The Institute of Learning in Retirement is a group of retirement age active seniors who are committed to life-long learning. Based at the Virginia Beach campus of Tidewater Community College, we enjoy intellectually stimulating lectures, discussion groups, social events, and trips. For a yearly membership fee, you will receive a quarterly schedule of our programs and events. Classes, trips, discussion groups, and socials require registration and payment.

There are over 300 such college-sponsored institutes and centers in the U.S., and we are one of the largest in Virginia. Our ILR began in 1993 with 15 interested members, and it now has as many as 900 active members from Virginia Beach and surrounding cities. We are housed at the Virginia Beach campus of Tidewater Community College and are in partnership with the Virginia Library system.

Membership

ILR membership is open to all who have reached retirement age without regard to race, religion, gender, color, or national origin. Volunteers interested in enriching their retirement years run the organization, with the help of two employees who see to the business of operation.

What does it cost?

ILR members pay an annual membership fee of $20. Each class selected costs $14 per two-hour session. The ILR social, membership, and travel events are priced accordingly.

Programs

The schedule for classes and trips is offered by quarters (Jan-Mar, Apr-Jun, Jul-Sep, Oct-Dec). Members can register for programs as soon as the schedule is mailed or posted on the ILR website. (ilrvb.org>current forms&flyers)

Members register for the classes and activities that interest them. Topics are drawn from the arts, social issues, science and technology, history and world affairs, and health-related subjects. ILR also has special interest groups that organize as members express interest. Currently we have SITESEEERS, who discuss travel, and the ILR Book Group, Great Books and Great Decisions. Call the office for contact information about these groups.

Our classes are usually two-hour presentations. Each calendar quarter, ILR offers 20 to 25 different classes planned by our Curriculum Committee. Classes meet Monday through Thursday in either the morning (10-12) or afternoon (1-3). All classes are taught on the TCC Virginia Beach Campus in the Pungo (F) Building Auditorium (Room F-133), unless otherwise specified. (See Registration form for Location details.) Area college and university faculty teach many of our classes, but area experts and our members deliver others.

Social and Travel Opportunities

Socializing is an important aspect of ILR. The Social Committee plans luncheons, visits to museums, and holiday events. The Membership Committee organizes periodic Lunch & Learn gatherings and New-Member Get-Togethers. The Travel Committee plans both day and overnight bus trips.

Class Cancellations

If a member cancels a class by phone, email, or drop-in at least 4 business days in advance, during business hours, 9:30-3:30p.m., M-F, the member will receive a refund check, minus a $2 administrative fee. For trips, the refund will vary according to the individual trip policy. (The $2 administrative fee also applies.) The member will receive a refund check. If the ILR cancels a program, the members will receive a full refund.

Inclement Weather

When TCC is closed due to inclement weather, ILR classes are cancelled. When there is a 2-hour delay, any ILR morning class/meeting is cancelled, but any afternoon class/meeting will be held, unless members are notified.

Closing and Delay Information; Local radio and TV stations (3,10,13); Notification on www.tcc.edu; Campus info center: (757) 822-1122; ILR Office Phone: 756-4861.

Parking at TCC

Parking is free. For Pungo Bldg. F, and the Student Center K, DRIVE TO Parking Lot 1 (closest to Princess Anne Rd.) and look for the orange cones. This area is reserved for ILR members. If available, a TCC security guard may be stationed at the Lot for assistance.
Course Title: Zoom Class  
Date & Time: Thursday, October 1, 10:00-12:00  

Course Description:  
This FREE class is intended to help participants feel more confident about using Zoom to view ILR Classes. Login and connection issues will be addressed as needed. Basic operations on computers (MAC & PC), laptops, larger tablets (such as iPad), and phones will be covered. If time permits, we will also cover a few neat “Extras”.  

Speakers:  
Ed and Linda Dye are our ILR Zoom Coordinators. They are both retired teachers (Linda from the public schools and Ed from TCC) and try to use their educational experience to explain things in an understandable way.

Course Title: From Walter Cronkite to Sean Hannity: Media Change and its Effects on American Democracy  
Date & Time: Monday, October 5, 10:00-12:00  

Course Description:  
In this course we will examine the dramatic changes in the mainstream media that have occurred in the past century, exploring the causes behind those changes and their implications for the functioning of our democracy.  

Speaker:  
Dr. Leslie Caughell is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Gender and Women’s Studies at Virginia Wesleyan University, where she teaches courses in American politics and political theory. Her research centers on demographic and environmental factors that shape political attitudes. She is the author of The Political Battle of the Sexes. She has been an expert source and commentator for media outlets.

Course Title: The U. S. and the Northern Triangle of Central America  
Date & Time: Wednesday, October 7, 3:00-5:00  
ALERT: Unusual Time  

Course Description:  
Immigration has become a controversial topic with its roots in the Northern Triangle of Central America (Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala). This class will review the complicated aspects of U. S. foreign policy impacting immigration.  

Speaker:  
Christer Persson, Amb. (ret.) was born in Sweden and educated in Sweden and Michigan. He joined the Swedish Foreign Ministry in 1976. He has been head of the Swedish Embassy in Nicaragua, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, and Guatemala. He has held various positions in Europe and Asia. Since 2019, he has taught and lectured worldwide.

Course Title: Popular Music in the United States  
Date & Time: Thursday, October 8, 10:00-12:00  

Course Description:  
Popular music has been an integral part of the fabric of our culture for 150 years; from Stephen Foster to Gilbert and Sullivan, from Sousa to Sinatra and from Miles Davis to Michael Jackson. Let’s take a look at the rich history of this music, listen to some examples and discuss the significant events that influenced its development.  

Speaker:  
Steve Ambrose holds a Doctorate Degree from the College Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati. Since retiring as Fine Arts Coordinator of the Virginia Beach City Schools, he has maintained an active music performance schedule in several cities and with recording artists, The Original Rhondels, while writing, arranging and recording.

Course Title: Coastal Challenges in Virginia  
Date & Time: Tuesday, October 13, 10:00-12:00  

Course Description:  
Coastal Virginia is experiencing great changes due to sea level rise and increased rainfall. These changes threaten tidal wetlands, which will drown at current projected rates of sea level rise. Virginia is making significant progress toward addressing this problem in plans being developed at the local and state levels. This course will review the current physical, economic and political conditions that influence this problem and its eventual resolution. This course will seek to add to the participant’s understanding of these issues to better prepare them to participate in the public debate and deliberation on these issues.  

Speaker:  
William A. (Skip) Stiles, Jr. is executive director of Wetlands Watch since 2006. Prior to that, starting in 1998, Mr. Stiles was an independent consultant, providing editorial and public policy services to several clients on issues related to science, the environment and public policy. His clients included: The White House Office of Science Policy, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, RAND Corporation, and the National Academy of Sciences.
Course Title: Dress, History, and Society  
Date & Time: Thursday, October 15, 1:00-3:00

Course Description:  
This course is an overview of dress in the United States and in cultures around the world, past and present. This is a three-pronged approach to understanding dress: its relationship to human beings as biological, aesthetic, and social animals. We will examine the particulars of dress while remembering the basic facts that human beings dress their bodies to communicate who they are and to receive personal satisfaction. To appreciate the complexity of dress, we draw on and integrate several disciplinary perspectives.

Speaker:  
Sharon Davis- BS, MSEd, Master Lecturer, Undergraduate Program Director, Program Leader, ODU Department of STEM Education and Professional Studies (Fashion Merchandising, Marketing Education, and Business and Industry Training) 25 years  
Sharon Joyner- BS, MS, ODU, Director of Testing ODU 30 years; Adjunct Professor-15 years in Fashion Merchandising and Business and Industry Training  
Dee Hamlet-BS, MSEd ODU, 35 years teaching Marketing Education in Norfolk Public Schools, Adjunct Professor ODU 10 years – Fashion Merchandising and Marketing Education

Course Title: The Socrates Club  
Date & Time: Monday, October 19, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:  
This is a regular monthly ILR offering; each session stands alone and varies in content. The speaker guides us into exploration of some deep and murky questions of life. Come prepared to examine your thinking and sharpen your viewpoint. We will go where East meets West; science meets spirituality and knowledge meets wisdom.

Speaker:  
Dr. Roshan Talreja is a retired physician and self-styled philosopher. He took his pre-med training at Cambridge and graduated from Delhi University Medical School. After completing his medical degrees in England, India, and the U.S., he did his Internal Medicine Residence in 1973, a Fellowship in Cardiology in 1974 and training in Emergency Medicine in 1975. He is a member of the American Medical Association and the American Philosophical Association.

Course Title: Kamchatka: Land of Bears & Volcanoes  
Date & Time: Tuesday, October 20, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:  
If you are looking for wild and remote, you would be hard-pressed to find a better place than Kamchatka. The teardrop peninsula hangs down from Siberia, far north of Japan and just across the Bering Sea from Alaska. It is inaccessible by road, has more than 150 volcanoes and boasts the highest density of brown bears in the world, with almost 15,000. Bonus trip if you want: 4 days cruising China’s Yangtze River.

Speaker:  
Carl Fincke is a former reporter and editor at The Virginian-Pilot. He has presented to ILR a half dozen times before, including classes on Patagonia and Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Course Title: The Crucible: World War I and the Making of World War II’s Leaders  
Date & Time: Thursday, October 22, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:  
World War I was a crucible for the future political and military leaders of World War II. For men like Douglas MacArthur, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Winston Churchill, Charles de Gaulle, Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, Erwin Rommel – and many more – their personal experience of World War I shaped their leadership styles and strategic vision during World War II. Love them or hate them, it is impossible to truly understand them without understanding their past.

Speaker:  
Amanda Williams is a graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman’s College with a B.A. in History and Art History. She received a MA in History from Old Dominion University. She began her career as an Archaeologist at Historic Jamestown before moving to the MacArthur Memorial in 2009 to serve as Education Manager. She is currently serving as Interim-Director of the MacArthur Memorial. She specializes in military history, intelligence studies, and women’s history.
Course Title: State of the Region: Where Hampton Roads Has Been and Where It Might Be Going
Date & Time: Tuesday, October 27, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:
A description of the Hampton Roads area from an economist’s viewpoint: Where has our area been, what is its current state and what might the future hold? Where does Hampton Roads stand in relation to the other regions of Virginia and where in relation to the United States as a whole? How will trends in the military, industry, national fiscal policy and society affect our region?

Speaker:
Professor Robert M. McNab currently serves as the Director of the Dragas Center for Economic Analysis and Policy in the Strome College of Business at Old Dominion University. He is a member of the Joint Advisory Board of Economists for the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia’s Survey of Professional Forecasters. His research interests include defense economics and topics in public finance. Each year, he edits The State of the Region Report, an economic analysis of the Hampton Roads area.

Course Title: Can Moral Disputes Be Resolved?
Date & Time: Monday, November 2, 1:00-3:00

Course Description:
Why is it so hard to resolve moral disagreements? Is it reasonable to believe that there are objectively correct answers to moral questions? If so, how can we determine what those are? If not, what does this tell us about the content and justification of our moral claims?

Speaker:
Dr. Steven Emmanuel is the Dean of the Susan Goode School of Arts and Humanities at Virginia Wesleyan University.

Course Title: Privacy, Privacy Rights and Data
Date & Time: Thursday, November 5, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:
Who owns the 'data stream' that you produce as you go about the activities of your daily life? In this course, we will consider the data that we produce, where and how it is stored and accessed, and who uses "our" data and how. We will also learn about the laws which currently exist to safeguard our data.

Speaker:
Dr. Mary Manjikian is associate professor in the Robertson School of Government. She received a B.A. in Russian from Wellesley College, a M. Phil from Oxford University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, where she was a Rockham fellow. She has taught comparative politics, international relations theory, national security affairs, terrorism, politics and the media and environmental politics.

Course Title: From Chesapeake Bay to the Deep Sea
Date & Time: Monday, November 9, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:
The lecture will cover deep sea biology including hydrothermal vent biology, cold seep biology, whale falls and wood falls. We will also cover invertebrate diversity in the Chesapeake Bay.

Speaker:
Jennifer Dreyer is a Research Manager in the Benthos Ecology Lab at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. She is also the curator of the VIMS Invertebrate Collection. During her 15 years at VIMS she has worked on a variety of projects including: benthic and oyster bed community dynamics in Chesapeake Bay; oyster restoration; tidal freshwater ecosystems of the York River and its tributaries; phytoplankton and zooplankton ecology in Antarctica and Vietnam; and coordinating the VIMS Research Experience for Undergraduates Summer Program for 8 years.

Course Title: The Salvation Army: More Than Bell Ringers
Date & Time: Thursday, November 12, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:
What comes to mind when you hear Salvation Army? The familiar sights of red kettles and ringing bells? Maybe you have dropped off donations of clothes and household items. The organization helps the hungry and homeless, provides meals and emotional and spiritual support after the hurricane. The Hampton Roads Area Command has served the local community since 1905 and meets human needs without discrimination.

Speaker:
Grace Ramos is director of development at the Salvation Army Hampton Roads Area Command. Besides fundraising and marketing to raise awareness, Grace works with an advisory board, volunteer groups and donors to further the mission of the organization in Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Norfolk and Portsmouth.
Course Title: The Socrates Club  
Date & Time: Monday, November 16, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:  
This is a regular monthly ILR offering. Each session stands alone and varies in content. The speaker guides us into exploration of some deep and murky questions of life. Come prepared to examine your thinking and sharpen your viewpoint. We will go where East meets West; science meets spirituality and knowledge meets wisdom.

Speaker:  
Dr. Roshan Talreja is a retired physician and self-styled philosopher. He took his pre-med training at Cambridge and graduated from Delhi University Medical School. After completing his medical degrees in England, India, and the U.S., he did his Internal Medicine Residency in 1973, a Fellowship in Cardiology in 1974 and special training in Emergency Medicine in 1975. He is a member of the American Medical Association and the American Philosophical Association.

Course Title: Virginia's Winter Wildlife: Whales, Seals and Birds, Oh My!  
Date & Time: Wednesday, November 18, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:  
We will journey to discover the remarkable animals that call Virginia their winter home. Majestic Humpback whales, rotund Harbor Seals and skydiving Northern gannets are just a few of the animals that spend their winter vacation along our coastline. Learn WHY they visit and how you can observe these critters in their natural environment. Participants will be introduced to the many conservation efforts aimed at preserving their species.

Speaker:  
Karen Burns graduated from Western Connecticut State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology. She has been a member of the Education team at the Virginia Aquarium since 1993. As a senior Education Specialist, she is responsible for overseeing all public programs and special events. Development and implementation of programs and materials for the Virginia Aquarium Sensible Seafood initiative are just a few of her responsibilities. Karen is an avid world traveler and a trained SCUBA diver and has had the opportunity to dive or snorkel around the world, including Honduras, Baja, Mexico and the Galapagos Islands.

Course Title: Ancient & Medieval Art: Not So Hidden Messages from the Past  
Date & Time: Monday, November 23, 10:00-12:00

Course Description:  
What are the messages and mysteries of the past to be found in the Chrysler Museum’s Ancient and Medieval Art collections?

Speaker:  
Maureen Harms has been a docent at the Chrysler Museum for 10 years.

All October and November Classes will be provided via Zoom.  
For Zoom information or assistance, there is a free How to Zoom class  
October 1, 10:00 a.m.  

Questions?  
Ed & Linda Dye  
Email: el.dye@verizon.net  
Phone: 757-497-5897

Reminder
There is a $10 Annual Mail Fee to receive quarterly class schedules by mail. There is no fee to receive schedules by email or to access them on the ILR website, www.ilrvb.org under the ‘Current Forms & Flyers’ tab.

Please mark your preference on your Membership Renewal Form.