



WELCOME TO OLLI – WE’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE!

This brief document will help orient you to OLLI at Bradley University, provide useful links and resources, identify key contacts, and direct you to sources of more information. We hope you find your time with OLLI to be intellectually stimulating in a friendly, welcoming environment, with many opportunities to become actively involved. Our staff prides itself on providing outstanding customer service, so if you have any questions, just ask us! We’re here to help!

WHAT IS OLLI?

OLLI is an acronym for The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Bradley University, an organization of over 1,100 Peoria-area residents who are at least 50 years old and want to stay vital and active as they reach and enjoy retirement. Through two separate \$1 million gifts from The Bernard Osher Foundation, OLLI at Bradley is recognized as an Osher program of distinction.

Bradley University, OLLI’s home, recognizes the importance of the program as a standard of excellence in lifelong learning. Bradley University generously supports OLLI through the provision of staff, meeting space, and services for OLLI. Bradley University’s Continuing Education and Professional Development Division sponsors the OLLI program and provides staff for program leadership and oversight. In addition, OLLI is guided by dedicated volunteers who are passionate about their vision of OLLI. This grassroots approach makes everyone a stakeholder in the process and results.

WHAT CAN I LEARN AT OLLI?

OLLI at Bradley offers learning opportunities organized into four program categories:

Classes (held three times a year in January, April, and October): OLLI Classes are held in a friendly, welcoming environment on Bradley’s campus, with park-and-ride shuttle service provided while Bradley University classes are in session. Classes meet on Bradley’s campus on Wednesdays in April and October, and four consecutive days the second week of January. A typical OLLI class day lasts from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with several snack breaks to provide socialization opportunities with your peers.

Learning Trips (held throughout the year): OLLI Learning Trips are educational travel experiences that encourage you to interact with experts who offer behind-the-scenes looks at

area businesses, regional attractions, and international destinations. All land excursions travel via our comfortable, easy-access OLLI shuttles or by charter coach. OLLI offers more than 125 trips annually to provide unique learning experiences for our members.

Study Groups (held throughout the year): Designed for our members who want to learn more about topics of interest, Study Groups offer the opportunity to investigate topics in-depth with their like-minded peers. Members may work independently outside the group, they may lead the group, or anything in between! This program are our members' connection to studying what they most enjoy with people who share their enthusiasm.

OLLI Originals (held throughout the year): OLLI Originals provide opportunities for unique experiences and chances to gain valuable insights in a variety of settings. These events are designed to offer our members extra learning experiences that don't necessarily fit the model of our classes, learning trips, and study groups, such as films, after hours, lunch and learns, workshops, and more.

HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED?

The Continuing Education staff who support OLLI at Bradley University work hard to make it easy for you to become aware of and involved in OLLI programming.

Four times a year – in January, May, July, and November – you will receive an OLLI brochure in the mail that describes everything OLLI offers for the next term. The booklet includes program descriptions and schedules to help you choose the activities that are right for you. After you select your activities, then you register for them in person, online, or by mail. Each quarterly brochure provides detailed information about the registration process.

Before the start date for any of your selected activities, you will receive a packet that is customized for your selections. This includes a receipt for your payment, parking information, itineraries, a map, and other pertinent details. If you have any concerns that are not answered in the packet, call the Continuing Education staff, who are happy to answer your questions.

WHERE DO I PARK AT BRADLEY?

We do know that finding a parking space can be challenging - but we make it easy for you!

For classes in April and October, we offer a “park and ride” option so you can park in large lots near campus and take a comfortable shuttle to class. The shuttle is available all day to transport members to their cars.

For learning trips, we provide reserved parking in the CampusTown shopping center across the street from Bradley, the departure location for our trips. Most study groups and OLLI Originals meet at other locations that have ample parking. For each program, your confirmation materials will include information about parking.