

The Academy for Lifelong Learning



Who We Are

We are an organization of people from a variety of backgrounds. We share a common interest in continuing learning experiences and intellectual stimulation. There are no tests or grades. Members participate purely for the joy of sharing. We are sponsored by the University of South Carolina Aiken and are self-supporting. Our courses and activities are planned and implemented by our members. We design our own curriculum and employ instructors from USC Aiken faculty (current and retired), from our own membership, and from the community at large.

Registration & Membership Fees

Membership for a semester is \$70 per person. The Membership fee allows you to take as many of the classes offered, on a space-available basis. The fee does not include books or materials (if required) for the classes or the cost of special events.

You can register at our open house January 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., online at aikenlearning.org, by mail, or call (803) 641 - 3741. You may also register in person in Business and Education Bldg. room 111 anytime after open house. The registration form can be found on page 19.

Member Benefits*

Academy members are eligible for special offers from the following places:

- USC Aiken Admissions Office (class auditing)
- Planetarium
- Library & Bookstore
- Wellness Center
- Natatorium
- Two Academy Guest Passes
- USC Aiken Athletic Events
- Campus Food Service

*Additional terms and conditions may apply

Mission Statement

The mission of the Academy for Lifelong Learning is to provide both structured and informal continuing education opportunities for mature individuals in the CSRA in conjunction with the University of South Carolina Aiken. These opportunities shall include classroom instruction as well as discussions with faculty, field trips, and social events.



Academy for
LIFELONG LEARNING
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

Visit us online at aikenlearning.org

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

The Red Tide: A Thirty-Year Overview of Public Opinion in Aiken County

4 Mondays, January 13, 27, February 3, 10

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Bob Botsch earned his B.S. in math and Physics at NC State in 1968. His interest in politics was stimulated when he was assigned to the White House Communications Agency after being drafted into the Army. After earning his Ph.D. in political science at the University of North Carolina, he taught for a year at Illinois State University before coming to USC Aiken in 1978. Over the next 37 years, he taught more than 15 different courses including public opinion and empirical research methods.

Description: This four-session course will cover a range of subjects pertaining to the measurement of public opinion in Aiken County. The first class will focus on the evolving challenges in measuring public opinion. The second class will look at partisanship, which has been and continues to be the single most important variable in structuring campaigns and elections. We will compare the changes in Aiken County with those in SC using both polling data and election data since WWII. The third class will cover some of the more interesting things in these surveys. For example, we will examine changes in views on gay marriage, how the college experience affects student ideological identifications, how southern self-identification affects citizen views, and support and opposition to the SC lottery. The final class will cover whatever variables members of the class want to examine, including surveys of their choice.

French for Fun

4 Tuesdays, January 14, 21, 28, February 4

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 102; Enrollment Limit: 15

Instructor: Maureen Sbordone lived in France for fifteen years and fell in love with the people and culture. She enjoys sharing her knowledge of the language with others. Maureen is a retired English teacher from New York. She recently moved to Aiken and spends her time now between teaching and riding her horse.

Description: This class is a repeat of the French for Fun course offered in Fall 2019. You will learn the basics enough to confidently use simple phrases and vocabulary in a variety of typical social and leisure settings, and understand and apply basic grammar in context. You will have the opportunity to learn about France, its culture, and traditions. No books, no tests or homework; handouts provided. Let's be French for an hour! French for Fun Part II will be offered in Fall 2020 for those students who would like to continue their study of French.

More Four Arts

4 Tuesdays, January 14, 21, 28, February 4

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Mike Lythgoe has taught for the Academy since 2004. He served as President of the Academy, and won the volunteer of the year award. He is a graduate of St. Louis University (B.S.), The University of Notre Dame (M.A.), and the Defense Intelligence School. In his retirement, he earned a Master of Fine Arts degree at Bennington College. He has published several books of poetry, including *Holy Week Poems*. He has lectured at the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta on poetry. He has published his poems in *The Petigru Review*, *Catfish Stew*, *The Caribbean Review*, *Kakalak*, *PermaFROST*, and *Windhover*.

Description: Poetry, Paintings & Music in four sessions. Week 1 will have music by Will Jones on guitar. Will is a member of SRP poets, a contributor to *Borderlines*, a songwriter, and singer. Week 2 will be "poets on painting." Week 3 we will have poetry readings by Ed Wilson and selections of SRP poets' original poems from a new chapbook *BorderLines*, edited by Mike Lythgoe. Week 4 will conclude with paintings and discussion with faculty at USC Aiken.

Life, Art, and Stories of Dr. Seuss

2 Wednesdays, January 15, 22

2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Thomas Brandner spent 40 years as a school psychologist for the Aiken County School District. He has given presentations about Dr. Seuss to teachers, high school students, and children of all ages in SC and IL libraries and elementary schools. He enjoys reading Dr. Seuss with his grandson. Together they have read all 64 of the Dr. Seuss stories.

Description: Dr. Seuss lived a life of contradictions. Some of them were that he wrote "children's" stories that were really for adults and that he felt uncomfortable in the presence of children. Every publishing company that he sent his first story to (over 25) turned it down. Because he was not honored as a great artist for his paintings, he felt himself a failure. Two of his best-known stories were written to win bets. Many areas of his life will be explored. His best-known stories will be studied. Some of the students of the class will be given one story as a play.



The Academy for Lifelong Learning



Selection, Installation, Maintenance of Trees and Shrubs in the Home Landscape

1 Thursday, January 16

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Vicky Bertagnolli is a Consumer Horticulture Agent, Master Gardener Coordinator, Private Pesticide Applicator Training Coordinator, and local “bug geek” in Aiken County. She makes monthly appearances on SCETV’s gardening show, “Making It Grow.” Vicky holds a B.S. in Wildlife Sciences from Auburn University and an M.S. in Entomology from Auburn University. Prior to joining Clemson University as an Extension Agent in January 2008, Vicky spent seven years as the Research Technician for Auburn University’s Alabama Fire Ant Management Program and worked part-time for a small pest control company. Vicky’s areas of expertise are imported fire ants and their management, urban pest management using integrated pest management (IPM), School IPM, and insect identification.

Description: Participants will learn how to select high quality plant material, proper installation techniques, and how to maintain both new and established tree or shrub plantings.

Note: This session will not cover specific plants or provide plant lists.

Backyard Birds

3 Thursdays, January 16, 23, 30

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Chuck Braun has been an avid birder for over fifty years in more than eighty countries and has seen more than 7,000 species. He has taught several Academy courses on local and world birds.

Description: Session 1 will discuss backyard birds and how to attract and identify them. Session 2 will discuss South Carolina birds as well as identifying birds you see while traveling and on vacation. Lastly, session 3 will conclude with ecotourism. More specifically, what happens on ecotours. Two tours will be compared, one to a country without a tourist program, and one to a country with a tourist program.

Falun Dafa Cultivation and Meditation

5 Wednesdays, January 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Dr. Frank Tian Xie is the John M. Olin Palmetto Chair Professor of Business and an Associate Professor of Marketing at USC Aiken. Dr. Xie currently teaches business analytics, international marketing, quantitative tools of business analysis (MBA level), advertising, marketing research, and sales management. Originally from China, Dr. Xie is an expert on Chinese affairs. Xie is the author of *Dragon’s Vault*, a book on Chinese business and economy. Dr. Xie has been an avid Falun Dafa practitioner for 19 years.

Description: This short course covers the basic concepts of cultivation and meditation culture from the East. The emphasis is to introduce Falun Dafa (aka Falun Gong), a meditation and self-cultivation practice from ancient China. Students will learn about the principles of the cultivation – Truthfulness, Compassion, Tolerance, its core teachings, and its five sets of exercises including sitting meditation in five class sessions.

Exercise Is Medicine

4 Thursdays, January 23, 30, February 6, 13

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124 Session 1, January 23

Business & Education Bldg. 147 Sessions 2 - 4

Enrollment Limit: 20

Instructor: Mila Padgett is currently the Director of Campus Recreation & Wellness at USC Aiken. She has a M.A. degree in Exercise Physiology and has been in the health and wellness field for over 25 years.

Description: This class is a repeat of the Fall 2019 Exercise is Medicine course. Exercise is a vital component in maintaining our physical and mental health as we age. This course will teach you about each of the exercise components and allow you participate in different classes each week to experience the Older Adult programs at the USC Aiken Wellness Center. For the last three classes, make sure to wear tennis shoes and comfortable clothing in order to exercise.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Genetically Modified Organisms (Gmos)

1 Friday, January 24

11:00 – 12:15 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Sarah Michele Harmon received a B.S. in Biology from USC Aiken and her MSPH and Ph.D. in Environmental Health Sciences from the Arnold School of Public Health at USC. She is currently a Professor in the Department of Biology and Geology at USC Aiken where she also serves as Director of the Environmental Restoration and Remediation Program. She is also the Co-director of USC Aiken's Center for Research Excellence. Research in Dr. Harmon's lab is centered on teaching undergraduates how to use indicator organisms to model the environmental risks posed by pollutants of interest. Current topics of study include constructed wetlands for stormwater remediation; bioremediation of oil sands process water; and microbial source tracking in the Horse Creek and Pretty Run watersheds in Aiken County, SC.

Description: These days we hear lots of warnings about GMOs. Products advertised as "GMO-free" seem to have become desirable in the marketplace. In this class, we will define what is meant by "GMO", explain how they are made and where you are most likely to find them. The class will conclude with a discussion on the future of GMOs in food, the controversy surrounding their use, and their true risks to the environment and our health.



2017 Nobel Prize in Literature: Kazuo Ishiguro

4 Mondays, January 27, February 3, 10, 17
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Dr. William Claxton is emeritus professor of English at USC Aiken.

Description: This course focuses on the work of Kazuo Ishiguro, the winner of the 2017 Nobel Prize in Literature. Ishiguro was born in Japan in 1954 and moved with his family to England when he was five. He has said that his Japanese heritage passed down by his parents and his life as a citizen of the United Kingdom have provided him with a unique perspective. We will discuss two works: *The Remains of the Day* (1989) on January 27 and February 3; and *Nocturnes: Five Stories of Music and Nightfall* (2009) on February 10 and February 17.

History in Headstones: Man's Best Friends

3 Mondays, January 27, February 3, 10
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Jeanmarie Bronson is a member of the Augusta and Washington, GA Civil War Round Table, the Clearfield, PA Historical Society, the Lincoln Forum (Gettysburg), the National Association of Gravestone Studies and other historical organizations. Prior to her interest in the American Civil War, Jeanmarie studied the geography, society and symbolism in cemeteries, and the various lives that make up many areas of historical interest.

Description: History in Headstones looks at history through the lens of the headstone. This semester features pets, animal movie stars and war heroes. Meet the animal actors snubbed by the Academy but awarded stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Find out which dog won the Purple Heart and then bit the American president who awarded it. Learn about the cat that ran for the Senate in Maine and came in third, the dog that traveled with the first explorers to the North Pole, where UGA's beloved mascots rest in peace, and the inspiring Depression-era thoroughbred largely forgotten until the early 21st century. Join us for a look at the lives, epitaphs, and symbolism of the final tributes to these loved ones.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning



Live From the Met Opera
6 Tuesdays, January 28, February 4, 11, 18, 25,
and March 3
10:30 – 11:30 a.m
Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Dr. Maureen Simpson has performed in over two dozen operas in the United States and Europe, as well as numerous appearances with symphonies and choral societies. With more than 40 opera roles and performances on stage with artists such as Luciano Pavarotti, Jon Vickers, Joan Sutherland, Rita Hunter, James Morris, Diane Soviero and Louis Quillico, Dr. Simpson brings a wide range of experience. A graduate of Winthrop University, Dr. Simpson attended the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria, and went on to receive graduate degrees from Indiana University-Bloomington and the University of South Carolina. She is currently Artistic Director of the Aiken Choral Society and former Director of Music at St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church.

Description: Once again Aiken's own resident diva soprano, Dr. Maureen Simpson, will discuss three operas which will be shown at the Regal Augusta Exchange Theater. Each of the three operas will be covered in two class sessions, thereby providing a more in-depth understanding. The classes will introduce historical and musical background, composer issues, performing problems, and plots. Dr. Simpson will provide both beginner and veteran operagoers with a deeper insight into each work. The operas scheduled for this season's telecasts and planned for discussion in this course are: *Agrippina* by Handel, *Der Fliegende Holländer* by Richard Wagner, and *Maria Stuarda* by Donizetti.

Information about the entire "Live From The Met" schedule of operas to be shown in high definition at the movie theater is available online at:
www.metoperafamily.org/metopera/liveinHD.aspx

The Aiken Symphony Orchestra's 2019-2020 Season

3 Sessions: Wednesday, January 29; Tuesday,
March 3; Wednesday, April 15
3:00 – 4:00 p.m
Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Dr. Donald Portnoy is universally recognized as one of America's dynamic and inspiring symphony orchestra conductors. He brings a unique awareness and appreciation to music for the audience and a refreshing sensitivity toward the musicians with whom he works. He has earned fame as a guest conductor with the major orchestras of Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Buffalo and with other major regional orchestras throughout the United States, Argentina, Brazil, China, England, France, Germany, Poland, Russia, Taiwan, South Korea, Italy, Romania and Switzerland.

Description: This course will focus on the Aiken Symphony Orchestra's 2019-2020 concert season. We will discuss all the programs and listen to short selections of music by the soloists and orchestra at rehearsals. Maestro Portnoy will explain how the selections are chosen and also provide biographical information on all of the composers and guest soloists.

Pat Conroy
1 Thursday, January 30
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Jonathan Haupt is the executive director of the Pat Conroy Literary Center, the founding director of the annual Pat Conroy Literary Festival, and the former director of the University of South Carolina Press. He serves on the boards of the South Carolina Academy of Authors and the Friends of South Carolina Libraries and on the advisory board of the South Carolina Humanities and the affiliates steering committee of the American Writers Museum. Haupt's book reviews and author interviews have appeared in the *Charleston Post and Courier*, *Lowcountry Weekly*, *Fall Lines*, *Pink Magazine*, *Beaufort Lifestyle Magazine*, *Southern Writers Magazine*, and the Conroy Center's *Porch Talk* blog. He is co-editor, with Nicole Seitz, of the award-winning anthology, *Our Prince of Scribes: Writers Remember Pat Conroy*.

Description: Join Pat Conroy Literary Center's Executive Director, Jonathan Haupt, for a lively discussion of best-selling author Pat Conroy's reverence for the art of teaching and his own legacy as a teacher. We'll explore informative, inspirational profiles of representative teachers from Conroy's formative years as a student at Beaufort High School and profiles of Conroy's own students at BHS and on Daufuskie Island. Using photos, video and audio clips, and excerpts from published and unpublished writings by and about Conroy. This class will broaden our appreciation for the beloved writer's great love of teaching and of his adopted home in the low country.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Catalysts for Change: Three Centuries of Notable South Carolinians

4 Mondays, February 3, 10, 17, 24

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Alexia Jones Helsley, a native of Kentucky, grew up in Beaufort, SC. Retired from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Helsley is an instructor in USC Aiken's History Department. She teaches World History Survey classes, the History of the Vikings, the Formation of Europe as well as the History of South Carolina and an Introduction to Public History. A Furman University graduate, she has her master's degree in Ancient and Medieval History from the University of South Carolina. Recipient of the South Carolina Governor's Archives Award, Helsley is a prolific writer and serves as chair of the South Carolina Old Exchange Commission.

Description: To paraphrase Acts 2:17, old men dream and young men see visions. Since its founding, men and women, black, white & Indian, old and young have dreamed and envisioned different futures. This four-week course will examine several of those individuals who lives have impacted the State of South for better or for worse. Join instructor Alexia Jones Helsley as she explores the familiar and lesser known change agents in South Carolina's long and diverse history.

Banishing Belly Fat

1 Wednesday, February 5

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Patricia Read-Hunter Ed.M., Ph.D. is a professional educator with a lifelong interest in nutrition and the anthropology of eating, which translated into success in losing 50 pounds. She is a Master Gardener and advocate for home-grown herbs and vegetables, and a world traveler who has visited over 100 countries. She has eaten almost as many bizarre things as the late Anthony Bourdain.

Description: The person who develops a means to selectively get rid of belly fat will become a billionaire. What do we know about belly fat - and fat in general? What can we and what should we do about it? How does dietary fat relate to body fat? Join me for a look at the research.



Tales From the Signal Corps Museum

4 Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Robert Anzuoni graduated from Stonehill College with a B.A. in American Studies and received his M.A. in History and Archival Methods from University of Massachusetts Boston. He served as the Director of the 82nd Airborne Division Museum at Fort Bragg, NC, and is currently the Director of the Signal Corps Museum at Fort Gordon, GA. Anzuoni has been an adjunct history instructor at Fayetteville Technical Community College, Aiken Technical College, and USC Aiken for the past ten years. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division.

Description: This course is about the history of the U.S. Army Signal Corps and its unique contributions to our nation. The first session deals with Albert Myer, an Army Surgeon, who developed his method of communicating with the deaf into a visual communication system for the Army. The second session covers the other technical missions of the Signal corps throughout its history, including meteorology, photography, and aviation. The third session covers World War II when the Signal Corps was called upon to provide many specialized services including radio, fax, pigeon, radar, and v-mail communications, as well as intelligence, enemy equipment identification, photography, and motion pictures. The fourth session deals with the rapid development of new technology after WWII. Each class session will include demonstrations and exhibits/displays of equipment.

Vertebrate Paleontology in South Carolina, with Special Reference to Aiken County

1 Wednesday, February 5

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Jim Knight is the retired Director of Collections and Chief Curator of Natural History at the South Carolina State Museum, where he served for almost 24 years. He has worked on Vertebrate Paleontology and Herpetology on five continents and has published 60+ scientific papers on these subjects.

Description: A general overview of the vertebrate paleontology of South Carolina will be discussed. The vast majority of fossils are found on the coastal plain of the state, and include over 550 species of vertebrates. Discussions of marine incursions, giant snakes, and whales will be presented. A portion of the class time will be devoted to the known fossil deposits of Aiken County, and a discussion of the fossil sharks and rays of the Dry Branch Formation will be presented.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Character Dance – A Style of Ballet

4 Fridays, February 7, 14, 21, 28

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructors: Professional dancers, **Joy and Jeffrey Engel**, trained in Russian Classical Ballet, met in a studio in New York City and honeymooned on an Equity Summer Stock Tour of “Carousel”. Their performing careers included dancing in the United States, Canada and Europe. They have also choreographed productions and taught dance in various studios, schools and colleges. This is their seventh year sharing their experiences and insights about dance.

Description: This year the topic will be Character Dance, a style of ballet which draws on national or folk dances and is performed by trained ballet dancers. Character dances, as well as character roles for dancers to perform, are included in many classical ballets. Full-length character ballets are also part of the ballet repertoire. During each of the four classes, we will explore the character dance features of the ballet repertoire, and also see how dancers train in character class and perform character dances. As always, there will be discussions and many visuals with music which capture the flavor of the various cultures.

Tea, the Beverage

1 Thursday, February 13

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: **Dr. Linda Q. Wang** is an Associate Professor of Human Geography at USC Aiken. She received her B.A. from Xian Foreign Languages University (now Xian International Studies University) in China, and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from California State University-Northridge and the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She was a recipient of several grants for research, teaching and professional development including the University of South Carolina Production and Research Scholarship, Association of American Geographers General Research Grant, the Sasakawa Fellowship for Japanese cultural studies, and the Fulbright-Hays International Seminar Awards in South Africa, Oman and Jordan. Her research focuses on culture issues of Chinese Americans and cultural changes in China. She has published book chapters, journal articles, and encyclopedia entries on these subjects

Description: The lecture will serve as an introduction to tea as one of the world’s most popular beverages. It will start with the current global production and consumption patterns of tea. Then it will move on to stories of tea’s origin and the evolution of tea drinking in China. It will then turn to the diffusion of tea and shed a little light on how tea became the most popular beverage in Britain. The lecture will end with the varieties of tea resulting from the different methods of processing.



Sennsational Sky Stories

3 Mondays, February 17, 24, March 2

2:00 – 3:00 p.m Sessions 1 & 2

Ruth Patrick # 217

Session 3 on Monday, March 2 will meet from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Ruth Patrick Observatory

Enrollment Limit: 30

Instructor: **Dr. Gary Senn** is a Professor of science and technology education at the University of South Carolina Aiken. Dr. Senn is involved with the master of education program in educational technology and he devotes significant effort as the Director of the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center (RPSEC). In his association with RPSEC, he is also the Director of the Dupont Planetarium, Manager of the Bechtel Telescope housed in the RPSEC observatory, Director of the South Carolina Center for Excellence in Middle-level Interdisciplinary Strategies for Teaching (CE-MIST), and Director of the South Carolina Center of Excellence in Educational Technology.

Description: Saturn, a planet that rains diamonds. This session will explore the jewel of our solar system including, information about diamonds raining in Saturn’s atmosphere. We will take an adventure to this planet to explore the rings, moons, gaseous sphere, and highlight some of the findings of the Cassini mission; which was powered by plutonium from SRS.

The heartbreaking news was released on August 24, 2006. Pluto was no longer a planet! What happened? We will uncover answers to this question and many more. The final session, observing the night sky on March 2, will be in the evening after dark in the RPSEC Observatory. We will have opportunity to observe a number of fascinating objects in the night sky including the first quarter Moon, Venus, Winter Triangle, Winter Hexagon (Heavenly G), Orion Nebula, Pleiades, and Hind’s Crimson Star.

There is a rain or cloud date of March 4. We will announce the final decision on or before the morning of March 2. Please note that the elevator goes only to the third floor. There is a flight of stairs from the third floor to the roof to access the observatory housing the Bechtel Telescope.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Aiken Remembers the Titanic

1 Wednesday, February 19

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: David Tavernier is the author of two books on the lives, times, and local events involving certain Aiken winter colonists. He has been a featured speaker on the topic of Aiken's winter colony for the Aiken County Historical Society; the Aiken County Historical Museum's Winter Lecture Series; the Aiken Train Depot Museum; the Academy for Lifelong Learning, and numerous clubs and civic organizations in Aiken as well as other parts of the state. He is a founding board member of the Aiken Symphony Orchestra, and board member of the USC Aiken Academy for Lifelong Learning. He is a graduate of Florida Atlantic University and is married to Patrice Durban Tavernier, a third generation Aikenite.

Description: On the fateful night of April 14, 1912, Titanic, the greatest ship ever built, sank in the frigid waters of the North Atlantic. Aboard the ship were Aiken winter colonists John Jacob Astor IV, once called the richest man in the world; George Widener and his twenty-seven-year old son Harry; Philadelphia street-car millionaires; Col. Archibald Butt, Aide to President Taft; James Clinch Smith, of the eponymous Long Island town; and William Carter, a Pennsylvania coal mine millionaire who would survive the sinking, and later pay the high price of infamy. The lecture will include facts about Titanic, its passengers and their relationships, with an emphasis on Aiken's winter colonists who were lost in the sinking.



Gardening on the Cheap

1 Friday, February 21

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Patricia Read-Hunter Ed.M. Ph.D., full biography on page 12.

Description: You can spend hundreds of dollars each month to have a beautiful garden - or you can minimize the cost and effort. This session led by a master gardener will look at such things as seed saving, propagation, lawn replacement, and water usage. A list of organizations that help you garden on the cheap will be provided.



Plutonium and Our National Security

3 Thursdays, February 27, March 5, 12

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Dr. James C. Marra is a veteran in the nuclear industry. He began his nuclear career at the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) as a Senior Engineer and progressed to the level of Advisory Engineer. He also spent time as a Senior Scientist for the U.S. Department of Energy's office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM). Dr. Marra has a B.S. degree in Ceramic Science and B.A. degree in Mathematics (Alfred University, Alfred, NY); a Master's degree in Materials Engineering (Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA); and a Ph.D. in Ceramic and Materials Engineering (Clemson University).

Description: Week 1 will discuss national security in today's world, featuring a presentation from Vice Admiral Charles Munns discussing the history of the U.S. nuclear deterrent, recent Nuclear Posture Review and recommendations, current world situation, modernization of the nuclear deterrent, etc. Week 2 will cover safe and secure plutonium storage and disposition. SRNS and/or SRNL representatives will discuss SRS materials storage infrastructure, the 3013/9977 development and safety assessments, 3013 surveillance program and past, current and future Pu disposition approaches. Week 3 will conclude with plutonium pits and pit production. SRNS representatives will provide an overview of past Pu pit production, current activities and future plans for the plutonium pit production.

Combating Food Waste

1 Monday, March 2

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Patricia Read-Hunter Ed.M. Ph.D., full biography on page 12.

Description: Globally, 30-40% of food produced for humans is lost or wasted, while billions go hungry. As Americans, what can we and what should we do about it? Is there a technological solution, or do we have to change the way we consume? We'll discuss some easy solutions as well as longer-term ones. And no, dumpster-diving will not be part of the session.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

We're Still Here - American Indians Today

3 Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Tiajuana King Cochnauer, a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, has shared these topics regionally and internationally and is excited to share with her neighbors in Aiken. She is a Choctaw Nation registered artist and is a Certified Interpretive Guide (National Association for Interpretation). She served the USDA Forest Service as the national Acting Director of the Office of Tribal Relations, Washington, DC. She is the local chapter leader for her alma mater, the University of Oklahoma.

Description: Session 1 will discuss who American Indians are today, including an introduction to Federally Recognized Tribes, their relationship to the U.S. government, and definitions. Session 2 will cover facts and myths about American Indians. Session 3 will conclude with documenting tribal membership and recent political events that have been brought into the spotlight.

History and Preservation of the Savannah River Site

4 Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: This course is a collaborative effort between Site employees and the Foundation, taught by **Art Osborne, P.J. Perea, Melissa Hanson, and Walt Joseph**. Art Osborne's career at SRS included managing assignments in quality assurance, working in engineering, SRNL lab operations, and organizational improvement. Osborne retired from SRS in 2001. P.J. Perea is the Director of Public Relations and Outreach for the University of Georgia Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (UGA SREL). Melissa Hanson, a native Aikenite, has worked for New South Associates at the Curation Facility on SRS since 2013. Melissa has been in the museum field for 10 years. Walt Joseph retired after over 39 years as an engineer and manager at SRS. He is co-founder and executive director of the SRS Heritage Foundation, the lead organization that developed the SRS Museum in downtown Aiken.

Description: The first session of the course will outline the history of the Savannah River Site (SRS) including the Cold War military buildup and the mission of SRS in that buildup. The second session will explore the history of the Savannah River Ecology Lab (SREL) and many of the interesting discoveries researchers have made in and around SRS. The third session will focus on the implementation of the Department of Energy's Cold War Historic Preservation Program at SRS. The fourth and final session will provide an optional private tour of the SRS Museum and discuss efforts to share the history of SRS to the general public – a partnership with the Curation Facility and the Aiken County Historical Museum. This course will occur on location at the SRS Museum – located in the former Dibble Memorial Library on Laurens Street.

History Through Coins of the Bible and the Twelve Caesars

3 Wednesdays, March 11, 18, 25

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Wayne Damron is a numismatist and began his collecting career at age nine. He was the owner of a business located in Augusta, Georgia that dealt in precious metal and rare coins. He gives a variety of presentations on the subject of numismatics several times a month to private clubs, schools, church, and civic organizations in Georgia and South Carolina. He has given lectures on the subject for over twenty years to small groups, and those numbering over 300.

Description: A number of Biblical coins, their Biblical implications, and their impact on future coinage will be covered through presentations. Biblical passages will be referenced concerning several of these coins. Attendees will have the opportunity to hold many of these coins, some of which are 2,500 years old. The story of the Twelve Caesar's accomplishments in the Roman Empire and the impact it had on the world then, and today will be told through their coins. While the presentation emphasizes their positive aspects, some of the less positive aspects are covered as well.



The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Line Dancing for Beginners

6 Mondays, March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Convocation Center

Instructor: Brenda Taylor is an active lifetime member and Past President of CSRA (Central Savannah River Area) Carolina Shag Club. She is also a Line Dance, Carolina Shag instructor, and member of SOS North Myrtle Beach, SC since the 1990's. Brenda has taught at Hotel Aiken (Polo Tavern), the Carnival SOS 7-Day Cruise in October of 2013, and the Palmetto Shag Club Memorial Day Weekend Event in Columbia, SC since 2014. A resident of Aiken and a 1970 graduate of Aiken High School, Brenda has been a business owner and registered cosmetologist in this area for 46 years and is now semi-retired.

Description: Back again by popular demand! Lessons will begin with basic steps, broken down and taught slowly for beginners. A new dance will be taught each week and dances learned in previous weeks will be reviewed. Both new dances and old favorites will be covered. Line dancing is a choreographed dance with a repeated sequence of steps in which a group of people dance in one or more lines or rows without regard for the gender of the individuals, all executing the steps at the same time. Unlike other types of dancing, no partner is required. Line dancing provides good exercise and is great "food" for the heart and brain as well as a wonderful way to meet new friends. Come out and join the fun!

Line Dancing Advanced Class

6 Wednesdays, March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Convocation Center

Instructor: Brenda Taylor

Description: This class is perfect for individuals who have completed the Line Dancing for Beginners classes in previous semesters. A new dance will be taught each week and dances learned on previous weeks will be reviewed. Line dancing provides good exercise and is great "food" for the heart and brain as well as a wonderful way to meet new friends. Come out and join the fun!



Veterinary Medicine

1 Wednesday, March 18

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 116

Instructor: Charles Groover D.V.M. was born and raised in Fairfax, South Carolina. He is a 1994 graduate of Clemson University, and Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in 1998; he completed clinical studies at Louisiana State University. He worked as a mixed animal practitioner (large and small animal medicine and surgery) in Greenville, Mississippi from 1998 to 2001, and later in Thomason, Georgia. He began his career in Aiken in 2004 as a small animal practitioner at Aiken Veterinary Clinic, a practice that he has owned since 2014.

Description: This course will cover the following: How relationships between owners and pets have changed dramatically over the years, your pet's health, diet and exercise, veterinarian approaches to disease and considerations including the owner's health and ability to carry out aftercare, and letting go considerations; putting pets to sleep (there is no formula).

Great Decisions

8 Fridays, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 102

Instructor: This is a discussion-based class and does not have an Instructor. An individual will be appointed to facilitate the discussion each week.

Description: Topics are chosen from the Foreign Policy Association Manual in this regular spring semester offering. The eight topics for Great Decisions 2020 are: Climate Change and the Global Order, India and Pakistan, Red Sea Security, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle, China's Road into Latin America, The Philippines and the U.S., and Artificial Intelligence and Data.

Note: Briefing books for the Great Decisions topics will be available for individual purchase from the Foreign Policy Association (FPA) in early January 2020 for \$32 plus shipping (http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions).

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Honeybees - Answers to Questions You May Have About Their Care

4 Mondays, March 23, 30, April 6, 13

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

March 30 class will be held in B&E 144

Instructor: Ed Kvartek is a retired Industrial Hygienist who operates a small farm with his wife outside of Aiken. They have had colonies on the farm since its inception that were managed by an experienced beekeeper. When the beekeeper decided to devote more time to his family, Ed and Cathy took on the responsibility for the colonies. Ed completed the Aiken Beekeepers Association class, First Lessons In Beekeeping, and has managed to harvest honey from the hives for the last 3 years.

Description: Honeybee colonies are in farmers' fields, in backyard gardens, sometimes in the walls of houses, and even in the White House. The class will discuss the origin of the honeybee in the United States, the typical hive most individuals have come to recognize, as well as alternative hives, how the colony functions, how honey is produced and stored in the hive, the various stresses honeybees are experiencing, and how honey can be harvested for use. This short course will not address everything you need to manage a honeybee colony on your own but you should gain a better understanding of what a beekeeper typically does. There will be an optional field trip in April to visit the bee hives.



Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy

4 Wednesdays, March 18, April 1, 8, 15

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Doris Hammond Ph.D. has been an instructor since the beginning of the Academy. Her academic degrees are from the University of Cincinnati, Marshall University and the University of Georgia. She has been a professor of psychology and gerontology. In 1992, she started a private practice as a therapist here in Aiken. Hammond continues to practice part-time. Her most recent honor is the Earl Kauffman Award presented to her in April 2018 by the Academy of Lifelong Learning.

Description: Cognitive Behavior Therapy works with Mindfulness as a strong way of changing your thinking habits, enhancing your ability to live the life you want to live. Most of us do not realize the strength we have to change our thoughts in a positive way. To familiarize yourself with the types of skills you will be learning, visit www.mbct.com. This will be a fun course that teaches you skills that will change your life.



Victorians in the CSRA

1 Thursday, April 2

11:00 – 12:15 p.m.

Penland 106

Instructors: Lauren Virgo was born and raised in North Augusta, South Carolina. She attended Clemson University and received a B.A. degree in History with a minor in Fine Art and a M.A. in Art History and a Certificate in Museum Management from University of South Carolina. Virgo has worked professionally in the museum field for fourteen years. She joined the staff of the Aiken County Historical Museum as a Collections Manager in June of 2017. In December of 2018, she became the museum's Executive Director.

Leah Walker comes to us from the mountains of east Tennessee, hailing from a tiny little hamlet called Bulls Gap. Having been bitten by the history bug in Charleston as a child, she knew she had found her calling while attending a walking tour of the historic city. Leah completed a B.A. degree in Museum Studies at Tusculum College, the oldest continuously operating school in Tennessee, and later went on to East Tennessee State University where she attained a M.A. degree in Storytelling. After a turn with the National Park Service in Death Valley, she returned to her initial alma mater and the Museum Studies program and was the Site & Events Manager for seven years at the home of Tusculum's founder, Samuel Witherspoon Doak.

Description: From corsets to electricity, the Victorian era was a time of great change in our river area. In this session attendees will hear about the lives, technological and cultural advances, and fashion of the Victorian period in the CSRA.

Imported Fire Ant: Biology and Management in the Home Landscape

2 Tuesdays, April 21, 28

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124

Instructor: Vicky Bertagnolli, full biography on pg 9.

Description: Students will learn about the imported fire ant, *Solenopsis spp.*, its biology, and how to effectively manage imported fire ant populations in the home landscape.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

USC Aiken Nursing School Students Present Promoting Quality Health For The Elderly

1 Monday, April 27

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 124; Enrollment limit: 20

Instructors: Carolyn Sue-Ling and USC Aiken 3rd-year Nursing Students. Carolyn Sue-Ling is a native of North Carolina who discovered her love for teaching nursing in 1988. She was a clinical instructor at USC Aiken from 1989 until 1996. Sue-Ling holds a MSN as a nurse educator and a Ph.D. in nursing. In 2012, she returned to USC Aiken as an instructor of Nursing.

Description: This course is an opportunity to sit in on students' presentations of health promotion projects to communicate health issues and quality health associated with aging. The teaching project's objective is to cover the most recent research on a topic selected by each student group. The presentations are prepared for the public and for patients, not medical professionals. Each group presentation includes talks accompanied by PowerPoint-type slides, a pamphlet handout prepared by the presenters, engaging activities, and an opportunity for questions. This nursing course explores theories of human development and the achievement and maintenance of healthy lifestyles of elders.

Since this Academy course involves "sitting in" on a regular USC Aiken academic course session, it will be important to arrive on time. The academic course session lasts nearly 3 hours. However, there will be a brief break between presentations (these will provide an opportunity to leave for those unable to stay for all of the presentations).



Trips and Events

Thoroughbred Racing Hall Of Fame Tour "Home Of Aiken's Racing Champions"

Thursday, February 20

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**135 Dupree Pl. off Whiskey Road
next to Hopelands Gardens; Enrollment Limit: 30**

Instructor: Lisa J. Hall has worked for the City of Aiken Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department for over thirty years. She took over supervision of the NAiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum in 2010. She holds a B.A. in education from the University of South Carolina Aiken. A lover of history and horses her entire life, Lisa grew up in Aiken, South Carolina, a community known for its love of all things equestrian. She volunteers with the Aiken Trials and the Aiken Steeplechase Association.

Description: The Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum celebrates the great tradition of racing and Aiken's vital role in it. Forty Champion Thoroughbreds have trained at the famed Aiken Training Track. The Hall of Fame immortalizes each in the Iselin's charming, old carriage house. The Hall of Fame features both flat racers and steeplechase horses, from 1942 through the present. Photos, trophies and other memorabilia highlight these outstanding horses. Lisa J. Hall, Museum Coordinator will be the speaker and also provide a tour of the facility.

Earl F. Kauffman Recognition Day Luncheon

Thursday, April 23

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg. 122

Description: Dr. Earl Kauffman arrived in Aiken at the age of 82 and initiated a planning committee to develop and implement a program for the community's mature residents. In 1990, this committee created a mission statement for what was to become the Academy for Lifelong Learning at the University of South Carolina Aiken. The annual Earl F. Kauffman Recognition Day and Award is a luncheon hosted annually to celebrate the significant contribution made by Mr. Kauffman. It is made possible by an endowment fund established in 1990 by Dr. James Kauffman upon the death of his father, Earl.

Invitations (with required RSVP) will be mailed to Academy members in February. Members are asked to stay after the luncheon for the annual business meeting.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Registration Form Person 1

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email Address _____

Registration Opens: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. No early registrations accepted.

*If you mail in your registration before the registration date, it will not be entered until January 7, 2020.

Registration Open House: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in Business and Education Room #134.

Membership Fee: \$70 per semester.

Please check the box next to the short course(s) that you would like to attend.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Tide: Public Opinion | <input type="checkbox"/> Pat Conroy | <input type="checkbox"/> We're Still Here |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French for Fun | <input type="checkbox"/> Catalyst for Change | <input type="checkbox"/> SRS History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More Four Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Banishing Belly Fat | <input type="checkbox"/> History Through Coins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Seuss | <input type="checkbox"/> Signal Corps | <input type="checkbox"/> Line Dancing for Beginners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trees and Shrubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Vertebrate Paleontology | <input type="checkbox"/> Line Dancing Advanced |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backyard Birds | <input type="checkbox"/> Character Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Medicine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Falun Dafa | <input type="checkbox"/> Tea the Beverage | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Decisions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise is Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Sensational Sky Stories | <input type="checkbox"/> Honeybees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genetically Modified Organisms | <input type="checkbox"/> Aiken and the Titanic | <input type="checkbox"/> Mindfulness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 Noble Prize in Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening on the Cheap | <input type="checkbox"/> Victorians in the CSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History in Headstones | <input type="checkbox"/> Plutonium | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Ants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live from the Met | <input type="checkbox"/> Combating Food Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aiken Symphony | | |

Please check the box next to the trip and/or event that you would like to attend.

- ☐ Thoroughbred Racing Hall ☐ Kauffman Luncheon (additional RSVP will be required)

Register Online: aikenlearning.org/Register.php

Submit By Mail: USC Aiken Continuing Education
471 University Parkway - Box 20
Aiken, SC 29801

Submit In Person: USC Aiken Business & Education Building Room 111 (803-641-3741)

PAYMENT: You may pay by credit card or check. Please check the appropriate box:

- ☐ Enclosed check (Payable to USCA)

Check #: _____

- ☐ Enclosed credit card information (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or AmEx only)

Visa, MC, Disc, AmEx: _____ Exp. Date: _____

The Academy for Lifelong Learning

Registration Form Person 2

Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email Address _____

Registration Opens: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. No early registrations accepted.

*If you mail in your registration before the registration date, it will not be entered until January 7, 2020.

Registration Open House: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in Business and Education Room #134.

Membership Fee: \$70 per semester.

Please check the box next to the short course(s) that you would like to attend.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Tide: Public Opinion | <input type="checkbox"/> Pat Conroy | <input type="checkbox"/> We're Still Here |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French for Fun | <input type="checkbox"/> Catalyst for Change | <input type="checkbox"/> SRS History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More Four Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Banishing Belly Fat | <input type="checkbox"/> History Through Coins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Seuss | <input type="checkbox"/> Signal Corps | <input type="checkbox"/> Line Dancing for Beginners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trees and Shrubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Vertebrate Paleontology | <input type="checkbox"/> Line Dancing Advanced |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backyard Birds | <input type="checkbox"/> Character Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Medicine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Falun Dafa | <input type="checkbox"/> Tea the Beverage | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Decisions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise is Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Sensational Sky Stories | <input type="checkbox"/> Honeybees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genetically Modified Organisms | <input type="checkbox"/> Aiken and the Titanic | <input type="checkbox"/> Mindfulness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 Noble Prize in Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening on the Cheap | <input type="checkbox"/> Victorians in the CSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History in Headstones | <input type="checkbox"/> Plutonium | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Ants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live from the Met | <input type="checkbox"/> Combating Food Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aiken Symphony | | |

Please check the box next to the trip and/or event that you would like to attend.

- ☐ Thoroughbred Racing Hall ☐ Kauffman Luncheon (additional RSVP will be required)

Register Online: aikenlearning.org/Register.php

Submit By Mail: USC Aiken Continuing Education
471 University Parkway - Box 20
Aiken, SC 29801

Submit In Person: USC Aiken Business & Education Building Room 111 (803-641-3741)

PAYMENT: You may pay by credit card or check. Please check the appropriate box:

- ☐ Enclosed check (Payable to USCA)

Check #: _____

- ☐ Enclosed credit card information (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or AmEx only)

Visa, MC, Disc, AmEx: _____ Exp. Date: _____