



FALL 2026 NEWSLETTER

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- Dates to Remember
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Society for Lifelong Learning at WKU (SLL)

2355 Nashville Road

Bowling Green, KY 42101

Phone: 270-745-1912 or 270-745-2640 | Email: SLL@WKU.EDU

Fall Term Dates: September 14 – November 6

**REGISTRATION FOR FALL TERM
BEGINS
TUESDAY, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM
(ONLINE AND IN PERSON)**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Society for Lifelong Learning at WKU (SLL) is a university-supported membership organization whose mission is to provide opportunities for adults 50 and better to further their knowledge in both academic and recreational pursuits and to share their experiences and interests with other members.

Fees

Annual Membership **\$200 (Fall 2026 and Spring 2027 Terms)**

Single Term membership **\$125 (Fall 2026 Term)**

Annual and Single Term members may attend unlimited SLL classes, activities, and events. Additional fees may apply for travel programs and some course materials.

Flex Membership **\$25 (Fall 2026 Term, plus a per-class charge)**

Flex members pay a per-class fee (varies by course). Flex members may also attend SLL activities and events. Additional fees may apply for travel programs and some course materials.

WKU Masking Guidelines

Masks are optional on WKU's campus. Members of the WKU Community are encouraged to continue to engage in safety measures they feel best protect themselves, including wearing masks if they so choose.

Locations

Most SLL classes are offered at the Knicely Conference Center, 2355 Nashville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101. The conference center is easily accessible and has an abundance of free parking available to SLL. Some classes may take place off-site at various locations within the community.

**Join SLL or Renew your membership at wku.edu/sll/membership.php
or by calling the SLL office at 270-745-1912 or 270-745-2640**

An Experience to Remember



Join us at **The Bistro** for a special SLL evening event with
Bowling Green's Celebrity Chef Saša Mandrapa.

Saša is the Executive Chef and Owner of The Bistro, Novo Dolce,
Pub by Novo, Burger n' Bowl, and Toro.

Saša will guide us through a curated menu, which will include some
of his favorite dishes. He will share with us a little of his story and
gladly take questions from the attendees.

This is an exclusive event for SLL Members and SLL Instructors only.

The Bistro

1129 College Street

Tuesday, October 6th

More details coming soon!

This event will include a special curated menu and a beverage (non-alcoholic). Bar
beverages will be available at an extra charge. Each attendee will receive an individual
bill from your server at the end of the evening.

Due to limited seating, your RSVP to the SLL office is required by September 29th.

What's Your Story?

**Thursday, October 8 and
Wednesday, October 28
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

This “class” requires **no registration**.

Just show up.

The two gatherings are a great way to get to know
your fellow SLL members!

Four volunteers per gathering will present prepared
(but informal) life stories. Each will be approximately.
15 minutes with five minutes for questions.

This was very popular when we first introduced it in Fall
2025. Let's make it a fall term tradition!

So, who's next?

Contact the SLL office, 270-745-2640 or SLL@WKU.EDU, and
let Karen know if you are willing to share.

We can't wait to hear from you!

Travel: Let's Talk about 2027 & 2028 Trips with SLL and Collette

Wednesday, October 7th at 3:30 p.m.

Join us for an informal meeting which will include a presentation about the two 2027 trips for SLL members and friends. Then let's discuss where to go in 2028. Patrick Kinsella from Collette Travel will be here to present the information and answer questions. If you have friends and family who like to travel, they are welcome to attend this meeting with you. This meeting does not conflict with any SLL classes.

**REGISTRATION FOR FALL TERM
BEGINS**
TUESDAY, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM
(ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

Before registering for classes, keep in mind:

- You must be an active SLL member to register for classes. We recommend joining or renewing in advance to make class sign up go quicker
- Some classes will be meeting at the same time; please only sign up for one of them
- If a class is full, we recommend that you get on the waitlist in case someone drops out
- If you sign up for a class and then find you cannot attend, let us know and we will drop you from the roster (cannot be done online)
- Make a list of classes you like and review it before signing up
- Check dates and times of classes for conflicts with appointments and other obligations
- Ask us about a class if you need more information
- Get ready to have a fun term with your SLL friends!

Fall 2026 Term Course Guide

A Heritage Tour: The African American Museum

The African American Museum was created in 2006 to preserve and celebrate the lost vibrant communities of Shake Rag and Jonesville and the contributions their black culture made to Bowling Green. This visit to the museum will include a short video presentation and a tour led by AAM Board Member Howard Bailey. He will share his knowledge of the museum, our past and present black community, and their successes through the years.

- Instructor: Howard Bailey
- Day & Dates: Friday, October 9 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: African American Museum, 1783 Chestnut Street

Instructor Bio:

Howard Bailey retired as Vice President of Student Affairs at WKU after more than 40 years of service to the university. He has been an active part of SLL since before the first term of classes. He is on the SLL Curriculum Committee and serves on the board of the African American Museum. He has taught many SLL classes on Black History and Racial Conflict. Howard looks forward to giving SLL members an insider look into Bowling Green's rich black history and its impact in our community and beyond.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Acrylic Pour Painting: Creating Chameleon Cells

Join the fun as we learn to create colorful artwork using thinned acrylic paint and silicone oil. Using multiple colors of your choice, we will turn white canvas into stunning colorful masterpieces.

- Instructor: Krystol Stinson
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 29 (one session)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knically Conference Center
- Supply Fee: \$10 (register separately for the fee for this class)

Instructor Bio:

Krystol Stinson was active in the US Navy and now, does what she wants to do. In 2013, she earned a degree in creative writing and history from WKU.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Fall Term Dates: Sept. 14 – Nov. 6

All About Medicare

This class will present an overview of Medicare parts A, B, C & D, including the enrollment periods and various plan options. The information will smooth the process for an individual signing on for the first time and will also be helpful to Medicare veterans as well.

- Instructor: Kim Fry Johnson
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, October 14 (one session)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knically Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Kim Fry Johnson has worked in the insurance industry for 25 years, including with Cigna as a manager for 13 years. She is the owner of Medicare Plan Advisor, LLC.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

An Introduction to Elder Law

Elder Law is the practice of law that focuses on planning for periods of incapacity and long-term care. We will discuss the three basic legal documents that address times of incapacity: Power of Attorney, Health Care Surrogate, and Living Will. Another important part of elder law is planning for long-term care, so this course will also cover how to find high-quality care where you want it, when you need it, and how to get it paid for it with Medicare, Medicaid, and available VA benefits.

- Instructor: Misty Clark Vantrease
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 15 – 22 (two sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knically Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Misty Clark Vantrease is a partner at Kentucky ElderLaw, PLLC. She assists clients with legal document drafting and long-term care planning. She is a graduate of Murray State University, Brandeis School of Law at U of L, and Stetson University.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Arrr... Female Pirates: Swashbuckling Women

Ahoy! Permission granted to board the Good Ship WKU-SLL where both famous and infamous seafaring women await you. They are excited and eager to share their lives through sea shanty songs, video clips, and images. So, dust off your pirate gear, practice your favorite jokes, and come join this motley crew on daring high seas adventures!

- Instructor: Sandra Hazelton
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 13 – November 3 (four sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knically Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Sandra Hazelton and her husband Bruce relocated to Bowling Green in late 2015. They joined SLL in spring 2016 and have enjoyed being active members, instructors, and serving on committees. Sandra's teaching background has helped her create a variety of very interesting classes for SLL members.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$36

Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Everyday Life

This course introduces artificial intelligence (AI) in clear, practical terms. It focuses on how AI shows up in daily life, how to use common AI tools safely, and how to spot risks such as misinformation. This course emphasizes hands-on use, everyday applications, and accessible explanations rather than technical detail. By the end of the course, participants will be able to 1) explain AI in plain language, 2) use AI for simple tasks like drafting text and finding information, 3) recognize common risks such as privacy concerns and misinformation, and 4) use AI ethically.

- Instructor: Diane McDonald
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, October 14 – 28 (three sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center
- Recommended: Google AI Certificate (Details will be given in class)

Instructor Bio:

Diane McDonald is Assistant Professor of Advertising and Public Relations at WKU, specializing in the strategic and ethical applications of Generative AI. With a career spanning leadership roles in digital media and institutional brand strategy, she brings a wealth of real-world experience to the classroom. Her teaching philosophy centers on making complex technology accessible, practical, and meaningful for everyday users.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

Aviation Overview

This class will present an overview of aviation engineering concepts and practices, including an introduction to topics such as aviation safety, aircraft performance, stability, and control. Participants will have a chance to ask “that question you always wondered about.”

- Instructor: Steve Grohsmeyer
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 1 (one session)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Steve Grohsmeyer is a former military pilot and experimental test pilot. He holds a Masters in AeE. He is currently an aerobatic pilot with 52 years in aviation.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Fall Term Dates: Sept. 14 – Nov. 6

Baker Hill: A Mansion, the Civil War, Fires, and a Restaurant

The history of Baker Hill in Bowling Green will be covered, from the 1840s until today, including Mary Baker's ten children and the city fathers who have been involved in that history. Her house, which was considered a mansion by many who visited it, became a restaurant, suffered fires, and survived the Civil War.

- Instructor: Bruce Hazelton
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 13 – November 3 (four sessions)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Bruce Hazelton is two terms shy of having been part of SLL since the beginning. Once he and his wife Sandra joined, he has been an active part of the program. He has taught and facilitated numerous classes for SLL. This will be his first class on Bowling Green history, which he has had great interest in and researched in depth. After passing the Baker Hill site almost daily, he was determined to find out all he could to present the full story in a class for SLL.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$36

Basics of Bug-Out Bags

Circumstances may require a quick exit from your home to a place of safety, making a grab bag of essentials a priority. Or you may need to get home following an emergency. Either way, bug-out/bug-in bags are easy to prepare and a necessity. This will be a hands-on demonstration and talk about them.

- Instructors: Richard Thornton, Mike Breen
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 27 (one session)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Richard Thornton has many years of experience in the wilderness. **Mike Breen** does not but has been studying and planning for preparedness for 10 years.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Beginner Line Dance

Got two left feet? Don't know the steps? If you can count to four, then get on the floor! Be ready to shake a leg at that next wedding reception. Join in the fun at Concerts in the Park. We'll learn the most common dances you see at music events: Electric Slide, Cupid Shuffle, Mustang Sally and more!

Dancing is great for mental and physical fitness. Come on! Don't be a wallflower!

- Instructor: Belle Rush
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, September 15 – 29, October 20 – November 3 (six sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: South Campus Building, former café area
- NOTE: This class will not meet on October 6 and 13

Instructor Bio:

Belle Rush is a WKU graduate and a retired elementary school teacher who is addicted to pickleball. She is a wife, mother, and grandmother and stays as active as possible to keep all her brain cells going and healthy.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$54

Beginner/Intermediate Watercolor Painting Using Workbooks

Join us for a fun and relaxing class using watercolor workbooks with 12 projects that include step-by-step instructions, suggestions for a color palette, and outlined sketches on watercolor paper. Each week, you will complete one project in class, with additional instructions on techniques from the course instructor, and have one project as homework. This course is appropriate for beginner or intermediate painters.

- Instructor: Sonia Young
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16 – October 21(six sessions)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center
- Supply Fee: \$20 (register separately for the fee for this class, covers cost of watercolor workbook and paint set used for this class, fee is reduced if you already have the paint set from a previous class)

Instructor Bio:

Sonia Young is a physical therapist and tenured professor at WKU in the Physical Therapy Department. Outside the classroom, she channels her creativity into watercolor painting and pottery. She enjoys sharing her artistic skills with others, offering fun and approachable classes.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$54

Beginning Bridge

If you have never played bridge before, or even played cards, this course will cover the basics. No prior knowledge is necessary. Bridge is one of those wonderful games where you can keep getting better and better the longer you play. And it's great for improving memory and thinking skills. The goal of this 5-session course is to allow you to play socially with friends and family, keep improving for as long as you care to do so, and enjoy playing competitive bridge if your interest leads in that direction.

- Instructor: Ronn Kistler, Deane Oliva, Don Fisher
- Day & Dates: Thursday, September 17 – October 15(five sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Ronn Kistler has played Bridge since he was old enough to hold onto the cards. He loves teaching the game to others, loves the experience of lifelong learning at a hobby he enjoys, and plays weekly with the Bowling Green Duplicate Bridge Club. Though retired, **Deane Oliva** is currently the Spiritual Care Lead for the American Red Cross in the Kentucky Region. She has been a bit of a bridge addict since college. She is a member of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and loves teaching bridge basics. **Don Fisher** is the owner and director of the local sanctioned Bridge Club. He has been playing bridge for 58 years and has been a qualified director for 39 years. In reopening the Club, he hopes to get more players into the game and restoring bridge to its once relevant position in Bowling Green.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$45

REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES BEGINS TUES, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM (ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY Fall 2026

Discover Downtown Bowling Green through an exclusive SLL experience. These five behind-the-scenes classes invite participants into eight unique downtown businesses to create, stretch, taste, and build alongside local experts. Each two-hour class rotates small groups through immersive activities. Some of these classes offer hands-on learning and a take-home creation capturing downtown's creativity, craft, and community. All of these class sessions will have you leaving them knowing more about our downtown local businesses.

NOTE: *Due to the limited enrollment size of these downtown sessions, we ask that you only register for sessions that you are certain you will attend. Participant limits are listed with each session.*

Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Blooms & Bites

Roll up your sleeves for hands-on Downtown experiences at the new Houchens Small Business Accelerator! Learn a new culinary skill during a fun cooking class at The Food School (Brazilian Cheese Bread), then tap into your creative side with a floral design workshop at SoKY Floral Exchange, where you will create a beautiful project to take home. Participants will be in split groups and rotate to both locations.

- Day & Dates: Friday, September 18 (one session)
- Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Downtown Bowling Green
- Participant Limit: 20
- Fees: \$20 for cooking class portion; \$20 for floral design portion (to be paid to each business the day of class)

Instructor Bio:

The Food School and SoKY Floral Exchange instructors will be introduced on the day of this class.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Building a Better BG

Take a behind-the-scenes look at the people, projects, and partnerships making Bowling Green an even better place. A Better BGKY, Inc. is the City's 501c3 nonprofit. Hear about new Downtown Improvement Grant opportunities, Riverfront Park news, ways to volunteer at City events and programs, exciting events on the horizon with the City's Community Engagement division – all while learning how residents can get involved.

- Day & Dates: Monday, September 21 (one session)
- Time: 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Neighborhood & Community Services (Community Room), 707 E Main
- Participant Limit: 40

Instructor Bio:

Participating presenters for this class will be introduced during the session.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Sparkle & Stretch

A little wellness, a little wonder! Enjoy a gentle, beginner-friendly chair yoga class at Lucky Dog Yoga focused on relaxation, flexibility, and healthy movement. Then step behind the scenes at Morris Jewelry for an exclusive tour of the metalworking shop, where you'll discover the craftsmanship behind fine jewelry and hear stories of Bowling Green history hidden among the treasures. Participants will be in split groups and rotate to both locations.

- Day & Dates: Friday, September 25 (one session)
- Time: 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Downtown Bowling Green
- Participant Limit: 18

Instructor Bio:

Participating presenters for this class will be introduced during the session.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Light & Legacy

Discover the artistry behind two Downtown makers. Create your own custom candle at Candle Makers on the Square while learning about fragrance blending and candle pouring. Then enjoy an exclusive tour of Barbara Stewart Interiors' custom framing studio to see how artwork, photographs, and cherished keepsakes are beautifully preserved.

- Day & Dates; Monday, September 28 (one session)
- Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Downtown Bowling Green
- Participant Limit: 18
- Fees: \$10 for candle pour (to be paid to the business on the day of this session)

Instructor Bio:

Participating presenters for this class will be introduced during the session.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Hops & Grapes

Sample two of Downtown Bowling Green's favorite gathering spots. Enjoy a guided brewery tour and beer tasting at White Squirrel Brewery and a curated wine tasting at Staircase Wine Shop, Bowling Green's smallest and most charming boutique wine shop. Learn about the brewing and winemaking process while sampling a variety of flavors in relaxed settings.

- Day & Dates: Friday, October 2 (one session)
- 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Downtown Bowling Green
- Participant Limit: 18
- Fees: \$10 beer tasting fee; \$5 wine tasting fee (to be paid to the businesses on the day of this class)

Instructor Bio:

Participating presenters for this class will be introduced during the session.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9



BG 2050 Comprehensive Plan: Planning for Growth

The BG 2050 Comprehensive Planning process includes an in-depth look at statistics and community preferences in the areas of Economy, Land Use & Development, Infrastructure, Transportation, Housing, Community Facilities, and Natural & Cultural Resources. This one-session class will provide an overview of the process and timeline with a focus on trends, growth statistics & patterns, and housing needs, including factors that play a role in costs, location, and variety of housing types. What do we want the future to look like? Discussion will be welcomed and encouraged.

- Instructor: Ben Peterson
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16 (one session)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Ben Peterson has over 25 years' experience in local government with a career focusing on Planning and Geographic Information Systems and has spent the last decade as Executive Director of the City-County Planning Commission of Warren County. He is responsible for the operations and oversight of all planning, zoning, and GIS of Warren County and the five incorporated cities. He is part of the BG 2050/What Could BG Be? steering committee and leads the effort to develop the BG 2050 Comprehensive Plan.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

BG Resource Connections Village Update

The BG Resource Connections Village is a non-profit group of volunteers and staff, who disseminate information, answer questions, and refer people to vetted service providers—coordinating area resources for older adults who want to age well in place and remain active in our community. The Village Movement encourages seniors to help each other navigate the challenges of the aging process. Come learn about the new benefits of being a part of BGRC Village.

- Instructor: Maryanne Datesman
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16 (one session)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Maryanne Datesman taught in and administered English as a Second Language programs in several universities. She is a founding member and Vice President of the BG Resource Connections Village, a non-profit dedicated to empowering older adults to thrive in their homes and remain active in their communities.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Bowling Green Tour: BGFD Training Facility

Participants will tour the new training facility for the Bowling Green Fire Department. There will also be a fire extinguisher demonstration and a “close before you doze” demonstration.

- Instructor: Mike Breen, Facilitator
- Day & Dates: Monday, September 14 (one session)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Bowling Green Fire Department Training Facility, 250 Porter Pike

Instructor Bio:

BG Firefighters will introduce themselves during the tour.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Child Behavior Management for Grandparent

What You Wish Your Own Children Knew

Participants will watch video exercises from the SOS book and kit and receive a handout. You will be asked a series of questions about each video. The instructor will focus on children ages 2-12.

- Instructor: Lynn Clark
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 13 – 20 (two sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Lynn Clark is a retired licensed clinical psychologist with 49 years’ experience and a retired WKU professor of 37 years. He has also taught as an Adjunct Professor of Education for Boston University in Germany, where he lived for 12 months with his two sons. Lynn has extensive professional experience in community mental health centers, hospitals, counseling centers, and community agencies. He is the author of the SOS series of books, including SOS Help for emotions and SOS Help for Parent.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Classical, Gothic, and Modern: Themes in Western Architecture

Classical, Gothic and Modern architectural styles represent three of the major themes in the history of Western architecture. This class will explore the origins and major elements of all three styles, their impact on architecture and architects (with an emphasis on the United States), and their political and moral associations.

- Instructor: Eileen Starr, Tim Evans
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, September 15 – 29 (three sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Eileen Starr has worked widely as an architectural historian and historic preservationist. She has an M.A. in History from Colorado State University with an emphasis on historic preservation. **Tim Evans** taught Folklore classes at WKU for many years. He has a Ph.D. in Folklore and American Studies from Indiana University. Both Starr and Evans taught American Architectural History at WKU.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

Considering the Mid-Term Election

You are invited to join a conversation among SLL members about the mid-term elections this fall. We will meet a few days before the election for an open discussion about how the political winds seem to be blowing on election eve, then reconvene after the election for another open discussion about what actually happened.

- Instructor: David Lee, John Parker
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 29 – November 5 (two sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

David Lee was a member of the WKU History Department and is currently Provost Emeritus and University Historian. **John Parker** was a member of the Political Science Department at WKU for 36 years.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Contemporary Southern Novelists

Last spring, SLL hosted three Kentucky novelists, and now we are pleased to welcome #1 New York Times bestselling and award-winning Nashville novelist Sharon Cameron, who will lead a discussion of *The Light in Hidden Places*, the true story of Stefania Podgorska, a Polish teenager who risked her life to hide thirteen Jewish neighbors in her attic during WWII. A Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick, this novel has been published in 19 countries around the world.

- Instructor: M Hendrix (aka Molly McCaffrey), Facilitator, Sharon Cameron, Novelist
- Day & Dates: Thursday, September 17 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center
- Required: *The Light in Hidden Places* may be purchased through the SLL office for \$15

Instructor Bio:

M Hendrix is the award-winning author of *The Chaperone*, *You Belong to Me*, and *How to Survive Graduate School*. She earned her MA from Miami University and her PhD from the University of Cincinnati. **Sharon Cameron** is the #1 NYT bestselling author of seven novels. Her books have won the Parents' Choice Gold Award, the Westchester Fiction Award, the Junior Library Guild's Gold Standard Award as well as starred reviews from Booklist, SLJ, BookPage, and Kirkus.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Declining Health of a Loved One: What do I Need to Know?

In this class, we will discuss various options to care for a family member or friend with “life-limiting” conditions. Topics include palliative care for early preparation and support; the importance of completing advance directives and living wills; home health, assisted living, and long-term care considerations; funeral preparations and decisions to consider; what Hospice care is; and grief support.

- Instructor: Scott Stivers, Facilitator
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, September 15 – 29 and October 13 – 20 (five sessions)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center and Hospice House
- **NOTE:** This class will not meet on October 6 (WKU Fall Break)

Instructor Bio:

Scott Stivers has been the Director of Business Development at Hospice of SOKY for five years. He has past sales experience in the pharmaceutical industry. He has put together this class with local experts on the various topics regarding end-of-life care. He has a desire to educate others in advance of a life event with a loved one.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$45

Four Religions with Just War Doctrines

Pope Leo's denunciation of the war in Iran and the US administration's rebuttals raise questions about where major religions stand on starting and conducting war. Is it justified? If so, under what conditions? What ethical constraints should be used during war? How should the conflict be resolved? In this class, we will consider not only Christian formulations but also those of Judaism, Buddhism, and Islam.

- Instructors: Tim Brotherton, Olin Joynton
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, September 22, 23, & 24 (three sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bios:

Tim Brotherton lives in Auburn with his wife Susan. He is both a retired Infantry officer and a retired associate professor. He loves researching military history and is currently studying WWII. He spends his time reading, walking, traveling, and visiting his children and grandchildren in Michigan. **Olin Joynton** taught philosophy at community colleges in Texas and Wyoming before coming in 2004 as president of Alpena Community College in Michigan. After retiring in 2015, he and his wife Patricia have roamed to be near family, arriving in 2026 to enjoy life in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

Fresh Approaches to the Bible

This class is a contrarian approach to the Bible that brings to light scripturally based interpretations you have not and will not hear from the pulpit. It will include details on where the Bible comes from, the Bible as history (hint: it's not), criticisms of Church doctrine such as the atonement, alternative readings of stories such as the Fall, and a deep dive into the Gospel of John. Not for the fainthearted.

- Instructor: Mike Breen
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16 – October 21 (six sessions)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Mike Breen has an M.A.R. degree from Reformed Theological Seminary (2014) and has been reading in comparative religion and mythology for 35 years.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$54

From Passion to Profit

Join Angie from AG Needleworks for a practical look at opening and operating a local needlepoint store. This course focuses on the reality of running a woman-owned small business, including managing supply and demand, navigating industry challenges, and building a sustainable operation. Learn what it takes behind the scenes to turn a passion into a viable retail business.

- Instructor: Angie Geron
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 13 and Friday, October 16 (two sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center (Oct. 13), AG Needleworks, 850 B 31W Bypass (Oct. 16)

Instructor Bio:

For **Angie Geron**, AG Needleworks is deeply personal. Rooted in a family tradition of needlepoint, she built her business to share that experience with others - helping families create meaningful, lasting heirlooms to pass down through generations to come.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Geopolitics in a Changing World

This is a two-session class. Session One: *The United Kingdom or Not? How the Political Organization of the U.K. Evolved* This session examines the evolution of the various parts of the United Kingdom and explores the political structure of the country and explains differences between the U.S. and U.K. systems. Session Two: *Nationalism or Patriotism? What Leads to Fractured Countries?* Ww will explore the difference between these two forces geopolitically and offers examples of how political states can collapse into conflict when either of these two forces overwhelms the other.

- Instructor: David Keeling
- Day & Dates: Tuesday & Thursday, November 3 & 5 (two sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

David Keeling is the Distinguished Professor of Cultural Geography, Emeritus, at WKU. He travels the world as an expedition lecturer for a private company. He has visited all the world's official political states except North Korea and has explored over 2,500 destinations across all six inhabited continents.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Gold Leafing: Oh, the Possibilities!

Gold Leafing is an ancient decorative technique used through the ages. Gold was hammered into thin sheets and then applied to various surfaces from jewelry to death masks to King Tut's burial tomb. It is now used to create eye-catching accents to modern pieces. Bring your item to gold leaf for the first session to be approved by the instructor. She will also give a demonstration. Sessions two and three will be for you to learn and complete your piece. A small supply fee will be charged to cover what is needed to embellish your piece(s) in class.

- Instructor: Judi Adams
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, October 14 – 28 (three sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center
- Supply Fee: \$12 (register separately for the fee for this class)

Instructor Bio:

Judi Adams is a Kentucky native with a BA and MA from WKU. She taught in Kentucky for 27 years then moved to Florida where she taught adults for 20 years at the recreation area of The Villages in Florida.
Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

Habitat for Humanity BG: Tornado Response

This class will be a presentation on the state of housing in Bowling Green before the 2021 tornado hit our community, the impact and aftermath, and how Habitat decided to respond for disaster recovery.

- Instructor: Marcie Wheeler
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 1 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Marcie Wheeler has worked at Habitat for Humanity since 2017. She began her work with Habitat as Assistant Manager in the ReStore and moved into the office in early 2022, shortly after the tornado. She is now the Mission Engagement Director and works closely with partner families, coordinates volunteers, and does advocacy work.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Health Care Financing

In this class, you will learn the history of health care financing, hear about the public and political influences of health care. You will also take part in a discussion of the impact of the factors influencing medical practice.

- Instructor: Carrie Morgan
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, October 28 – November 4 (two sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Carrie Morgan holds a PhD in Nursing Education and has taught health care financing at WKU and the University of Louisville. She also holds a minor in Political Science and has authored chapters on Health Care Financing in Public Health text.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Historic Preservation in Bowling Green and Warren County

This two-session course focuses on the history of the local historic preservation movement from the early twentieth century to the present. The first session covers the historic preservation movement in general and the second will be an on-site tour at Kinlock, the most significant residential restoration project ever attempted in Warren County.

- Instructor: Nick Rabold
- Day & Dates: Tuesday & Thursday, September 15 & 17 (two sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center (Sept. 15), Kinlock, north end of Church Avenue (Sept. 17)

Instructor Bio:

Nick Rabold is a lifetime preservationist and the President of the Landmark Trust of Bowling Green and Warren County.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Homestyle Thai Cooking Class

Learn to prepare an authentic meal traditional to northeast Thailand (Isaan region). We will use some traditional tools, learn a little bit of language and culture, and sit down to eat the full meal together.

Menu: Sticky Rice, Chicken Satay, Peanut Sauce, Spicy Papaya Salad. All ingredients and equipment (including aprons) will be provided.

- Instructor: Anna Kulka
- Day & Dates: Monday, October 26 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (extended time)
- Location: The Food School, 348 College Street, #150
- Secondary Registration Required: After signing up for this class with SLL, you will be sent a registration link to complete the registration for this class. There is a \$50 fee due to participate in this class. You will also be asked if you have food allergies so the chef can make the necessary accommodations for you.
- **NOTE:** Flex members pay no course fee for this class but must do secondary registration.

Instructor Bio:

Anna Kulka grew up in Thailand and has studied Spanish and Arabic and is passionate about the international community. She was a classroom teacher for many years and uses those skills to teach international cooking classes as owner and head instructor at The Food School.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$0

REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES BEGINS TUES, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM (ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

Insurance Clinic: Personal Risk Management

You have spent your lifetime acquiring your stuff, now it's time to protect it. Proper insurance coverages are a form of personal risk management - don't count on someone else to do it for you. This two-session class provides expert guidance from an attorney and an insurance agent. It will cover home, auto, life, long-term care, and travel insurance. This is great information to also share with your kids and grandkids!

- Instructor: Mike Breen, Curt Gammons
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, September 22-29 (two sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Mike Breen has been suing insurance companies for over 40 years. His book on the subject has been cited as authoritative by the Kentucky Supreme Court. **Curt Gammons** is a veteran insurance agent with State Farm.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Japanese Civilian Internment 1942-1946

During World War II, starting in February 1942, the United States established restricted zones along the Pacific coast for national defense, ultimately leading to the forced relocation of 120,000 people—mostly American citizens—to interior internment camps. This seminar will examine the justifications and mechanisms behind this relocation, exploring the harsh conditions within the camps and the devastating losses of business, real estate, and personal savings experienced by these civilians during this unfortunate period of American history.

- Instructor: Tim Brotherton
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 30 – October 7 (two sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Tim Brotherton is retired from the US Infantry and from WKU. He lives in Auburn with his wife Susan. Currently, he is working on US military history and WWII, particularly the Pacific War. His hobbies include travel, visiting family and reading.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Fall Term Dates: Sept. 14 – Nov. 6

Medical Ethics Case Studies

Local physicians Carl Dobson, John Fitts, and Joe Gass will discuss examples in their practice where ethical issues arose, taking care to respect the privacy of patients and their families. Class members are encouraged to bring forward examples from their own experiences of receiving medical care. Topics include beginning/end of life care, investigative medicine, physician judgements different from patient/family member wants, and many others emerging from class discussion.

- Instructors: Olin Joynton, Facilitator; Carl Dobson, John Fitts, Joe Gass
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, September 22 – 24 (three sessions in same week)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Carl Dobson MD Medical College of Alabama, Fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City. retired from OB/GYN practice in Bowling Green. Member of the American College of Obstetrics & Gynecology. **John Fitts** MD Vanderbilt University. Retired from cardiology practice in Bowling Green. President of American Heart Association Kentucky affiliate. President of medical staff Medical Center. **Joseph Gass** MD University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences and Tripler Army Medical Center. OB/GYN practice at Army Hospitals in Georgia and California. Current OB/GYN practice since 1997 with Graves Gilbert Clinic in Bowling Green. Certified by The American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology since 1994. **Olin Joynton** PhD Rice University. Taught philosophy (including medical ethics) at community colleges in Texas and Wyoming. President of Alpena Community College in Michigan 2004-2015. Served on two hospital medical ethics committees.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

Meteorology: A Few Fundamentals

In the first session, we will discuss the Middle Latitude Cyclone - our weather system. You will be able to interpret its structure by reading surface weather maps (it is not that hard to do). In session two, we will explore types of severe weather that traverse our region. What to look for and how to prepare for it, will be covered. Weather can be deadly! "How does it kill thee? Let me count the ways."

- Instructor: Michael Trapasso
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 15 - 22(two sessions)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Michael Trapasso is an Emeritus Professor of Geography at WKU where he taught meteorology. In retirement, he is the Curator of the College Heights Weather Instrument Museum. Michael has walked seven continents and photographed significant and enigmatic geographical sites. He has also travelled all 50 states, studying the geography and history of America.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Museum Curatorship: An Initial Examination

This course will outline basic curatorial studies by examining the history, artwork, and writings of Joe Downing. Students will gain an appreciation of basic museum curatorship, including artwork, interpretation, exhibition techniques, analysis and critique, and public arts programming.

- Instructor: Jack LeSieur
- Day & Dates: Thursday & Friday, November 5 & 6 (two sessions)
- Time: 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. (Nov. 5), 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Nov. 6)
- Location: Knicely Conference Center (11/5) and Downing Museum at Baker Arboretum, 4801 Morgantown Road (11/6)

Instructor Bio:

Jack LeSieur is the Curator of Downing Museum in Bowling Green. Over the past 10 years, he has been involved with numerous arts and museum related organizations and enjoys sharing the life work and history of artist Joe Downing (1925-2007).

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

My Favorite Roman: Emperor Hadrian

This course explores the impact of Emperor Hadrian who ruled for 21 years (117-138CE) during the Antonine Period of the Roman Empire – his imperial shifts, his travels, his major architectural achievements, and his famous love triangle. He is recognized as one of the ‘Five Good Emperors’ who ruled justly and whose reign marked the height of the Roman Empire.

- Instructor: Jane Barthelme
- Day & Dates: Tuesday & Thursday, September 22 & 24 (two sessions in the same week)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Jane Barthelme has been an SLL member since 2015, has served on the SLL Advisory Board as both a member and as Chair. She holds a degree in Architecture and loves Ancient Rome and lemurs.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Navigating Retirement Income: Smart Withdrawal Strategies

This class will help you better understand tax rates and brackets, how to make tax-efficient withdrawals, and some effective strategies to use. What is IRMA and how do you avoid IRMA penalties? What is RMD and when should I worry about RMDs? Can you reduce your RMDs? We will work through common examples and then help you to develop your own strategies.

- Instructor: Gordon Buckman
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 22 (one session)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Gordon Buckman is Founder and CEO of Dollars & Sense Financial Fitness. He is a licensed Investment Advisor in 49 states and a Dave Ramsey Financial Master Training Coach. He holds a master’s degree in economics from WKU. He was also an engineer and manager of Eaton and Lord Manufacturing. He is a Bowling Green native and the husband of Kim Buckman.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Nursery Rhymes & English Churches: What do they have in Common?

Have you ever wondered about the true origins of your favorite childhood nursery rhymes? This course explores the surprising history behind classic verses and their deep connections to historic British churches. Together, we will uncover the real-world stories behind the lore and discover the actual burial sites of legendary figures like Mother Goose and Tom Thumb. Join us for a fun historic walk down a cobbled memory lane!

- Instructor: Krystol Stinson
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 22(one session)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Krystol Stinson was active in the US Navy and now, does what she wants to do. In 2013, she earned a degree in creative writing and history from WKU. She has taught numerous classes for SLL.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Opportunities at WKU: The Center for Gifted Studies and The Gatton Academy

The Center for Gifted Studies and The Gatton Academy offer opportunities for academically talented young people. This session will describe programming, qualifications, benefits, and recognitions of the programs and their graduates. The Center for Gifted Studies has offered programming for more than four decades. The Gatton Academy, now approaching its 20th year, has earned the title of America's top public high school from Newsweek.

- Instructor: Julia Link Roberts
- Day & Dates: Thursday, September 17 – 24 (two sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Julia Link Roberts is the executive director of The Center for Gifted Studies and The Gatton Academy. She is the Mahurin Professor of Gifted Studies at WKU.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES BEGINS TUES, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM (ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

Partners in Safety: A WCSO Showcase

This interactive course brings to life multiple facets of the Warren County Sheriff's Office. Four offsite sessions will take place over two weeks at the new WCSO Training Center:

Sept 21: Welcome, Orientation, Agency Overview, Site Tour, Static Displays

Sept 25: Training Center - Virtual Reality Training, Simunitions House, Unmanned Aircraft System

Sept 28: K9, Motor Demonstration, Traffic Stops

Oct 2: Criminal Investigations Department (CID), Mock Crime Scene, and Wrap-up

- Instructors: Brett Hightower and Staff
- Day & Dates: Monday & Friday, September 21, 25, 28, and October 2 (four sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Sugar Maple Square, 1347 KY-Hwy 185, Suite 1

Instructor Bio:

Brett Hightower has served Warren County as Sheriff since 2018. Prior to that, he was the Law Enforcement Coordinator for the United States Attorney office in Louisville, a Captain with the BGPD, and served 21 years in the military. Sheriff Hightower is a Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient, and a graduate of WKU.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$36

Personality: The Key to Understanding Yourself and Others

This session will explore the role personality plays in everyone's thoughts, feelings and behaviors. Emphasis will be on both personal introspection as well as enhancing the efficacy of your interactions with others. Implications for stress and time management as well as interpersonal communications and conflict resolution will be explored in an applications-oriented context.

- Instructor: Aaron Hughey
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 29 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Aaron Hughey is a University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs at Kentucky University. He has been teaching full-time since 1991.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Planet A: Threats and Opportunities

This course examines how overpopulation and climate change threaten our natural systems and human survival, while exploring ways to mitigate these long-term global threats.

- Instructor: Blaine Ferrell
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 20 – November 3 (three sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Blaine Ferrell is Dean Emeritus of Ogden College of Science and Engineering at WKU. He has served as President of the Kentucky Academy of Science and the Kentucky Ornithological Society.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

Poetry as Transcendence

Join these two nonprofessional poets and educators as we explore the transcendent nature of poetry. We will read several poems together and then be inspired to write our own versions of transcendent poetry.

- Instructors: Roxanne Spencer, Tim McGaughey
- Day & Dates: Thursday, November 5 (one session)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Roxanne Spencer retired from WKU Libraries in 2021. She loves in random order: tea, dogs, poetry, friends, reading, Spirit, and family. **Tim McGaughey** received his BA in Psychology from WKU in 1971. He loves music--especially jazz, his husband, his dog, baking for friends, and sharing poetry.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Policing and Technology

Policing looks vastly different today than it did two centuries ago. While the core mission to protect and serve remains the same, the methods have radically transformed. In this class, we will explore the digital-age tools reshaping law enforcement. We will also separate Hollywood fiction from reality by busting common forensic myths and uncovering the fascinating truths of modern investigation.

- Instructor: Ronnie Ward
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16 – 23 (two sessions)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Ronnie Ward is the Public Information Officer for the Bowling Green Police Department. He has served 19 years. He is married to wife, Debbie, and they have two children, Andrew and Hannah. Ronnie loves spending time with family and friends. He enjoys cooking, smoking meat, and beekeeping.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Fall Term Dates: Sept. 14 – Nov. 6

Preserving Family Archives

This workshop will focus on how to care for family photographs, bibles, letters and other family collections. We will offer tips on how to preserve these items for future generation by showing how to avoid the common enemies of all archives. Suggestions for best practices and where to obtain truly archival housing will be presented.

- Instructor: Nancy Richey, Joe Shankweiler
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, November 4 (one session)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Nancy Richey serves as the Special Formats Librarian for the Department of Library Collections and Discovery at WKU. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and WKU where she received degrees in Information Science and Southern History. She is responsible for instruction using the rare materials housed in our special collections library. **Joe Shankweiler** is the Special Collections Librarian in the Department of Library Collections and Discovery at WKU. He holds a Master of Library Science Degree (MLS) from Indiana University, Bloomington, and a M.A. in English Literature from James Madison University in Virginia. He is responsible for instruction using rare library materials, collection development, and overseeing library gallery exhibitions.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Spaceship Earth: A Planetarium Show

Though we feel like we are stationary as we stand on the Earth, we are hurtling through space at an incredible speed. This one-time event will explore the Earth's relationship to the cosmos around it, using the old Monty Python song lyrics from "Galaxy Song" and will take place at the WKU Hardin Planetarium.

Note: Due to the need to keep the interior of the planetarium dark for optimal viewing of the stars, participants will need to be punctual, as doors will be locked at showtime.

- Instructors: Ronn Kistler, Chris Chandler
- Day & Dates: Friday, September 18 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: WKU Hardin Planetarium, 1501 State Street

Instructor Bio:

Ronn Kistler retired from coordinating the WKU Planetarium in 2019. He co-designed the shows and was the chief presenter for all shows for school students, and the public for eight years. **Chris Chandler** is an astronomer and the coordinator for the WKU Planetarium since 2019. He designs and presents all planetarium shows for school students and for the public.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

The American Way of War: Chapter One, The Revolutionary War

Before achieving a military advantage, the United States developed its capabilities erratically. Innovation swung between global engagement and isolation. We will examine the evolution of early American military power, covering one phase each term. Our first chapter covers the 1775 militia forces to Shays' Rebellion in 1787. Through this series, we will analyze this progression across five core elements: strategy, tactics, leadership, logistics, and national military organization.

- Instructor: Tim Brotherton
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 13 – 20 (two sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Tim Brotherton is retired. He served in the US Army and at WKU. He and his wife Susan live in Auburn. His hobbies include traveling, visiting family, walking and reading military history & fiction.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

The Beautiful Sky Above Us

Beautiful things are around us, especially right above our heads. The goal of this class is to deepen your understanding of atmospheric science and change how you look at the sky. By learning how the atmosphere works, you will start to see wonders you have missed and may even see far more rainbows!

- Instructor: Chris Groves
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 1 – 15 (three sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Chris Groves is University Distinguished Professor of Hydrogeology at WKU. He loves exploring the vast, the dark underground spaces of Kentucky's fabulous cave systems is also a big fan of light and color in the above-ground world.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27

The Do's and Don'ts of Retirement

This class will explore practical strategies for making informed financial decisions during retirement. Participants will learn about common retirement pitfalls, ways to protect their savings, charitable contributions, common scams, and creating a legacy. This interactive course encourages discussion and provides practical tips to help retirees and those approaching retirement navigate this stage of life with greater confidence.

- Instructor: Dan Klein
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16, 23, October 14, 21 (four sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Dan Klein is a Certified Financial Planner and Certified Kingdom Advisor dedicated to helping individuals and families pursue financial confidence through values-based planning. Outside of the office, he enjoys time with his wife and their four children, creating lasting memories.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$36

The Hitchhiker's Guide to Being Human

Natural health educator Jerilyn Bristow returns with a fresh take on her popular series. We'll explore age-specific tools for gut health, brain function, heart health, joints, and more. But this series goes deeper: you'll also discover how your inner world, nervous system, and daily choices work together to support real, lasting wellness. No overhaul required. Just honest, doable steps toward vibrancy and connection.

- Instructor: Jerilyn Bristow
- Day & Dates: Thursday, September 17 – October 8 (four sessions)
- Time: 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Jerilyn Bristow has lived, worked, and studied the natural health industry for over thirty years. Her formal training in herbal studies, bodywork, and energy work sparked deeper study of how what we eat, what we take, and what we carry in our inner world all connect to how we feel. She loves helping others find their own path through the often-overwhelming world of natural wellness.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$36

The Mobility Check-Up You Didn't Know You Needed

Learn how an annual mobility screening can help you stay active, independent, and confident. The WKU Mobility Clinic offers free assessments of balance, strength, walking, flexibility, and fall risk, along with personalized recommendations to support healthy aging. Discover how early identification of mobility challenges can help prevent falls, improve quality of life, and keep you doing the activities you enjoy most.

- Instructor: Ashton McPherson
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 8 (one session)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Ashley McPherson is a Physical Therapist and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at WKU. A WKU alumna, she is passionate about community wellness initiatives in rural communities. She is a co-researcher at the WKU Mobility Clinic.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES BEGINS TUES, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM (ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

The Revival of Classical Education

The co-founder of the Chesterton Academy of Bowling Green, a classical Catholic high school opening fall 2026, will describe the rapid expansion of classical schools in the U.S., key features of classical education, and how these will inform the curriculum and student life at the Chesterton Academy of Bowling Green.

- Instructor: Gary Houchens
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 23 (one session)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Gary Houchens is professor and director of the educational leadership doctoral program at WKU. An experienced K-12 educator, Gary is chairman of the board of directors of the Chesterton Academy of Bowling Green.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

The Stone: Poems of Asia and the Stories Behind Them

These poems come from living in Malaysia in the mid-80s and from travels in Southeast Asia over the past 40 years. They are the instructor's attempt to answer the persistent question, "what was it like," to corner experience and make it say its name.

- Instructor: Joe Survant
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, October 27(one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Joe Survant is Professor Emeritus of English at WKU. He has published seven collections of poems.

Individual poems have been published in Malaysia, Singapore, China, Japan, the U.K., and widely in the U.S. He served as Kentucky Poet Laureate from 2002 – 2004.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

The Universe from My Driveway

Exploring our place in the universe from the point of view of an amateur astrophotographer. We will view and discuss images of deep-sky objects including galaxies, nebulae, star clusters, and comets, all taken through a telescope from my driveway.

- Instructor: Carlos Rotellar
- Day & Dates: Tuesday, September 15 (one session)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Carlos Rotellar is a physician specialized in Nephrology. He was born in Barcelona, Spain. He became interested in astrophotography after the solar eclipse of 2017. Since then, he has been taking photos of space objects with a telescope from his driveway.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

The Work of Connection: Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement

The first session of this class will be a guided tour of the WKU campus. We will walk uphill and across campus, so comfortable attire and shoes are recommended. In the second session, you will learn about the mission of WKU Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement - creating opportunities to transform lives. Explore how meaningful connections with alumni, donors, and friends of the university help advance WKU's priorities and create lasting impact for students, faculty, and the broader campus community.

- Instructor: Elizabeth Medley, Zack Marcum
- Day & Dates: Monday, September 28 & Tuesday, September 29 (two sessions)
- Time: 10:00 a.m. (Sept. 28), 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Sept. 29)
- Location: Martens Alumni Center, 292 Alumni Avenue (Sept. 28) and Knicely Conference Center (Sept. 29)

Instructor Bio:

Elizabeth Medley is Associate Director of Philanthropy & Alumni engagement at WKU. She works closely with alumni, donors, and friends of the university to identify opportunities where their philanthropic interests can make a lasting impact on WKU and its students. **Zack Marcum** is Associate Director for Alumni Engagement & Philanthropy at WKU and a doctoral candidate in Educational Leadership. Outside of work, he enjoys woodworking, photography, outdoor recreation, and tabletop gaming.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18



Travel Journals

Most sessions will feature a different presenter talking about their personal travels – near and far – as they share photos, stories, and more. Where will you go after hearing about their adventures?

Travel Journal: From the Caucasus to Central Asia

This travel talk takes us on a geo-historical of Georgia (Tbilisi) and Uzbekistan (Bukhara) to explore the development of these two countries and to highlight the most interesting sites.

- Instructor: David Keeling
- Day & Dates: Thursday, October 29 (one session)
- Time: 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

David Keeling is the Distinguished Professor of Cultural Geography, Emeritus, at WKU. He now travels the world as an expedition lecturer for a private tour company. He has visited all the world's official political states except North Korea and has explored over 2,500 unique destinations across all six inhabited continents.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Travel Journal: Road Trip to the Pine Mountain and Cumberland Mountain Parks

We will visit the dramatic landscapes of Pine Mountain State Resort Park and Cumberland Gap National Historical Park and discuss the geologic forces that created them. Topics include the famous Pine Mountain thrust fault, the formation of the Gap, and the engineering required to restore the historic Wilderness Road and complete the Cumberland Gap Tunnel through this challenging mountain terrain.

- Instructor: Ken Kuehn
- Day & Dates: Thursday, November 5 (one session)
- Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Ken Kuehn is a registered professional geologist in Kentucky who has spent 40 years traversing the Commonwealth and studying its most interesting places. He retired from WKU in 2011 where he was recognized for his contributions to teaching, research, and service to the public.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$9

Travel Journal: Touring the United Kingdom

This extended travel journal will be presented in three parts: Part one covers traveling in the United Kingdom including travel, lodging, dining, and local customs, and London. Part two covers the Historic United Kingdom – cathedrals, castles, museums, and historic sites. Finally, part three explores scenic United Kingdom, which will include villages, towns, country sides, seashores, hills, and lakes. These topics will be illustrated largely with original photographs and content based on extensive travel in Great Britain.

- Instructor: Nicky Hughes
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, October 14 – 28 (three sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Nicky Hughes graduated from Franklin-Simpson High School in 1968 and from WKU in 1972. He was with the Kentucky Historical Society from 1992-1997, office of Historic Properties from 1997-2000, and the City of Frankfort from 200-2016. He is Director of Shelby County Historical Society and a volunteer for Simpson County Tourism.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$27



Fall Term Dates: Sept. 14 – Nov. 6

Watercolor Painting for the Experienced Artist: Forest and Birch Trees

This class is for those with previous watercolor painting experience whether with SLL or elsewhere. Each participant will bring their own watercolor supplies. Get ready to learn a new blocking method for tree trunks, a "wet on wet" method for creating the forest of trees colors, special detailing using a "credit card trick", how to use a script brush for leaf and opaque detailing, and how to use Gesso for the finishing touches. The supply fee for this class is for the additional supplies needed to complete your artwork.

- Instructor: Judi Adams
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 16 – October 7 (four sessions)
- Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (extended time)
- Location: Knicely Conference Center
- Supply Fee: \$10 (register separately for the supply fee for this class)

Instructor Bio:

Judi Adams is a Kentucky native earning her bachelor's and master's degrees at WKU. She taught in Kentucky for 27 years then moved to Florida teaching 20 years at the recreation area of The Villages, which is a 55-and-older city of about 160,000 residents.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$36

What's Your Story?

Thursday, October 8 and Wednesday, October 28, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This "class" requires no registration. Just show up. The two gatherings are a great way to get to know your fellow SLL members! Four volunteers per gathering will present prepared (but informal) life stories. Each will be approximately 15 minutes with five minutes for questions.

This was very popular when we first introduced it in Fall 2025. Let's make it a fall term tradition! So, who's next? Contact the SLL office, 270-745-2640 or

SLL@WKU.EDU, and let Karen know if you are willing to share.

Women in the Ancient World

The first session of this class will focus on lesser-known female authors beginning in 2300 BCE up to 500CE in World History. The second session will focus on women in the global past from 500CE-1500CE. This is not solely a lecture-based course but will include activities that require a smart phone or laptop. Reading materials will be emailed ahead of the class meetings for a more in-depth discussion of the topic.

- Instructor: Kathryn Reetzke
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 30 – October 7 (two sessions)
- Time: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Kathryn Reetzke is an alumna of WKU with a MA in History and has served in a full time Instructor position for the department since 2021. She has been an adjunct for both WKU and SKYCTC since 2012. Kathryn's research interests include Women in History, Religious History, and World History/Global History topics. She currently teaches World History (101), The Reformation, Renaissance Europe, and The Age of Enlightenment (SP 27).

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$18

Worst Supreme Court Decisions

Since it first convened in 1790, the Supreme Court of the United States of America has decided more than 30,000 cases. Some of the Court's decisions have been masterpieces and some have been terrible. In this class, we will discuss some of the Court's worst decisions ever, as well as some recent decisions that are arguably bad.

- Instructor: Ernie VanHooser
- Day & Dates: Wednesday, September 30 – November 4 (six sessions)
- Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Knicely Conference Center

Instructor Bio:

Ernie VanHooser is a retired attorney and mediator. During his 40 years as an attorney, he was admitted to practice before a number of state and federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

Annual/Single Term Member: \$0 Flex Member Course Fee: \$54

Fall Term Dates: Sept. 14 – Nov. 6

REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES BEGINS TUES, SEPT. 1 @ 8AM (ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

SLL ADVISORY BOARD & COMMITTEES

Advisory Board

The governing body of the SLL is the Advisory Board composed of six members elected by the general membership, with two being elected per year in rotation and serving a three-year term; board-appointed chair/co-chairs of the four standing committees; and the Program Director who serves without vote as ex-officio and is the liaison between SLL and the University.

Cathy Fox, Chair
Jane Barthelme
Becky Cann
Jan Funk
Ken Kuehn
Bonnie Pinkerton
Derek Olive, Ex-Officio

John Forman, Chair-Elect
Nancy Bussiere
Libby Davies
Olin Joynton
Scott Nehm
Timothy Simpson

Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee makes course and instructor selections. They coordinate with the SLL staff to set course times and locations, edit course publication materials, and make recommendations for course costs. Any SLL member may serve on this committee.

Libby Davies, Co-Chair
Howard Bailey
Mike Breen
Jan Funk
Bruce Hazelton

Ken Kuehn, Co-Chair
Debbie Breen
John Forman
Larry Gildersleeve
David Lee

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee monitors expenses, recommends appropriate membership fees, and oversees the SLL Operating Plan – annual and long-term. Any SLL member may serve on the committee.

Scott Nehm, Chair
John Forman
Bob Nylin
Ernie VanHooser

Membership Relations Committee

The Membership Relations Committee supports SLL by recruiting and retaining members through speaking engagements, social gatherings, day trips, events, and other activities. The committee provides opportunities for members and their guests to gather outside of spring and fall terms. These include taking tours (wineries, historic sites, breweries, church renovations, distilleries, and more), attending events as a group (concerts, performances, sporting events, etc.), and other educational and social activities. Any SLL member may serve on this committee.

Becky Cann, Co-Chair
Debbie Breen
Ann Esterle
Vicki Gregory
Joan Norris

Bonnie Pinkerton, Co-Chair
Sarah Budde
Cathy Fox
Lynn Kinnaman
Sharon Spall

Volunteer Committee

The Volunteer Committee provides classroom assistance to instructors, helps with onsite events, and assists with activities and functions of the SLL. Assistance may be in the form of table decorations for events, taking photos during classes and events, coordinating activities with the Membership Relations Committee, and more. Any SLL member may serve on this committee.

Nancy Bussiere, Chair
Patsy Bowman
Valerie Brown
Sidney Cann
Lisa Dalporto
Cathy Fox
Sue Meyer
Bonnie Pinkerton
Molly Wilson

Jane Barthelme
Tim Brotherton
Becky Cann
Pam Coe
John Forman
Sonja Griffith
Deb Myers
Ernie VanHooser

Fall 2026 SLL Course Calendar – Onsite at Knicely

Tuesday Classes

9:00 – 10:30	11:00 – 12:30	1:30 – 3:00	3:30 – 5:00	5:30 – 7:00
Historic Preservation in Bowling Green and Warren County (2 sessions) 9/15 & 9/17 Four Religions with Just War Doctrines (3 sessions) 9/22-9/24 The Work of Connection: Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement (2 sessions) 9/28 & 9/29 NO CLASSES 10/6 (WKU FALL BREAK – ALL CAMPUSES WILL BE CLOSED) From Passion to Profit (2 sessions) 10/13 & 10/16 Planet A: Threats & Opportunities (3 sessions) 10/20 – 11/3	Declining Health of a Loved One: What Do I Need to Know? (5 sessions) 9/15-29, 10/13-20 My Favorite Roman: Emperor Hadrian (2 sessions) 9/22 & 9/24 Baker Hill: A Mansion, a War, and a Restaurant (4 sessions) 10/13-11/3 The Stone: Poems from Asia and the Stories Behind Them (1 session) 10/27	Classical, Gothic, Modern: Themes in Western Architecture (3 sessions) 9/15-9/29 Medical Ethics Case Studies (3 sessions) 9/22, 9/23, & 9/24 Arrr... Female Pirates: Swashbuckling Women (4 sessions) 10/13-11/3 The American Way of War: Chapter One: Revolutionary War (2 sessions) 10/13-10/20	The Universe from My Driveway (1 session) 9/15 Beginner Line Dance (6 sessions) 9/15-9/29 & 10/20-11/3 Insurance Clinic: Personal Risk Management (2 sessions) 9/22-9/29 Child Behavior Management for Grandparents (2 sessions) 10/13-10/20 Basics of Bug Out Bags (1 session) 10/27 Geopolitics in a Changing World (2 sessions) 11/3 & 11/5	<i>An Experience to Remember (RSVP required) October 6 (see details on page 3)</i>

Fall 2026 SLL Course Calendar – Onsite at Knicely

Wednesday Classes

9:00 – 10:30	11:00 – 12:30	1:30 – 3:00	3:30 – 5:00	5:30 – 7:00
BG 2050 Comprehensive Plan: Planning for Growth (1 session) 9/16 The Do's and Don'ts of Retirement (4 sessions) 9/16, 9/23, 10/14, 10/21 Four Religions with Just War Doctrines (3 sessions) 9/22-9/24 Women of the Ancient World (2 sessions) 9/30-10/7 Travel Journal: Touring the United Kingdom (3 sessions) 10/14-10/28 Health Care Financing (2 sessions) 10/28-11/4	Fresh Approaches to the Bible (6 sessions) 9/16-10/21 Beginner/Intermediate Watercolor Painting Using Workbooks (6 sessions) 9/16-10/21 What's Your Story? (2 sessions) 10/8 & 10/28 (see details on page 4) It's Not too Late: Learning to Write a Novel at 60 (1 session) 11/4	Watercolor Painting for Experienced Artists; Forest and Birch Trees (4 sessions) 9/16-10/7 Ext. time 1:00 – 3:00 BG Resource Connections Village Updates (1 session) 9/16 The Revival of Classical Education (1 session) 9/23 Medical Ethics Case Studies (3 sessions) 9/22, 9/23, & 9/24 Worst Supreme Court Decisions Ever (6 sessions) 9/30-11/4 Japanese Civilian Internment 1942-1946 (2 sessions) 9/30-10/7 Gold Leafing: Oh, the Possibilities! (3 sessions) 10/14-10/28	Policing and Technology (2 sessions) 9/16-9/23 Travel: Let's Talk about 2027 & 2028 Trips with SLL and Collette Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Everyday Life (3 sessions) 10/14-10/28 All About Medicare (1 session) 10/14 Preserving Family Archives (1 session) 11/4	

Fall 2026 SLL Course Calendar – Onsite at Knicely

Thursday Classes

9:00 – 10:30	11:00 – 12:30	1:30 – 3:00	3:30 – 5:00	5:30 – 7:00
Historic Preservation in Bowling Green and Warren County (2 sessions) 9/15 & 9/17 Four Religions with Just War Doctrines (3 sessions) 9/22-9/24 Aviation Overview (1 session) 10/1 The Mobility Check-Up You Didn't Know You Needed (1 session) 10/8 An Introduction to Elder Law (2 sessions) 10/15-10/22 Considering the Mid-Term Elections (2 sessions) 10/29-11/5	Contemporary Southern Novelists (1 session) 9/17 My Favorite Roman: Emperor Hadrian (2 sessions) 9/22 & 9/24 Habitat for Humanity BG: Tornado Response (1 session) 10/1 What's Your Story? (2 sessions) 10/8 & 10/28 (see details on page 4) Meteorology: A Few Fundamentals (2 sessions) 10/15-10/22 Personality: The Key to Understanding Yourself and Others (1 session) 10/29 Travel Journal: Road Trip to the Pine Mountain and Cumberland Mountain Parks (1 session) 11/5	Opportunities at WKU: The Center for Gifted Studies and The Gatton Academy (2 sessions) 9/17-9/24 Medical Ethics Case Studies (3 sessions) 9/22, 9/23, & 9/24 The Beautiful Sky Above Us (3 sessions) 10/1-10/15 Nursery Rhymes & English Churches: What do They Have in Common (1 session) 10/22 Acrylic Pour Painting: Creating Chameleon Cells (1 session) 10/29 Poetry as Transcendence (1 session) 11/5	Beginner Bridge (5 sessions) 9/17-10/15 Navigating Retirement Income: Smart Withdrawal Strategies (1 session) 10/22 Travel Journal: From the Caucasus to Central Asia (1 session) 10/29 Geopolitics in a Changing World (2 sessions) 11/3 & 11/5	The Hitchhikers' Guide to Being Human (4 sessions) 9/17-10/8 Museum Curatorship (2 sessions) 11/5 & 11/6

Fall 2026 SLL Course Calendar – Offsite

Monday Classes

9:00 – 10:30	11:00 – 12:30	1:00 – 3:00	3:30 – 5:00
Bowling Green Fire Department Facility Tour (1 session) 9/14 Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Building a Better BG Ext. time 9-11 (1 session) 9/21 The Work of Connection: Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement Adj. time 10:00am (2 sessions) 9/28 & 9/29	Homestyle Thai Cooking Class (1 session) 11 – 1 Ext. time, 10/26	Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Light & Legacy 1-3 (1 session) 9/28	Partners in Safety: A WCSO Showcase (4 sessions) 9/21, 9/25. 9/28/ 10/2

Friday Classes

9:00 – 11:00	11:00 -12:30	1:00 – 3:00	3:30 – 5:00
Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Sparkle & Stretch 9-11 (1 session) 9/25 From Passion to Profit (2 sessions) 10/13 & 10/16 Museum Curatorship (2 sessions) 11/5 & 11/6	Spaceship Earth: A Planetarium Show (1 session) 9/18 A Heritage Tour: The African American Museum (1 session) 10/9	Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Blooms & Bites 1-3pm (1 session) 9/18 Behind the Scenes of Downtown BGKY: Hops & Grapes 1-3 (1 session) 10/2	Partners in Safety: A WCSO Showcase (4 sessions) 9/21, 9/25. 9/28/ 10/2