

ZOOM COURSE



FIGHTING SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES, PART 2

Richard Bell

Sessions I and II

NOTE: This course meets for 6 consecutive weeks.

Fridays, 11:00 a.m. (begins September 26)

Fee: \$74

This lecture series is a sequel to the previous course covering an earlier period. This six-week course offers you the opportunity to meet a large and often unfamiliar cast of characters — both Black and white, enslaved and free — who developed a range of tools and tactics, means and methods to escape enslavement or tried to resist it in the period between the drafting of the United States Constitution in 1787 and 1865, the year that marked the end of the Civil War. Attendance in the previous course is not required.

Richard Bell is professor of history at the University of Maryland and author of the book “Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and their Astonishing Odyssey Home” which was a finalist for the George Washington Prize and the Harriet Tubman Prize. He has held major research fellowships at Yale, Cambridge, and the Library of Congress and received the National Endowment of the Humanities Public Scholar award and the 2021 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. He serves as a trustee of the Maryland Center for History and Culture and as a fellow of the Royal Historical Society



“WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE INDIANS?”: U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY OVER THE CENTURIES

Jacqueline Hedberg

Sessions I and II

Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 10)

Fee: \$148 (\$74 for each session)

“What shall we do with the Indians?” is a question that white Americans have been asking ever since they arrived on the North American continent. This course will examine the various answers that leaders of our government have given to that question. George Washington said, “Civilize and Christianize them.” Andrew Jackson said, “Remove them.” Ulysses Grant said, “Put them on reservations.” Congress at times has said, “Make them landowners and eliminate the reservations.” LBJ and Richard Nixon said, “Why not let the Indians determine their future for themselves?” This course is a chronological examination of United States government policy over the centuries and the response of Native Americans to ever-changing federal programs. Our last lesson will examine the conditions under which Indians live in the United States today.

Jacqueline Hedberg taught history in Baltimore County and with the Department of Defense Overseas Dependent Schools in Germany and Japan. Since retiring she has spearheaded the restoration of an historic graveyard on Hoopers Island, where she was born, and written extensively about her birthplace. She has taught Osher classes about slavery on the Eastern Shore, Reconstruction in Maryland, and how the Indians east of the Mississippi lost their land. In 2019, her slavery lessons were published by The History Press under the title “Plantations, Slavery & Freedom on Maryland’s Eastern Shore.”



THE LEGACY OF ROMAN BRITAIN

Bob Baer

Sessions I and II

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. (begins September 9)

Fee: \$148 (\$74 for each session)

The Roman province of Britannia is one of the most fascinating and important periods in British history. Rome first entered Britain in 55 BCE, when Julius Caesar landed his troops. The Romans would rule there until 409 CE when the legions evacuated the island. Over four centuries of control, this unique society would combine classical Roman civilization with that of the native Celtic Britons. During Britain's first era of recorded history, the Romans left a great archaeological record of the cities, towns, forts, villas and roads they built, including their capital London and Hadrian's Wall. The history includes the great Celtic rebel queen Boudicca. Through this course, learn the impact of Roman rule on all aspects of civilization including art, culture, religion and the development of government and administration.

Bob Baer is a college administrator with over forty years of experience in higher education. He has bachelor's and master's degrees in history and a doctorate in higher education. Bob is a history instructor at Community College of Baltimore County, Johns Hopkins University and Towson University Osher programs, York College-CUNY and Norwalk Community College.



BEER, BREAD AND BROTHELS IN BALTIMORE

Jennifer Liles

Sessions I and II

Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 11)

No class on 10/16. Makeup on 10/9

Fee: \$148 (\$74 for each session)

Come learn about the history of Baltimore's beer, bread and brothel industries. In this course, you will learn a basic history about Baltimore's immigration story and how immigrant culture contributed to many of the industries that helped Baltimore flourish in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. We will discuss the importance of bakeries and bread in Baltimore's food industry. We will learn how an influx of German immigrants helped create Baltimore's brewing industry which was able to withstand prohibition. We will also investigate how the brothel industry helped cure the woes of the Civil War and later created the infamous Baltimore Block. This course views beer, bread and brothels from Baltimore's early days through the 1970s.

Jennifer Liles is a public historian with a degree in public history from Stevenson University. She researches and works on projects related to the history of Baltimore and its people as well as industry, places and events that make Baltimore unique.



THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN WOMEN'S FASHIONS: FROM UNDERWEAR TO OUTERWEAR (PART 2)

Barbara Blumberg Ressin

Session I

Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m. (begins September 9)

Fee: \$74

This course will continue the journey through women's fashion. Attendance in the previous course is not required. We will see how women's fashions evolved throughout the history of the United States. We will witness how economics, religion, mores, practicality, technology and the government have influenced clothing styles. This visually rich course will include vintage photographs along with vintage films to allow students to view firsthand glimpses of the fashions of the day. Learn about the origins of the little black dress, known fondly as "the LBD", women's styles in the 1950s, hats and shoes through the decades, and the rise and fall of furs. We'll learn how society influences clothing and accessories styles, and we will discuss some famous designers who left their imprint on American women's fashion.

Barbara Blumberg Ressin is a graduate of Towson University with a B.S. in education. She taught for three years in the Baltimore City Public School System, 25 years at the Beth Tfiloh Day School in the secular division, and as adjunct faculty member of Community College of Baltimore County at both the Owings Mills and Hunt Valley campuses, adjunct faculty member of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University, adjunct faculty member of the Renaissance Academy for the Florida Gulf State University, member of Oasis faculty in Montgomery County under auspices of Johns Hopkins University, taught at Food For Thought Lectures, Kaleidoscope at Roland Park School, lectured for The Lecture Group, Western Howard County Senior Center, Friends of the Pikesville Library, North Oaks Retirement Community and various religious and philanthropic groups around the state.



DOWN THE GARDEN PATH

Meg Algren

Session II

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. (begins October 16)

Fee: \$74

Blossoms, butterflies and birds — the perfect garden walk. But gardening isn't all a bed of roses, that's for sure. Course topics are geared to appeal to both hands-on gardeners and to those who do not have a garden. In addition to discussing some of the challenges facing gardeners today, the class will explore plants that have traditionally been used to heal and harm, examining their roles in the development of modern medicines. The class will also explore plant folklore, garden stories and mythology and the economic and political impact plants have on the world. No gardening experience necessary.

Meg Algren holds a Ph.D. in communications. She is professor emerita at Towson University where she taught public relations and advertising for 15 years in the Department of Mass Communication. She has been a master gardener, based in Harford County, since 2010, with a special focus on native gardening and conservation methods.



WHAT IS THE MAHA MOVEMENT?

Ann Farrell

Sessions I and II

Thursdays, 2:30 p.m. (begins September 11)

Fee: \$148 (\$74 for each session)

What is MAHA? Similar to MAGA, a familiar acronym, MAHA stands for Make America Healthy Again — a movement aimed to improve our nation's health. MAHA's controversial champion, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., states its purpose is to "dismantle the corporate stranglehold on government agencies that's led to widespread chronic disease, environmental degradation and rampant public distrust."

These goals appeal to many Americans — 82% consider wellness a key priority — uniting them around a single idea. Thus, MAHA's crusade for a healthier country seems to be something we can all get behind. But can you believe the hype? The MAHA movement has prioritized the dismantling of public health agencies, promoting unproven treatments and alternative therapies, disregarding scientific consensus, oversimplifying complex health issues and eliminating crucial aspects of public health. This course will unpack President Trump's pivot into wellness through RFK Jr. We will look at who MAHA is aimed at, who stands to benefit and suffer from it, and report on progress to date.

Ann Farrell, BSN RN, is a career-long patient advocate in roles as direct care provider, hospital and HealthIT vendor executive and a principal of Farrell Associates, a strategic healthcare consulting firm. Ann has been a popular featured speaker in numerous international and national forums and an instructor in prior Osher courses focused on the U.S. healthcare market and medical industrial complex.

ZOOM COURSE



THE IMPACT OF THE GAZA WAR ON THE UNITED STATES

Fred Pincus

Session II

Mondays, 9:30 a.m. (begins October 13)

Fee: \$74

The war between Israel and Palestinians in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem has had profound impacts in the United States. What role should the U.S. play? Is criticizing Israel and Zionism a form of antisemitism? Do American colleges promote antisemitism? What do public opinion polls say that Americans think about the war? Are there Jewish Anti-Zionists and Christian Zionists? Although the instructor will lecture about these and other issues, there will be ample time for discussion.

Dr. Fred L Pincus is an emeritus professor of sociology at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, where he taught classes on race relations and diversity for 44 years. He has also taught several courses at Osher. Pincus is a founding member of the Baltimore Jewish Cultural Chavurah, although the views he expresses are his own.