



at CSU Channel Islands

*Curiosity Never Retires*

# FALL I 2023

Registration Opens August 7th

Session Dates:

August 21st - September 29th



**California State  
University**

C H A N N E L  
I S L A N D S

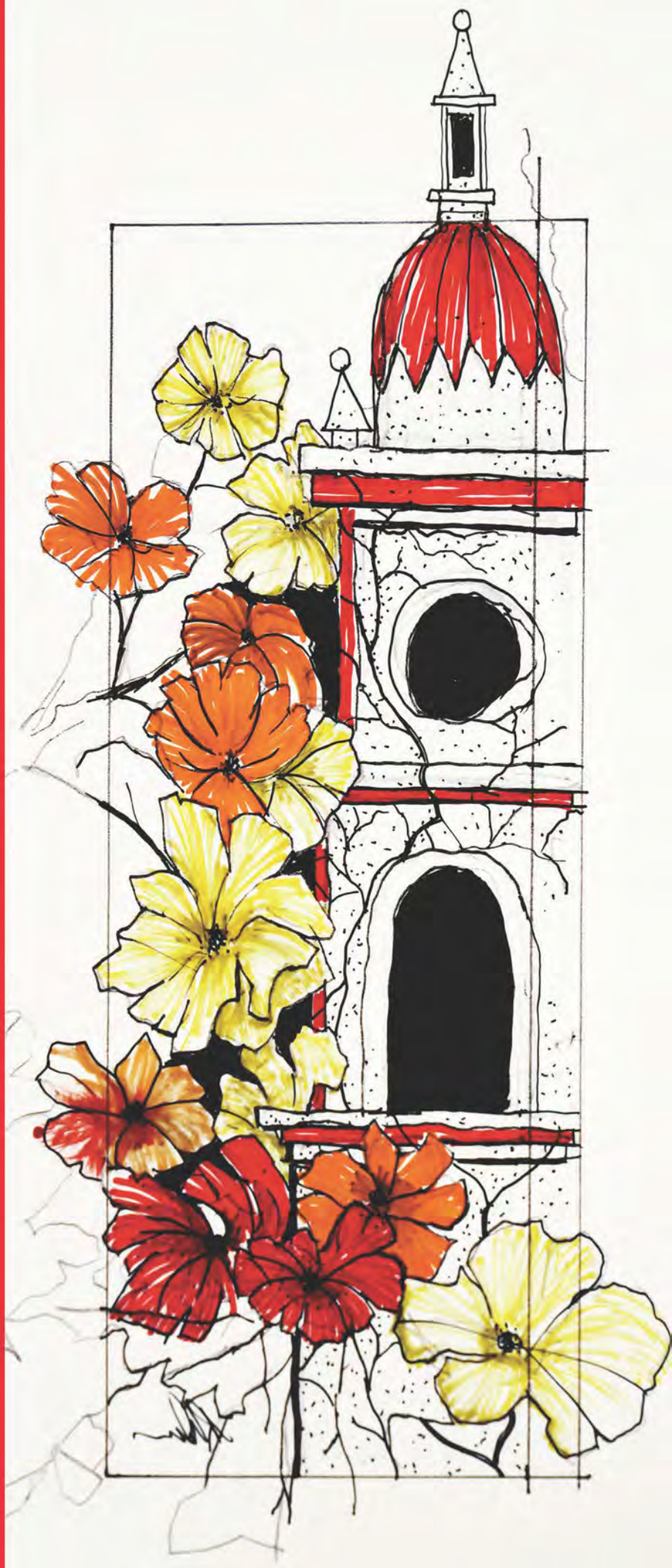
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Dear OLLI Community,

It is my honor to welcome you to the Fall I Session of 2023! For those of you whom I have not yet met, I'm Shaina, the Administrative Assistant for the OLLI Program.

While I am new to the OLLI team, having joined in early April, I am not new to CSUCI. I have been teaching in the Communication Department since Fall of 2018 and am also a proud alum! I graduated from CSUCI with a BA in Environmental Communication and earned my Master of Environmental Studies degree from the Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA.

As a self-identified eternal student, what drew me to OLLI at CSUCI was its mission to provide high quality lifelong learning opportunities to our community. I am thrilled to be a part of this program, and I have greatly enjoyed connecting with many of you through OLLI classes and events. I appreciate the wisdom, curiosity, and love of learning that each of you brings to our program.

I want to extend a huge thank you to our dedicated volunteer teams for organizing the exciting lineup of courses and events this Fall. I also want to thank all of you for being OLLI members—the life of our program. I look forward to getting to know more of you and continuing to learn alongside you!

Sincerely,

Shaina Salin  
OLLI Administrative Assistant



# Calendar Overview

	Time	Location	Title	Weeks	Class #
<b>Mon</b>	10 AM to 12 PM	Zoom	Golden Girls: Essential California Women Writers (Instructor: Robert Weibezahl)	6	1001
	1 PM to 3 PM	COLV/Zoom & In-Person	The Secret Life of Art (Instructor: Laura Hagel)	6	1002
<b>Tues</b>	10 AM to 12 PM	SCIART/Zoom & In-Person	American Artists Abroad (Instructor: Katherine Zoraster)	6	1003
	1 PM to 3 PM	Zoom	The Scramble for Africa: How The African Countries Got Their Shapes (Instructor: L. Jon Grogan)	6	1004
<b>Wed</b>	10 AM to 12 PM	CSUCI/Zoom & In-Person	Dawn of the Earliest Humans (Instructor: Matthew Curtis)	6	1005
	1 PM to 3 PM	Zoom	Edgar Allen Poe: His Life and Writings (Instructor: Paul Macek)	6	1006
<b>Thurs</b>	10 AM to 12 PM	SCIART/Zoom & In-Person	The Land Down Under (Instructor: William Garlington)	6	1007
	1 PM to 3 PM	Zoom	The Art of Abbott and Costello (Instructor: Nicholas Santa Maria)	6	1008
<b>Fri</b>	10 AM to 12 PM	Zoom	Dante's Divine Comedy and Our Journey Towards Wholeness (Instructor: Daniel Christian)	6	1009
	1 PM to 3 PM	Zoom	Broadway Deconstructed (Instructor: Sam and Candy Caponegro)	6	1010

Catalog Cover Credits - Dick Duran OLLI Member, Benjamin Hytrek - CSUCI Staff

CSUCI - California State University Channel Islands

COLV - College of Law Ventura

SCIART - Studio Channel Islands Art Center

## **Golden Girls: Essential California Women Writers**

### **Class 1001 (Zoom)**

*Monday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/21-10/2, Labor Day Holiday No Class 9/4)*

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Many significant American women writers, some well-known and some less familiar, were raised in California or chose to make their home here as adults— or both. Some, like Joan Didion and Maxine Hong Kingston, make the landscape and culture of the Golden State central to their narratives, while others, like Ursula K. Le Guin and U.S. poet laureate Ada Limón tap their California roots in more subtle ways. In this literary discussion class, we will explore the lives and work of twelve women writers from diverse backgrounds and traditions. Participants will read selections prior to each class meeting, provided by the instructor as electronic handouts or links, then engage in lively dialogues about these women’s work and their connections to the state we call home.

*Robert Weibezahl is a writer, editor, critic, and publishing industry veteran who has worked with Nobel laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners, and countless bestselling authors. He was a columnist for BookPage for two decades and is also a published novelist and award-winning, internationally-produced playwright. He teaches at Osher programs across the country.*

## **The Secret Life of Art**

### **Class 1002 (COLV/Zoom & In-Person)**

*Monday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/21-10/2, Labor Day Holiday No Class 9/4)*

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In the world around us we see images everywhere: on our computers, cellphones and tablets, in movie theaters, on billboards, in advertisements. We are awash in images. We look to artistic imagery to brighten our living spaces and enrich our public spaces. However, most of us are rather deficient in being able to understand or decode art. Even when confronted with an acknowledged masterpiece such as Leonardo da Vinci’s Mona Lisa we may wonder, what is so wonderful about this? Why do droves of people flock to the Louvre to visit this small portrait of a woman? What makes this a masterpiece? The aim of the class will not be to show students what is “good” art or “bad” art, but instead, to give students the tools they need to evaluate what they see and have a deeper understanding of the world of images around them.

*Laura Hagel is an accomplished art history educator. She received an MA in the History of Art and Architecture specializing in the ancient world from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2003. Since then she has been teaching art history and art appreciation classes at Ventura College, California State University Channel Islands and California Lutheran University. Her special interests include the art and architecture of the ancient Greeks, Egyptians and Romans. She has additionally taught courses that revolve around understanding how love and lovemaking are represented in the artistic record in the ancient world, Middle Ages, Renaissance and Baroque periods.*

## **American Artists Abroad**

### **Class 1003 (SCIART/Zoom & In-Person)**

*Tuesday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 5-weeks (8/22-9/19, 9/5 & 9/12 will be three hour lectures from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM)*

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Before the 20th century, Europe was considered the center of the art world. Steeped in artistic tradition and with no structured training available at that time in the US, most American artists journeyed to Paris or other parts of Europe to study. Seeking more opportunity, freedom, and expertise, many of those artists chose to remain abroad. By the late 19th century several of the world's most influential painters were American expatriates. In this course we look at Samuel Morse (who went to the Louvre every day for more than two years) and other 19th century artists who moved abroad to establish their career. Among those covered are James McNeil Whistler, Henry Ossawa Turner, John Singer Sargent, and Mary Cassatt.

*Katherine Zoraster is a contextual art historian with a Bachelor of Arts from UCLA and a Master of Arts from CSUN. In her teaching career, she has been an adjunct Professor of Art History at several local community and 4-year colleges. Currently, she is the Art History instructor at the Los Angeles Academy of Figurative Art and is finding joy and fulfillment in teaching through several Lifelong Learning programs. Zoraster's approach to the history of art is to give a full picture of how and why a work of art is a reflection of its specific time period.*

## **The Scramble for Africa: How the African Countries Got Their Shapes**

### **Class 1004 (Zoom)**

*Tuesday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/22-9/26)*

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Most of Africa was generally unknown to the rest of the world until the 1880s. Then, an ambitious and ruthless king from a minor European country “sparked” a rush for glory and riches that years later would be known infamously as the “Scramble for Africa.” The result was a carving up of the great continent, first into colonies and later nation-states that generally ignored the cultures and histories of its indigenous peoples. We will examine the roots and legacy of the Scramble, specifically how the map of Africa evolved into the configuration we recognize today.

*L. Jon Grogan, Ph.D., earned a BA in Political Science from Tufts University, an MA in History from the University of San Diego, and a Ph.D. in History from Loyola University, Chicago. Also, he served 21 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring as a major. He has taught for Osher programs at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and Tufts University. Additionally, he has taught at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, worked with several museums and historical associations, and judged at National History Day competitions at the local, state, and national levels.*

## **Dawn of the Earliest Humans**

### **Class 1005 (CSUCI Library/Zoom & In-Person)**

*Wednesday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/23-9/27)*

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This course examines the fossil evidence for the early members of the genus Homo (humans), dating from about 2.8 million years ago to about 300 thousand years ago. Fossil evidence for early human species, such as Homo rudolfensis, Homo habilis, Homo erectus/ergaster, and more, are investigated. In addition, we explore the earliest stone tool and bone tool technologies, examine the significance of the controlled use of fire and long distance walking and running in human evolution, and consider the significance of iconic fossil specimens and fossil sites, such as Oldupai (Olduvai) Gorge in Tanzania, the Turkana Boy fossil of Kenya, Zhoukoudian and the “Peking Man” fossil of China, the Dmanisi fossils of the Republic of Georgia, Sima de los Huesos (the Pit of Bones) in Spain, and the Rising Star Cave system of South Africa, among others.

***Matthew (Matt) Curtis, Ph.D.**, is a broadly trained anthropological archaeologist specializing in the Holocene archaeology of Eastern Africa. Matt has conducted archaeological research in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, and the United States, is a former National Science Foundation grantee, and is the founder and director of Eastern African Archaeology Online. He is a lecturer in the Anthropology program and faculty archaeologist for the Cultural Resource Management Team at CSUCI.*

## **Edgar Allen Poe: His Life and Writings**

### **Class 1006 (Zoom)**

*Wednesday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/23-9/27)*

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Edgar Allan Poe dreamt dreams that no mortal ever dared to dream before. Above all else, Poe fought all his life to advance the quality of literature in America. In this course participants will be challenged to dream what no mortals have ever dreamed before. In this literary odyssey one will discover how Poe defines poetry, how he advances the genre of science fiction, how he invents the detective story and the psychological horror tale, how he critiques his literary contemporaries, and even how he edits and rewrites a sentence. Participants will match wits with Poe on editing each week. If you long for hidden meanings, secret writings, discoveries of truth and beauty, psychological and Jungian interpretations, and the highest possible expressions of reading and writing, then this course leads you on this path, where no mortals have ever gone before.

***Paul Macek** has a bachelor's degree in both history and geography and a master's degree in both history and English. He has taught U.S. History and American Literature for over twenty-five years. He has also worked as a proofreader, copyeditor, indexer, translator, writer, and publisher for over thirty years. Paul Macek is the author of seven books: one on education, two on literature (one of which was a translation), and four on American history.*

## **The Land Down Under**

### **Class 1007 (SCIART/Zoom & In-Person)**

*Thursday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/24-9/28)*

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Welcome to the Land Down Under. This class will examine the geography, history, and culture of Australia, a country in which my wife Cris and I lived for over twelve years. In terms of culture, we will look at literature, music, art, sports and cuisine, as well as a brief lesson in Aussie English. The class will also include virtual tours of ten major Australian cities and surrounding geographical features (Darwin, Alice Springs, Cairns, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth) as well as an entire class on the history and culture of Australia's Aboriginal communities.

*Bill Garlington, Ph.D., has a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in History from UCLA and a Doctorate in Asian Studies and Sociology from the Australian National University. He has taught at all academic levels on three continents and carried out sociological/anthropological fieldwork in India. His main academic interests are the sociology of religion and the history of ideas.*

## **The Art of Abbott and Costello**

### **Class 1008 (Zoom)**

*Thursday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/24-9/28)*

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In 1941 a comedy team from the lower level depths of Burlesque reached number 3 at the national box office, became successful on radio, broke records selling war bonds, and played live venues all over the country—and eventually all over the world. How did they get there? How did these two very different men find each other and become one of the most successful acts in the history of show business? All of this and more will be answered by Nick Santa Maria, the author of the new book, **The Annotated Abbott and Costello: A Complete Viewers Guide to the Comedy Team and Their 38 Films.**

*Nicholas Santa Maria is an actor/teacher/author/playwright/singer/composer/lyricist/comedian/and all around nice guy. He has appeared on Broadway in Grease!, and for 5 years with Mel Brooks', **The Producers**. He has been performing professionally for 49 years! He has recently had a book published, **The Annotated Abbott and Costello**. He has taught for the OLLI Program since 2017.*

## Dante's Divine Comedy and Our Journey Towards Wholeness

### Class 1009 (Zoom)

Friday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/25-9/29)

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Dante's **Divine Comedy** is not an ancient, dead text but rather is alive and well. It invites readers to pursue the "examined life" within a spirit of "serious joy." In preparation for joining Dante's pilgrimage, we will initially explore C. S. Lewis's **A Grief Observed** as a Dante-connected, literary stretching exercise. The following five classes will focus on Inferno, Purgatorio, and Paradiso respectively. We will set our sights on specific moments in the Comedy that can assist us all, right here/right now, in seeing how the story serves readers as both a window and a mirror...welcome to the journey. Can't wait to share "glowing glimpses" of the Comedy created by "the most incomparable storyteller to ever set pen to paper" (Dorothy Sayers) with eager and earnest fellow reading pilgrims.

*Daniel Christian has taught Dante for over forty years. He has an M. A. in Theology from St. Mary's Seminary and University (Baltimore, 1983) and a B. A. in Theology/History from St. Ambrose College (Davenport, IA 1976). Also, he has delivered numerous public presentations on the Divine Comedy, mostly while living and teaching in Baltimore, MD. He taught high school religion and English for forty-three years. Finally, his new book **The Music of the Spheres Gone Acoustic: Bob and Pam Ortiz Sing the Soundtrack of Dante's Divine Comedy** will be released soon.*

## Broadway Deconstructed

### Class 1010 (Zoom)

Friday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 6-weeks (8/25-10/6, No Class 9/8)

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Step into the world of Broadway Musical Comedies with us! Join as we explore and explain clips of opening numbers, signature songs of main characters, blockbusters, supporting character songs, and the ten o'clock numbers from famous and lesser-known shows. We'll label each section for easy navigation: "Another Opening Another Show" (Opening Numbers), "I'm the Greatest Star" (Leading Character Numbers), "I Can't Say No" (Supporting Character Numbers), "Lullaby of Broadway" (Showstopper), and "Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat" (Ten O'Clock Number). And as an added bonus, we'll reveal some captivating "End of Act One" numbers that leave the audience wanting more. Don't miss this magical journey through the world of Broadway Musicals!

*Sam and Candy Caponegro are passionate about American musicals. They met in a musical and have acted, co-directed, and taught theater courses for over 40 years. Their base is Rutgers University OLLI, but they have lectured on Princess Cruise Lines, at libraries, senior centers, and universities throughout the United States. Their motto: If music be the food of life, let's gorge ourselves!*



# Policies and Information

## Key Dates

- Monday, August 7th, enrollment begins at 8:30 AM.
- Monday, August 21st, Fall I session begins
- CSUCI observes Labor Day as a holiday; there will be no class on September 4th.

## Levels of Enrollment

- **Basic Enrollment:** Pay \$60 for each 6-week class you wish to enroll in.
- **Session Enrollment:** Take unlimited courses per session for \$150 for individuals or \$200 for couples.

## Non-Refundable Annual Membership Fee

The Osher Lifelong Learning Foundation requires participants to become members of their local affiliate. For OLLI at CSUCI, this fee is \$15, which is paid once per academic year at the student's first session.

## Vaccine Policy

COVID-19 vaccine and booster are highly recommended for all in-person classes.

## OLLI Fee Assistance Program

A portion of OLLI member donations are used to help members who need financial assistance to participate in courses. If you have a hardship in paying fees, please contact [OLLI@csuci.edu](mailto:OLLI@csuci.edu) to explain your situation and to identify the course you are interested in taking.

## Enrollment Options

- **Online:** The link to register online will be sent out prior to the registration date.
- **Phone:** For the first week of enrollment, registration via telephone will take place on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10AM-12PM. Please call (805) 437-2748 option 2 during those hours. Please have the 4-digit course number(s) found in the catalog for the courses you wish to take. We are not able to take credit card payments by phone.

To drop a course prior to the class, please call (805) 437-2748 option 2 or email [OLLI@csuci.edu](mailto:OLLI@csuci.edu) for further assistance. You should receive a confirmation email to show that your drop request was completed.

## Payment Options

- **Online Credit Card:** Pay using a credit card during online enrollment. Convenience fees will not be applied.
- **Check:** Mail a check, payable to CSUCI with "OLLI" in the memo line, to CSUCI, One University Drive, Sage Hall 2109, Camarillo, CA 93012.

## LOCATION OF CLASSES



Studio Channel Islands Art Center (SCIART) at the Blackboard Gallery  
2222 E. Ventura Blvd, Camarillo, CA 93010



California State University Channel Islands  
John Spoor Broome Library Room # 2325  
One University Dr  
Camarillo, CA 93012



The College of Law - Ventura Campus (COLV)  
4475 Market St  
Ventura, CA 93003

## **CONTACT OLLI**

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