



Baldwin Wallace University

Baldwin Wallace University
Institute for Learning in Retirement – East
2025 Fall Quarter Schedule

The Fall Term will begin on Tuesday, October 21 and run for 5 weeks, ending on Thursday, November 20. There will also be single-session presentations during this period. Classes will be given at TEMPLE EMANUEL, at 4545 Brainard Road, Orange Village, Ohio 44022, just north of Emery Rd. Please note that registration is by postal mail only and due by October 16, using the form provided. To receive registration material if you are not currently on the mailing list, fill out the information request form or call 440-826-2400.

TUESDAYS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 21, 2025

Art in Focus

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Time for more art. If you've been with ILR-East and never signed up for this group, give it a try. It's only five weeks, and you will really enjoy it. Just ask anyone who has been part of the last 19 semesters. If you are new around here -- no reason to put off the fun. Once again this fall, we'll take new and invigorating journeys to visit some of the most enjoyable parts of the visual arts of what we used to call 'western civilization.' As John Lennon once said -- "*A splendid time is guaranteed for all.*"

ZOOM COURSE

Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.

Getting into Bread

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenter: James Heaney, Ph.D.

From Julia Child's White Sandwich Bread to Uyghur Naan, an introduction to the tools, ingredients, and methods for the many kinds of breads baked worldwide.

Cleveland Rocks ! (and You Will, Too)

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presenter: Gerry Nemeth

We will cover all of what makes Cleveland the Rock & Roll capital of the world! We will look at the venues (the Richfield Coliseum, the Agora Ballroom, the Corral, and more). We will look at the locals who made it big (Michael Stanley, Raspberries, Eric Carmen solo, and more). We will look at the concerts (Moondog Coronation Ball, World Series of Rock, and more). I plan to bring in musicians and other VIPs to enhance the class!

A Shakespeare Journey—Side Trips Included

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presenter: Marge Geiger, Ph.D.

One of the greatest poets and dramatists of all times did not create in a vacuum. He was heir to and impacted by realities both prior to and concurrent to his years as a creative master. Social, political, economic, poetic, and theatrical environments influenced Shakespeare as he wrote and produced. This course, a combination of history and art, will be spread out over all three ILR-East sessions this year, affording us the time to read, view, and discuss Shakespeare's poems and plays (comedies, tragedies, histories, romances) while looking at what influenced these. So if you would enjoy renewing your acquaintance with the Bard--or if you would like to become acquainted--register for the journey.

TV Game Shows

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Presenter: Gerry Nemeth

We will look at the rich history of the TV game show genre. We will play simulated versions of your favorite games (Jeopardy!, Wheel of Fortune, Password and more). Meet folks who have appeared on various TV game shows, win prizes and expect a few surprises!

TUESDAYS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 21, 2025 (continued)

Vienna 1815-1914

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Presenter: Laura Blunk, Ph.D.

In the nineteenth century Vienna, capital of the Austrian Empire was a center of major political and cultural movements. From the Congress of Vienna which shaped the future of European politics for the next half-century through the national and ethnic issues which led to World War I, decisions made in Vienna shaped European history. Equally important were the cultural achievements made in the capital in music, art, science and literature. From the comfortable bourgeois Biedermeier culture of the first half of the century through forward-looking and sometimes shocking innovations of the fin de siècle (end of the century), Vienna set the style for much of Europe. This course will cover the major historical events and cultural movements. Waltzing not required!

Staying Safe from Scams: Protecting Yourself from Elder Fraud

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Presenter: Brian McDonough

Last year, \$4.85 billion was lost due to elder fraud. Fraudsters target millions of older adults through phone calls, emails, social media, and even in-person tactics to steal money and personal information. This interactive five-class course is designed specifically for seniors to recognize, prevent, and respond to scams. Participants will learn how to spot red flags, protect their finances, safeguard personal information, and know where to turn for help if victimized. The course incorporates real-life examples, role-playing, and easy-to-follow strategies to build confidence in recognizing and handling fraud attempts. By the end of the course, participants will recognize the most common scams targeting older adults, learn practical ways to protect personal and financial information, understand the resources available for reporting scams, and build confidence in saying “no” and disengaging from scammers.

WEDNESDAYS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 22, 2025

Children Caring for Parents

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenter: Gary Klein, M.S., M.A.

We will discuss the challenges that both family and parents face when their roles are reversed - the emotional, legal, and medical topics that are likely to arise. Maintaining independence, promoting quality of life, and ensuring safety are goals that everyone shares.

From Cathedrals to Cyber Religion

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presenter: Hugh Burtner, Ph.D.

Both the ideas and forms of religion in the cultural west have undergone seismic changes in the historical era 1500-2000 C.E. We will examine some of these changes using research of the social sciences. We will also study possible reasons for the increasing percent of people who identify as non-religious.

Science after Relativity and Quantum Mechanics

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.

This course takes a look at the major developments in physics, astronomy, and cosmology made possible by the theories of relativity and quantum mechanics formulated in the first quarter of the 20th century. There are no prerequisites for the course other than curiosity.

WEDNESDAYS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 29, 2025

Mah Jongg for Beginners (4 sessions, 2 hours each)

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Julie Moss

Mah Jongg was created in 19th century China and has grown from a male-dominated gambling game into a very popular American sensation. Combining critical thinking, strategy, memory, and luck, Mah Jongg is fun and easy to learn. Meet new friends and start a regular game together. The 2025 Standard hands and rules card is included in the registration fee.

THURSDAYS, BEGINNING OCTOBER 23, 2025

Politics at the End of Time

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.

Join us for an in person group as we look at what's happened to democratic institutions in America, and what's left of what we learned in civics class in high school.. After all, it's not like they didn't tell us -- heck, they put it all in writing and gave everyone a copy. So what happens now? *Let's talk about it.* Come with your questions and your concerns and let's try to sort it all out. You may not like what you hear -- but it might help to see more of the whole picture of what we've lost and what we are going to lose next.

A Journey Into the Human Body: The Cardiovascular System

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenter: Terry E. Greathouse, Ph.D.

Many civilizations have believed in the magical qualities of the heart and blood. However, you cannot “leave your heart in San Francisco” and criminals do not have “bad blood” nor aristocrats “blue blood”. So, what do the heart and blood do for us? Healthwise, heart disease is the No. 1 killer for our seniors, and the No. 1 chronic condition is hypertension. A person's life is in danger if the heart loses its ability to pump blood for even a few minutes. Plus, what's the difference between leukemia and anemia, just how does blood clot and what's all this fuss about blood types? Join your instructor for a fascinating journey into the human body where you will be introduced to your heart and blood.

Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson: Loyalists? Or Traitors?

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presenter: Teresa Marano, Ph.D.

The year of the three kings, 1936, brought international attention to Great Britain with its grief at the death of King George V, its scandal at the abdication by King Edward VIII, and its apprehension at the ascension of King George VI to the throne. This course will examine those years between that abdication and the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II: how did the Duke and Duchess of Windsor (the former Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson) attempt to garner sympathy with the press, and how did the royal family and the British government handle their treacherous behavior, particularly during WWII, that led to their eventual exile.

Architectural Intelligence

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presenter: James Shelley

The “built” environment is all around us, yet for many it is rarely more than a half-noticed backdrop to our daily lives. In this new course you will learn the basic visual language of architecture, its historical styles, and how to develop a critical awareness not just for individual structures but streetscapes as well. We will also touch upon trends like new urbanism and how architectural planning affects social community. Slides will include architectural images from around Cleveland.

Great Musical Films: Funny Girl and 4 Rodgers & Hammerstein Classics

12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Presenter: William Rafalski

This course will showcase 5 memorable musical films. The first movie is a do-over from my last class, *Funny Girl* with Barbra Streisand, Films 2 through 5 are the great musicals produced by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II: *Oklahoma*, *Carousel*, *South Pacific*, and *The King and I*. I hope that you can join us for this musical class.

SINGLE SESSION PRESENTATIONS WEDNESDAYS at 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Stone Age Brains in a Digital World: An Evolutionary View of Mental Health

Presenter: Rachel Sieke, MD

October 22

Why do depression, anxiety, and other mental health struggles persist despite causing suffering? Evolutionary psychiatry offers a fresh lens: instead of asking only “what’s broken?” it asks “why did our minds evolve this way?” This 75-minute session explores how traits once useful for survival—like fear, craving, and vigilance—can become mismatched in today’s world of emails and smartphones. We’ll dispel common myths about evolution and consider how this perspective fosters compassion, insight, and creative approaches to mental health.

Cleveland Sports Miscellany

October 22

Presenter: Gerry Nemeth

We will look at a few Cleveland area sports entities that are often lost in the shuffle: The Cleveland Revco Marathon, The Cleveland Rams, The Cleveland Pipers, The Lake Erie League (LEL), The Cleveland Lumberjacks, The Cleveland Thunderbolts, and more. Prizes and a few surprises!

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver’s Battle Against the Cleveland Nazis

October 29

Presenter: Dennis Sutcliffe

In the 1930’s stormtroopers were marching in Parma and local auto-workers were being recruited for jobs in German factories. Learn how Rabbi Silver’s League for Human Rights led the fight against the fascists in our town.

Developing Issues in the World of Higher Education

November 5

Presenter: Louis Raffis, KSU Honors College Advisory Board Member

Member

We will discuss several major demographic issues that are confronting College Administrators, and the very health and well-being of America's system of higher education. Foremost among these are the sharp decline in the number of college-age young people in the U.S. and in the number of young men choosing to attend college. We will explore what effects we have already seen and also what is still to come. We'll close with a review of the impact of Artificial Intelligence on higher education.

The Dumbing Down of America

November 12

Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.

We’ll take a deep dive into why the U.S public education system is failing, from its inception as a way to produce loyal factory workers to its modern incarnation whose main goal is not to get kids to think, but just to get good results on standardized tests. We’ll talk about the crisis of the best teachers leaving in droves, the insidious effects of AI, graduating kids from high school who can hardly read or do simple math, politicians telling teachers what to teach, and more.

Truth, Justice and the Cleveland Way

November 19

Presenter: Dennis Sutcliffe

The early work of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, two kids from Glenville High School who created the world’s most enduring Superhero. Meet the original Superman and learn how he was influenced by the boys’ lives in Cleveland! The program includes a review of Jewish history in Cleveland and insights into life in Glenville, one of Cleveland's old Jewish neighborhoods.