women artists who lived along the canal above of the bridge at Rabbit Run near New Hope during the early part of the

twentieth century. Although each began their art studies as a fine artists, they soon evolved to create other craft forms. Two created rugs, one designed a childlike doll, and the fourth became an architect. All have been overlooked in the study of early artists associated with the New Hope School. The course will run for two one-hour sessions online and will introduce you to these fascinating women and their creations.

## TUESDAYS

### SPANISH CULTURE & CONVERSATION INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 9:25-10:40 AM

Meeting Dates: Tuesdays, February 3, 2026 - May 5, 2026

Instructor: Shari O'Flanagan

Hola amigos! This class is for those students who have a substantial background in Spanish and a satisfactory command of the present tense verbs & would like to have dialogues with their classmates and teacher in the Spanish language. We will continue to expand our knowledge of the Spanish culture & explore a variety of topics through magazine articles, videos, songs and paintings all in a fun, relaxing and non-judgmental atmosphere. Hasta pronto!

### DEVELOPING THE PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE

Format: Online Seminar (Zoom)

Time: 10:40-12:05 PM

Meeting Date: April 7

Instructor: Michael Martorelli

The Pennsylvania Turnpike is 80 years old, but the idea of creating an efficient thoroughfare between the state's population centers in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh goes back to colonial times. We will look at the evolution of those plans across the decades

### SATELLITES - SPIES IN THE SKY

Format: Online Series (ZOOM)

Time: 10:40 AM-12:05 PM

Dates: February 3, 10, 17, 24 and March 3, 10, 17, 24

Location: Student Center, Room 207 -Coffeehouse

Instructor: Jim Brown

We will look at what is involved in a Satellite System and take a close look at how Satellites are built, tested, flown and used. Then a closer look at the development of this tool as a "Spy in the Sky" and the uses/results. Also, a look into the system set up to "keep" the secrets.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

# SPRING

“I've been a CLR member for seven years and have enjoyed a variety of classes. I especially appreciate the chance I got to put together my own class and share it with my colleagues. I gathered some great historic footage, did some research, and in 2023 offered a course called “America in the 1960s” that covered the Kennedys, The Great Society, Vietnam, and other issues that haunt us to this day. Thank you CLR. I look forward to many more CLR classes!”

*- Tom Lashnits,  
CLR Instructor and Member*

“CLR is a great way to share experiences about subjects that matter. The social aspect of classroom presence is also satisfying, as is meeting people in a learning atmosphere. An active mind is important to everyone.”

*- Larry Lefkowitz, CLR Instructor*

## HERE'S WHAT CURRENT MEMBERS ARE SAYING...

“I have taught for the CLR for the past three years and I love every minute of it. The students are so nice & engaged in the class. I look forward every week to teaching my class and I am so happy that many of my students have continued to study with me for multiple semesters. People formed friendships in my class & I honestly believe that it is a wonderful way to spend one's morning or afternoon, enriching your mind and expanding your social circle all at the same time. I highly recommend this program.”

*- Shari O'Flanagan, CLR Instructor*

“The classes and seminars offered by the Center for Learning in Retirement have provided me with a meaningful experience by stimulating my mind with thought-provoking programs and connecting me with my peers. I have learned to play bridge, tried my hand at painting, listened to programs on current events and discussed them in class, enjoyed conversations about contemporary movies watched by the class participants, and more. As a Bucks County resident, I am lucky to have this top notch and affordable program so close by.”

*- Bruce Henderson, CLR Member*

# SPRING

## ONLINE OFFERINGS



### HIKE/BIKE TRAILS IN BUCKS AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES

Format: Online seminar (Zoom)

Time: 10:40-12:05 PM

Meeting Date: March 24

Instructor: Glen Maxson

There is a trail for everyone, whether you're a hiker, biker or e-bike rider. As an e-bike owner myself, I'll discuss some rules you'll need to be aware of before riding an e-bike on some trails. I hope you can join me for this seminar, and on the trials this spring.

### ENTERTAINERS AND CLOWNS: THE MUSICALS AND COMEDIES OF THE 1950S

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 1:40-3:10 PM

Meeting Dates: Tuesdays, February 3 - March 24

Instructor: Lois Silverman

The 1950s saw Hollywood moguls' decline, the rise of television, and McCarthyism. Despite or because of these challenges, Hollywood produced some of the best comedies and musicals ever made. This 8-week online course will explore these comedies and musicals movies using discussions and film clips. The movies that will be explored include: Some Like It Hot, Born Yesterday, Harvey, The Seven Year Itch, Oklahoma!, South Pacific, Annie Get Your Gun, Show Boat, Band Wagon, and Singin' in the Rain.

### A MUSICAL JOURNEY II

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 3:05-4:20 PM

Meeting Dates: Tuesdays, February 2 - May 5

Instructor: Narayan Acharya

Join me as I recall the exciting experience of learning about Spanish language and culture through words and music. Presentations will include songs on the themes of Life, Love, and Socio-Political Commentary. The melodies are of world class quality, the lyrics and sheer poetry. Much of the material is from a singer-composer who is widely considered the Godfather of Spanish lyric music, besides being a special favorite among women. Translations will be made available to supplement personal observations and interpretations. There is enough here to please everyone - no language skills are required.

### WEDNESDAYS JANE AUSTEN'S PERSUASION

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 10:40-12:05PM

Meeting Dates: Wednesdays, February 4 - May 6

Instructor: Elizabeth Steele

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, or satirist? Find out the close reading of Persuasion. "His head is full of some books that he is reading . . ."

### GARDEN FUN-DAMENTALS

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 10:40-12:05 PM

Meeting Dates: March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1

Instructor: Janice Jacobs

Do you envy the "green thumb" of your neighbor? This course is an introduction to the fun and art of gardening. We will cover topics such as plant selection and placement, including deer-resistant plants, how to maintain what you have planted, designing for continuous blooms, the basics of soil, water, and sun as the keys to success, how to divide your perennials, plant/shrub combinations, and more!

### THE WRITE STUFF - GREAT FILMS MADE FROM GREAT BOOKS

Format: Online Course (Zoom)

Time: 12:15-1:05PM

Meeting Dates: February 4, 11, 18, 25

Instructor: Louise Pulini

In this four-week course, we will explore the art of screenwriting by looking at a few best-selling books (both fiction and non-fiction) that have been made into great films. We will look at both classic and modern films in different genres. We will also look at some original screenplays from some of my favorites as well. I encourage member interaction big time, so be prepared for lively and great conversation, as well as serious fun.

# SPRING



CLR members on campus attending *Understanding Motivation: How Non-Cognitive Factors Influence Academic Success*.

## CLR BOOK CLUB

**Format:** Online Collective (Zoom)

**Time:** 3:05–4:20 PM

**Meeting Dates:** February 11, March 11, April 8

**Instructor:** A. Lee Miller

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.



Art is never rushed.

## THE AMERICAN SONGBOOK: DISCUSSION & SING ALONG

**Format:** Online Seminar (Zoom)

**Time:** 1:40–2:30 PM

**Meeting Dates:** February 12, March 26

**Instructor:** Don Tenenblatt

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. Members may register for one or both seminars.

[Note: No past music/singing experience is necessary.]

Students may register for one or both seminars.

## THURSDAY TIPS FOR JUMPSTARTING A NEW BUSINESS: TIME TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

**Format:** Online Series (Zoom)

**Time:** 10:40–12:05PM

**Meeting Dates:** February 5, 12 and 19

**Instructor:** Robert Bencher

Ever wonder about the processes involved in starting a new business? Calling all aspiring entrepreneurs! This course will not only help you to understand the building blocks of starting a new business, but it will make you privy to the many challenges as well. Topics to be addressed will include, but are not limited to, entrepreneurship, operations, strategies, tactics, financing, pricing, market analysis, as well as exiting. Members will also have an opportunity to present and/or discuss their own future business plans within a network of peers.

**ACHARYA, NARAYAN** has given four cultural courses at CLR, drawing on all the worlds he has inhabited - India, America, Brazil, Spain, Music, Language and more.

**BENCHER, ROBERT** teaches several business-related courses, with an emphasis on value creation of early-stage companies. He works in the healthcare-related field, having over 40 years of experience in commercialization roles for large, midsize and small organizations. He is involved with three start-up companies with varying levels of success, with one leading to a \$100M capital acquisition. Mr. Bencher holds a B.A. Degree (1983) from Michigan State University and an MBA Degree (1987) from Loyola University of Chicago.

**BELLAVANCE, RUSS** is a recovering lawyer (business law) and a retired social study teacher, focused on modern European history, government and economics. He holds degrees from Tufts University, Yale Law School, and Arcadia University.

**BISHOP, BETSY** is a retired librarian and holds a B.A. from New York University and an M.L.S. from Long Island University. She moved to Bucks County in 2017.

**BROWN, JIM** is a West Point graduate (1964) with extensive study of military history and a University of Pennsylvania graduate, M.A. in American History (2002).

**DIETZ, JOHN** holds an undergraduate degree in marine science awarded by Southampton College, Long Island University. Work history includes a wide variety of fields, reflective of varied interest, most often with professional certification/specialty training often coupled with teaching experience. He has taught diagnostic ultrasound, published articles in medical journals, contributed images and parts of textbooks and delivered specialty lectures across the country. After graduation from college, he was welcomed back as adjunct staff for winter session programs in the British Virgin Islands teaching underwater photography. His photography has appeared in Audubon Books, The Underwater Photographer, Skin Diver Magazine, Sea Frontiers, and newspapers while living in South Florida and working in the everglades as an agricultural consultant and wastewater treatment plant operator.

**FREEDMAN, ALAN** Having been in the field for more than 60 years, Alan Freedman developed a “computer literacy” seminar for managers in the 1970s and has been involved with computer education ever since. He authors ComputerLanguage.com, the largest science tech encyclopedia. After retirement, my wife and I moved to the Doylestown area to be near our grandchildren. Lashnits, Tom worked as a writer, editor and researcher for Time Inc., Reader’s Digest and other publishers in New York, before retiring to Doylestown in 2017. He holds degrees from Franklin & Marshall College and New York University.

**LEFKOWITZ, LARRY** was a technical writer and editor for over forty years, with stops at Educational Testing Service, Law School Admissions Services, McGraw-Hill, Comcast, Motorola, Google and others. He has freely acted as a writer for a variety of print and online magazines, and now in retirement, he currently hosts a music program on an internet radio station.

**LETTIERE, CARRIE** is currently the community engagement coordinator at Delaware Valley University. Her previous role was as an activities assistant at Richboro Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Richboro, Pennsylvania where she worked with older adults of various levels of cognition while planning and implementing activities for the residents. One of her passions is being an advocate for one’s own health and wellness.

**LIESER, BILL** has been a life-long fan of films, both domestic and international, and served for twelve years on the Board of the County Theater in Doylestown. He has been teaching at CLR for over ten years, initially doing the “Introduction to Jazz” and “Jazz Masters” courses, followed by the well-received class on “Spy Movies” in 2018-2019. He started “Conversations on Cinema” in the Fall of 2020 on Zoom, when all the film theaters were closed and CLR had stopped in-person classes due to the pandemic. He has continued it each year since then.

# SPRING

# INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES



**MACMILLAN, CINDY** describes her love of textiles and textile history as a life-long adventure. Her interest began at an early age when she learned to crochet, sew and tat from her maternal grandmother, Florence Koch Hudson. Florence was not only an avid needle worker but also spent years working in a shirtwaist factory in Reading, PA. As a young widow with a child and no family, there were few other options available for her to earn a living in the early part of the 20th century. She eventually remarried and left factory work behind, and passed down her sewing skills she also shared stories of her life in the factory. Cindy enjoys a wide variety of handicrafts and sewing, but it is the stories that fuel her investigations. As a recent retiree from Higher Education Administration and Special Education, she finally has the time to fully pursue the research aspect of her interest in textiles. She has a BA in home economics from Montclair State University, an MBA, and doctoral work in special education – transition. Recently, she has taken courses at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and is due to enroll in an MA in textile history at the University of Nebraska. She has done comprehensive research in 20th century textiles, specializing in the work of Noemi Raymond of Raymond Farms and silk production and its female workforce in Bucks and Lehigh counties during the 1920s and 30s.

**JACOBS, JANICE** has been a gardener for more than forty years and has successfully developed her own perennial beds in the mountains of Colorado, the humid climate of the south, and the mild climates of Pennsylvania and Ohio. Once a Master Gardener, she is the prior owner and operator of JJ Gardens—a design, install and maintenance landscape company specializing in shade beds and perennial garden design. She has attended a Horticulture Technology Program at an Ohio community college, is a retired attorney and former federal government employee, and enjoys the fertile gardening potential in the Delaware River Valley. Martorelli, Michael is a retired finance industry professional and former adjunct professor at two local universities. He has written historical research articles for several publications and websites and given related presentations to CLR audiences and various local history groups.

**MAXSON, GLEN** After graduating from Penn State in '77, Glen moved to Seattle and built Boeing's first corporate electronic directory. A move in '94 to Intel in California continued his career in information technology until retirement in 2011. Since moving to Doylestown, Glen has kept current with new technology choices and trends and has a passion for sharing what he knows and what he's learning with seniors.

**MILLER, ABIGAIL** Lee lives at Foulkeways at Gwynedd, a CCRC, after a career as a teacher. She taught at DelVal, MontCo and Philadelphia University. We have been doing the Book Club for over a dozen years. It is much more fun than teaching computer applications to un-interested college students.

**MULDOWNEY, MARK** developed many high-tech products during his 40+ years in a Fortune 100 Technology Company, mentoring engineers and scientists along the way, around the globe. He holds multiple degrees/certifications in electronics, firmware, design of experiments and problem-solving techniques, along with training in leadership and diversity. In retirement, Mark continues to enjoy his lifelong hobbies that include sailing, woodworking, guitar, keyboard, and robotics/automation. Mark enjoys biking, racquetball, pickleball and CLR as a vehicle to meet and learn from others.

**O'FLANAGAN, SHARI** is a retired Spanish teacher who enjoys sharing her passion for the Spanish language with her students. She received her B.A. in Spanish literature from Muhlenburg College and her M.A. in Spanish literature from Montclair State University. She has spent several summers at the Universities of Madrid, Alicante and Cadiz in Spain. She has traveled to many Spanish-speaking countries such as Mexico, Honduras, Panama, Puerto Rico, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Colombia and looks forward to sharing her knowledge & experiences with her new students at CLR.

**PULINI, LOUISE** retired from a career in proposal management and her lifelong hobby has been putting together lists of films for family and friends. She has been involved with film societies and has attended film festivals around the world and is always searching for new and interesting content. She enjoys finding gems (i.e. documentaries, foreign and independent films and series) through the various streaming services as well as on cable.

**WEISMAN-SHEIN, SARA** is an enthusiastic podcast listener and creator. She believes in the media's power to entertain as well as educate people at their convenience and at their own pace. She is a graduate of Temple University with a B.A. in communications and LaSalle University with an M.A. in education and certificates in elementary and special education. She is a recent retiree from the Trenton Public Schools where she taught for 16 years. Prior to teaching, she worked at Strategic Management Group as a project manager and instructional designer.

**SHEIN, ALAN** has a BA in communications from Temple University and an MS in information systems from Drexel University. He worked in Television and Film production in Center City for 10 years, and in IT for 30 years. He's also been an adjunct instructor in information systems at Drexel. Alan, a lifelong Philadelphia native, is also destination expert for Philadelphia for Tripadvisor.

**STEELE, ELIZABETH** is a member of the Jane Austen Society of North America. She's been a featured speaker for many organizations, most notably Winterthur Museum's Jane Austen Day. She has also published two articles in "Persuasions," a journal dedicated to the study of Jane Austen. A Jane Austen devotee since the age of sixteen, Elizabeth has spent decades reading anything by or about Jane Austen, or anything that Jane Austen herself has read.



**SILVERMAN, LOIS** has taught American and English literature, writing, and media studies, has written many dramatic presentations for non-profit organizations across North America, and has taught personal enrichment courses relating to television and pop culture. She holds a B.A. and an M.A. in English literature from Montclair State University.

**TENENBLATT, DON** is a composer and lyricist, was a member of the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop in NYC and has played piano and/or music directed for numerous dance, opera and musical theatre productions in NYC, NJ, and PA including PA Ballet and Opera Theatre at TCNJ. He is the pianist for Capital Philharmonic of NJ and Bucks County Symphony, accompanist and adjunct professor for the Chorus at Delaware Valley University and teaches voice and piano lessons privately in the Doylestown area. He holds degrees in music from Yale and Rutgers Universities. Be sure to tune into his YouTube playlist by visiting [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). You will not want to miss a beat!

# SPRING



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