



WISE

Worcester Institute for Senior Education

Summer 2022 Course Catalog

About WISE

WISE is a nonprofit member-driven organization founded in 1993. WISE is a premier lifelong learning program that offers adult intellectual stimulation and personal growth. WISE is a member of the Road Scholar Lifelong Learning Network.

About Lifelong Learning

Lifelong learning offers many benefits to members who seek engagement and meaning as older adults. Major benefits include:

- Perpetuating education of older learners
- Increasing an understanding of self & society
- Promoting an active and engaged lifestyle
- Opportunity to explore new topics
- Utilizing lifelong work skills in leadership opportunities



Join Our Community Online

We invite you to join our active community by registering for online classes as a Summer Participant. Read through the information contained in this catalog and contact the WISE office if you have any questions. We look forward to your participation and engagement with our organization.

In this Catalog

WISE FAQ, including Course Fees & Registration	Page 1
WISE Calendar	Page 2
Office Info	Page 3
Course Listings	Page 4

Answers to WISE FAQ

Course Fees

Fees are paid online through your WISE account. Individual course fees are \$30 per 3-session course, \$40 per 4 session course and \$50 per 5-session course. If you do not have a 2021 Summer Participant account, you can create one on our website at <https://assumptionwise.org>; click on the “Join WISE” box and follow the prompts. For assistance, please contact wise@assumption.edu.

Registration

Online Registration begins May 3, 2022. All participants must pay all course fees prior to attending class. Only paid and registered members will receive the Zoom link to the course. Once you register online, you will receive a confirmation email for courses in which you are enrolled. Please see the website information on page 1.

Zoom Information

For general help with Zoom, refer to the Zoom support website: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/>.

Zoom & Registration Assistance

We offer **WISE Zoom Coffee Hours on Mondays from 9-10 am** for help on the registration process, website navigation and Zoom tips. Enjoy your coffee or tea while you receive some tips during these informative sessions. After you set up your account, click on <https://assumptionwise.org/using-Zoom> for the Zoom link. We look forward to meeting you!

Cancellations

Any individual class cancellations and make-up class meetings are announced by email and posted on the WISE website. Courses may be cancelled due to low enrollment or other unusual circumstances. If all meetings of a course are cancelled, a refund will be issued.

Refund Policy

No refunds will be issued after the summer classes have begun.

Summer 2022 Academic Calendar

May 3, 2022	Summer Term registration starts
June 13, 2022	Summer Term online classes begins
July 2-6, 2022	WISE Office and Assumption offices closed for July 4 th holiday
July 21, 2022	Summer Term Ends

Wise Office Information

Campus access is currently restricted; please use the email address listed below.

Please refer to the WISE Calendar on page 2 for closures and other important dates.

Phone	508-767-7513
Email	wise@assumption.edu
Website	https://assumptionwise.org

Summer 2022 Program

S1. Old White Guy's Guide to Black Gospel Music

Mondays 10:30-12:00

June 13, 20, 27

Cost of Course: \$30.00

Black Gospel music is one genre of roots music that too often remains on the shelf of white (and black) listeners who otherwise embrace African-American music forms. It is not surprising; for most of its history, black gospel was not interesting to white audiences, who readily returned the favor. Its religious fervor puts some people off. And contemporary black gospel, like contemporary white gospel, often seems more pop than not. But black gospel music historically influenced blues and jazz as well as doo wop and soul music. The wellspring of such sweet inspiration merits a deep dive.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Rick Hendra is a radio and Zoom documentarian exploring the history of American roots music on WCUW (community radio in Worcester) and on Jazz Potpourri, a Zoom station hosted by WPI's Jazz History Data Base. He's a co-founder of the Worcester Hot Club for lovers of old music on 78's. And he whistles when he should be working.

S2. Stepping Stones of Your Life: Writing a Memoir

Mondays 2:00-3:30

June 13, 20, 27, July 11

Cost of Course: \$40.00

Writing a memoir can be fun. It can be simply for your own pleasure, or a place to collect your thoughts or memorialize people and events in your life for future generations. While we build community with our stories, there will be lessons on basic writing skills and a search for your individual style.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Lydia Bogar is a new teacher at WISE. She has taken classes at Coastal Carolina University and Brandeis University after retiring 8 years ago. For 3 years, she was the Co-Coordinator of the BOLLI Writers Guild at Brandeis University.

NO REQUIRED BOOKS

Optional Books:

Bird by Bird, Tips on Life and Writing by Anne Lamont

On Writing, Memoir and Writers' Guide by Stephen King

S3. The History of American Photography

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00-11:30

June 14, 16, 21, 23, 28

Cost of Course: \$50.00

We'll review key technological innovations in photography that led to aesthetic changes in the field: the daguerreotype in 1839, the camera in 1841, the Kodak camera in 1888, 35mm film and the Leica in 1913, 35mm SLRs by 1936, and digital photography in 1975. An exploration of iconic images in American photography will provide a history of the evolution of this artistic medium that changed the way we viewed the work.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Martha Chiarchiaro has brought history to life through the art of the times for more than 30 years. She received her Master's degree in the History of Art from Williams College and has taught a variety of art history classes at the Worcester Art Museum, Worcester State University, and other cultural organizations. Martha is excited to share photography as an artistic medium.

NO REQUIRED BOOK

S4. Ecology of Invasive Species

Tuesdays 2:00-3:30 pm

June 14, 21, 28

Cost of Course: \$30.00

Our New England landscape hosts many non-indigenous species, some of which are capable of disrupting long-established ecological communities. By considering some of the ‘most wanted’ problematic newcomers (case studies could include jumping worms, spotted lantern flies, Asiatic bittersweet or many others), we will explore the characteristics that allow an organism to take over, implications for our native species and habitats, strategies for living with or controlling invasive species, and what to look out for (climate change, anyone?). Come away with a deeper understanding of local landscapes in the short- and long-term, the players and partnerships in them, and how we can support them.

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Martha Gach is Regional Education Manager for Central Massachusetts and the Conservation Coordinator at Mass Audubon’s Broad Meadow Brook in Worcester. She designed and currently manages the sanctuary’s abundant gardens for wildlife, pollinators, and water quality, overseeing ecological management within the rest of the 435-acre urban wildlife sanctuary. Dr. Gach holds her A.B. from Washington University in St. Louis and a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from The University of Michigan.

NO REQUIRED BOOKS

S5. The Great Composers

Wednesdays 10:30-12:00

June 15, 22, 29 July 13, 20

Cost of Course: \$50.00

The music of the great composers – Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin, Liszt – continues to be studied, performed, and enjoyed today. This course takes a look at the personal lives and important musical contributions of some of the greatest composers. Students will learn about the backstories, successes, failures, and times of these musicians. Students will also listen to some of their most important works and learn to analyze specific musical devices present in the music by looking at the scores (i.e., sheet music). NOTE: Students do NOT need to be able to read music in order to take this course.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Paul Buono is a pianist who has toured internationally as a sideman for various pop/jazz artists and as a musical director for Princess and Cunard cruise lines. He holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in piano performance as well as a law degree. Paul teaches online through his online music studio (paulbuonomusic.com) and is a member of the music faculty at WPI, Clark University, and Assumption University (where he also serves as the director of the jazz ensemble).

NO REQUIRED BOOKS

S7. Edgar Allan Poe: His Life and Writings, Part 1 (1809-1841)

Thursdays 2:00-3:30

June 16, 23, 30 July 14, 21

Cost of Course. \$50.00

“Edgar Allan Poe: His Life and Writings, Part 1 (1809-1841)” is an online American literature course where no mortal students have ever gone before. It covers the highest level of reading and writing on Poe’s life and writings from his early years in Boston, London, and Richmond, where he defines poetry as the idea of beauty and advances the literature of science fiction, to his life in Philadelphia where he writes his greatest short stories, inventing the detective story and psychological realism in world literature.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Paul Macek has a bachelor’s and master’s degree in both history and English. He has taught U.S. History and American Literature at the high school level for over twenty-five years. He has also worked as a

proofreader and copyeditor for thirty years. Paul is the author of seven books, five on history, one on education, and one on literature.

NO REQUIRED BOOKS

OPTIONAL BOOKS:

The Complete Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe. Vintage ISBN 0-30471678-7

Illustrated History of Edgar Allan Poe, Paul Macek author and publisher, ISBN 978-0-9670473-2-4

S8. Writing a “Legacy Letter”

Monday 10:30-12:00 & Thursdays 10:30-12:00

July 7, 11, 14, 18

Cost of Course: \$40.00

A legacy letter (also called an “ethical will”) is a written document that allows you to share your life lessons, express your values and transmit your blessings to future generations. A legacy letter is shorter than a memoir, typically just a few pages. Writing one is a rewarding experience that creates an enduring gift for children, grandchildren and other loved ones. This course includes discussion and brief writing exercises to help you examine your life history, explore your values and capture important insights. It offers advice and a model structure to help you draft and complete your own legacy letter.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: Jay Sherwin has practiced law, given away money for five different charitable foundations and served as a hospital chaplain. In 2019, he created the Life Reflections Project to educate people about legacy letters, ethical wills and other legacy documents. Jay is a Worcester native who now lives in Portland, Maine; he has extensive experience facilitating online adult learning programs, and he has taught this Course: for adult learning programs nationwide.

NO REQUIRED BOOKS

S9. Understanding the Filibuster: History, Procedure, and Prospects for Change

July Tuesday & Thursday 12:15-1:45

July 12, 14, 19

Cost of Course: \$30.00

This course will explore the filibuster rules in the United States Senate, which when invoked require a 60-vote supermajority to pass legislation or take other action. We will first review the history of the filibuster and examine some of the most significant historical uses of this mechanism. We will then examine the rules that govern filibusters and how those rules have been modified at times – particularly regarding confirmations of Supreme Court appointments. Finally, we will evaluate the merits of the filibuster, review current issues regarding the filibuster, and examine prospects for change.

ZOOM LINK: Available on website to paid and registered members

CLASS LIMIT: 95

INSTRUCTOR: John S. Ross, III (Jack) received his A.B. degree from Yale University and his J.D. degree from the University of Virginia School of Law and served as Adjunct Professor of Law at Washington and Lee University School of Law. Jack has taught numerous courses in the WISE program focused on constitutional law and the Supreme Court, and he facilitates the WISE Supreme Court SIG.

REQUIRED BOOK:

OPTIONAL BOOK:

Kill Switch: The Rise of the Modern Senate and the Crippling of American Democracy by Adam Jentleson (W.W. Norton & Co. 2021)



**Join us online this
summer!**