JOURNALISM IN CRISIS: A USER’S GUIDE
Michael Anft

Sessions I and II
Thursday, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 13)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

Today’s news media landscape is a swamp of peril and possibility. Arguably, there is more “news” now than ever, delivered in an endless array of new platforms. How can an educated news consumer sort out the facts from the propaganda, the truth from the cant, or the hard-hitting stories from the click-bait? This course, taught by veteran reporter and writer Michael Anft will give students a fighting chance at extracting meaning from the growing hordes of media clutter, and to figure out how to find the best information in order to make the decisions citizens must make in a democracy.


BIG THANKS to all Osher Volunteers who help to make Osher a success.
MEDICAL AND RESEARCH ETHICS: History, Regulation, and Hot Issues
Patricia Alt

Sessions I and II
Monday, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 10)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

While personal medical decisions become fodder for political debate, new technologies are creating previously unimaginable choices for researchers, funders, and potential patients/participants. This course examines key concepts of medical and research ethics, and their application in the United States today. It begins with a brief discussion of the overlap of law and ethics, the sources of both perspectives, and the evolution of regulations to protect the public from fraud and danger. Contemporary medical ethics dilemmas will be examined, including those emerging in the news almost daily. The development and revision of Federal regulations for human subject research will be examined, along with the potential impact of new rules. Using discussion, case studies and scenes from recent movies, we will consider the ways in which medical and research ethics are shaped by their environment and the ways in which society seeks to regulate the practice of medicine and research. Some material will come from Dr. Alt’s recent book (T. Marzotto & P. Alt, Stem Cell Research: Hope or Hype? Routledge, 2017), but it is not required reading.

Patricia (Pat) Alt, Ph.D., recently retired from Towson University, after teaching health policy, legal and ethical issues in health care and clinical practice, and responsible research for thirty years. She developed the Institutional Review Boards for protection of human research subjects at the Maryland Department of Health and at Towson, and serves on the MDH IRB. She is also an active member of the GBMC Ethics Committee and the Baltimore City Commission on Aging.

1968: AN INFLUENTIAL YEAR
Tracy Miller

Session II
Monday, 11 a.m. (begins October 15)
Fee: $65

Perhaps the most cataclysmic year in the 20th century, 1968 saw change on many fronts. Colleges erupted, cities burned, pacifists were assassinated, the presidency flipped, and the war in Vietnam took the lives of many Americans. The Tet Offensive, Lyndon B. Johnson’s resignation, the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy, election politics through the Democratic National Convention, the election of Richard Nixon and more happened this fateful year. This course will examine these events, put them into context, and explore their lasting impact.

Tracy Miller has taught courses on the 1960s for both the History and the American Studies Departments at Towson University. She participated in an Osher seminar, discussing Jewish Activism in the Civil Rights Movement. She has recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of her graduation (in 1968 of course) from Western High School. After high school, she attended the University of Wisconsin, where she earned a B.A. in US history and also in theater. Her M.S. is from Towson University in professional writing.

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Baltimore: The Monumental City
Wayne Schaumburg

Session I
Thursday, 11 a.m. (begins September 13)
Fee: $65 (Additional $5 materials fee)

With a collection of over 150 public monuments, Baltimore has more than lived up to our famous nickname of “the monumental city” given to us by John Quincy Adams in 1827. In this course we will look at Baltimore through its public art. Whether to adorn public spaces or to honor people, places, or historical events, Baltimore monuments have fascinating stories to tell. For example, why are there three monuments to Christopher Columbus, and what is a monument to Simon Bolivar doing in Guilford? Who is John Mifflin Hood, and what is the connection between silent movie star Francis X. Bushman and two Baltimore monuments? Which monument was said to be built by cigars, and where can you find the monument that honors Marylanders who fought in the American Revolutionary War? What famous monument is touched many Baltimoreans on a daily basis, and where can you find monuments to six Baltimore sports legends in one place? These are just a few of stories that we will examine in a series of four lectures and discussions. In addition, we will look at some famous Baltimore sculptors including Hans Shuler, William Henry Rinehart, Edward Berge, and Reuben Kramer as well as the current methods of maintaining and restoring our cities public art. We will also discuss the recent removal of Confederate monuments. Join us for four classes of “monumental thrills” as we discover “the monumental city!”

Wayne Schaumburg, a native Baltimorean, graduated from Towson University in 1968 with a double major in history and geography. He has graduate degrees from Morgan State University and Johns Hopkins University. Schaumburg taught social studies in the Baltimore City Public School system for 39 years before retiring in 2007. Currently he teaches for CCBC, Roland Park Country School, Johns Hopkins University, and the College of Notre Dame. He gives illustrated lectures on a variety of topics ranging from Baltimore architecture to the Great Baltimore Fire. For the last 24 years, he has led tours through one of his favorite city landmarks, Green Mount Cemetery. This is his 12th course for the Osher Institute.

The History of Marriage
Barbara Blumberg

Session I
Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. (begins September 18; class will meet during break week on October 9)
Fee: $65

In ancient times, most societies needed a secure environment in order to perpetuate their existence. They needed a way to handle property rights and protect bloodlines. The institution that we recognize as marriage handled those needs. However, when did it all start and what came first, polygamy or monogamy? When did the first family unit, as we know it, come to be and why? What role did religion play, if any, in the evolution of marriage? How has marriage differed throughout the ages in the U.S. and in other countries? We will find answers to these questions on our journey through the history of marriage. From ancient civilizations to Leave it to Beaver’s family to today’s same-sex marriages, the history of marriage is a bumpy ride.

Barbara Blumberg is a graduate of Towson University with a B.S. in education. She taught secular studies for 25 years in the lower and middle schools at the Beth Tfiloh Day School, as well as three years in the Baltimore City Public School System. She is an adjunct faculty member of The Community College of Baltimore County at both Owings Mills and Hunt Valley campuses, as well as a faculty member for the Renaissance Academy for the Florida Gulf State University. She teaches at Food For Thought Lectures, Kaleidoscope, and at The Edward A. Myerberg Center for Adult Studies. She has guest lectured for The Lecture Group, Friends of the Pikesville Library, North Oaks Retirement Community, and various religious and philanthropic groups.
Social Sciences

**Archaeology Today: New Answers to Old Questions**

Robert Baer

**Sessions I and II**
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. (begins September 11)

Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

Archaeologists of today are making exciting new discoveries. From unearthing lost cities to new interpretations of historic events and human behavior, modern technologies and multidisciplinary approaches are now being utilized to uncover a vast trove of new answers to age-old questions. This course will investigate recent archaeological discoveries and explore the latest insights revealed by employing modern innovations. We will also explore the ways that archaeology is changing how we view the past and the numerous threats to preserving our heritage. Places and civilizations to be studied include Egypt, Greece, Rome, the Middle East, Vikings, Colonial America, Pre-Columbian cultures, China, and others.

Robert Baer holds a B.A. in history from Towson University, an M.L.A. in the history of ideas from the Johns Hopkins University, and a D.Ed. in higher education from Morgan State University. He spent 30 years as a college administrator in Connecticut, New York, and Maryland. He has been an instructor in history at York College-CUNY, Norwalk Community College, Community College of Baltimore, and Howard Community College. He is a former associate director of admissions and advising in the Graduate School at Towson University, 1998–99.

**Free Blacks and Slaves on Maryland’s Eastern Shore**

Jacqueline Hedberg

**Session I**
Monday, 11 a.m. (begins September 10)

Fee: $65

Slavery is a terrible blot on America’s history. Many Americans actually know little about how it came to be and why it persisted for so long. Maryland’s Eastern Shore is a unique collection of counties that had its own brand of slavery. Its farmers shared fieldwork with their slaves, yet whipped them. They both freed slaves and sold them south. They treated some free blacks with respect and shunned others like pariahs. Two of America’s best-known runaways, Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman, came from the Eastern Shore. In this class, we will place slavery on the Eastern Shore in its historical context, learn how slaves were affected by the Plantation Revolution and the American Revolution, and examine the internal slave trade that sent hundreds of slaves from the Upper South to cotton and sugar plantations in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The last class deals with the Fugitive Slave Act and the Underground Railroad. The course will be supplemented by a field trip to the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Museum in Dorchester County.

Note: This is a repeat of the course that was offered in Fall 2017.

Jacqueline Hedberg taught history in Baltimore County and for the Department of Defense in Germany and Japan. Since retiring, she has spearheaded the restoration of an historic graveyard on Hoopers Island, where she was born, and has written extensively about her birthplace. Her most recent book, *Hoopers Island’s Changing Face* (Arcadia), was published in 2016. She has lectured at the Maryland Genealogical Society and the Dorchester County Historical Society. She is a charter member of Osher.
GENEALOGY: DISCOVERING YOUR ROOTS

David Powell

Session II
Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. (begins October 17)
Fee: $65

Have you ever wanted to learn more about your grandparents or great grandparents? Are your ancestors from Europe or South America or Asia or somewhere else? Here’s an opportunity to learn about the fascinating field of genealogy and get answers to those questions. Learn about your DNA roots, learn about your ethnicity, and learn about the events that occurred in your families. This course teaches the basics of genealogy, where and how to look for the facts that make up your family’s history. Learn the types of methods, research techniques, and records that are available not only in local libraries and archives but also in your own homes via the internet. Research names, dates, places and events and record those events for your families. Examples of the stories and types of information you will discover will be presented from the instructors own research.

David Powell retired as Vice President and Chief Information Officer for AAI Corporation in 2007. He holds a BA degree in Economics and a Master’s degree in Information Management. He has been active in various boards and forums in the Mid-Atlantic region for information systems curriculum development and Information Technology networking and eCommerce. Mr. Powell has been researching his own family history for over 25 years and is the current President of the Baltimore County Genealogical society as well as a member of their Board of Directors. He is also a member of the Maryland Genealogical Society. He also teaches beginning and advanced genealogy courses at local senior centers, libraries and the Community College of Baltimore County.