

# Osher @ SDSU

## Summer 2025



Welcome to the Summer 2025 Osher term at San Diego State University! We are so excited for you to explore our offerings and continue your passion for learning. This term, we are offering more than 20 courses from six academic categories for you to choose from.

To learn more about our membership options please visit **[gc.sdsu.edu/oshermember](https://gc.sdsu.edu/oshermember)**.

### How to Register

1. Browse the courses on our website at **[gc.sdsu.edu/osher-courses](https://gc.sdsu.edu/osher-courses)**.
2. Visit **[gc.sdsu.edu/osher-login](https://gc.sdsu.edu/osher-login)**. Please create your account if you haven't created one yet.
3. If you do not have an existing Osher membership, please add the Annual Membership option to your cart. Note: You will need to purchase this before you can register for any courses as membership is required to attend Osher courses.
4. Pick your courses from our online catalog and add them to your cart.
5. Once you've added all your courses, click on the Checkout button.
6. Complete the checkout process and pay.
7. Once registered, you'll receive a confirmation by email. Additional information like Zoom links and locations for in-person classes/Special Events will be sent in a separate email closer to the date of the event or the start of the course.

### Contact

**Registrar Email:** [enrollment.global@sdsu.edu](mailto:enrollment.global@sdsu.edu) | **Phone:** (619) 594-5152

**IT Email:** [itsupport.global@sdsu.edu](mailto:itsupport.global@sdsu.edu)

**Osher Email:** [osher@sdsu.edu](mailto:osher@sdsu.edu)

# Summer 25 Course and Offering Descriptions

## Aging, Personal Finance, and Retirement

### The Cycle of Life: Conversations on Life, Death, and Living Fully

**Instructor:** Natasha Nace | **Dates:** Tuesdays, 7/8/2025, 7/15/2025, 1–3 p.m. | **Format:** 2-Weeks/In-person (Extended Studies/Gateway Ctr)

**Member Fee:** \$49 | **Schedule No.** 99802

Inspired by a Los Angeles Times article, this 2-day workshop tackles death openly and honestly. We'll create a safe space to discuss aging, death, and end-of-life care, challenging societal taboos and exploring personal perspectives. We'll delve into bucket lists, grief, cultural beliefs, and dignified endings, all with the goal of making the most of our time. Join us for facilitated discussions and opportunities to share experiences!

## Arts & Humanities

### Expats: The Latest Global Trend

**Instructor:** Alex Castaneda | **Date:** Tuesday, 6/10/2025, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/In-person (Extended Studies/Gateway Ctr)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99803

An increasing number of Americans are choosing to uproot themselves and relocate to foreign lands, signaling a growing global trend. What could be driving this movement? Initially spearheaded by international retirees, now young professionals, digital nomads, and intrepid seniors join the ranks of those who crave a change in scenery. Which countries open their arms to these expats? How much does such a life-altering adventure cost? Are these brave souls safe in their new environments?

### The Mexican-American War and How It Shaped Two Nations

**Instructor:** Blaine Davies | **Date:** Wednesday, 7/9/2025, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/HyFlex (Extended Studies/Online)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99804

California and the southwest United States became U.S. territory in the aftermath of the Mexican War, or as many Mexicans explain, the “war where you stole our country.” While the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo cost Mexico over half of its territory, the U.S. added California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico and parts of Wyoming and Colorado. Was it a war justified by “manifest destiny” and Mexican transgressions or was it essentially a land grab? This course explores the causes, the battles, and the aftermath of the Mexican War.

## A Willow Tree Becomes a Forest

**Instructor:** Russell Low | **Date:** Monday, 6/16/2025, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/In-person (Extended Studies/Gateway Ctr)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99805

“A Willow Tree Becomes a Forest” explores the trials of establishing roots and pursuing aspirations amid the era of the Chinese Exclusion Act from 1882 to 1943. It commemorates the enduring immigrant American spirit that resonates with us today, juxtaposed against the backdrop of anti-Chinese laws and biases endured by the Chinese community during this period. The resilience and commitment of those Chinese individuals who persevered in their dream of becoming American serve as a testament to their tenacity and faith in a brighter future. This narrative celebrates diversity, inclusion, and the immigrant American spirit, which collectively contribute to our nation's rich tapestry.

## An Insider's Guide to Visiting Grand Canyon National Park

**Instructor:** Constantine Dillon | **Date:** Tuesday, 6/24/2025, 1–3 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/In-person (Extended Studies/Gateway Ctr)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99806

Visiting Grand Canyon National Park is a fantastic experience and for many a once-in-a-lifetime trip. Planning a trip and understanding the options of places to see, stay, and eat can also be an overwhelming experience. In this class you will get an overview of the visitor opportunities at both the South and North Rim, the best times to visit, how to make reservations for lodging and camping, and tips to make the most of your trip. Your instructor is a retired National Park Ranger and Park Superintendent who worked at the Grand Canyon.

## The Labyrinth of Personal and Collective Memory

**Instructor:** Oliva Espin | **Date:** Wednesday, 7/16/2025, 2–4 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/HyFlex (Extended Studies/Online)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99807

This course will cover new perspectives on the accumulation of memories that are part of all mature lives. How do groups construct collective memories? How are individual memories influenced by collective understandings of historical events? What is the interplay of collective and individual memories? When is it ethical to remember and when does it become destructive to do so? What are the benefits of writing our life stories and autobiographical memories? Note: The instructor for this course will be remote, students will choose to attend online or in-person.

## Native American Removals in Twentieth Century San Diego

**Instructor:** Richard Carrico | **Date:** Thursday, 7/24/2025, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/HyFlex (Extended Studies/Online)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99808

As you drive, bike, or hike around San Diego County, did you ever wonder how that valley came to be a resort or what existed before that lake? In this class we will discover two not so well-known places that exist for our enjoyment because Native people were forcibly removed. The Warner Hot Springs Resort in Northern San Diego County was home to the Kupa people for thousands of years. And then it wasn't. Today's El Capitan Reservoir is great for fishing, boating, and kayaking. All at the expense of the Ipai people who were "relocated."

## How Disneyland Imagineers Brought 3-D Animals and People to Life

**Instructor:** Kim Keeline | **Date:** Wednesday, 6/11/2025, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. | **Format:** 1-Day/HyFlex (Extended Studies/Online)

**Member Fee:** \$20 | **Schedule No.** 99809

The most popular attractions at Disneyland and the other theme parks are greatly enhanced by the robotic animals and people who help to convey the story as guests pass by. The Haunted Mansion, Pirates of the Caribbean, and Walt Disney's Enchanted Tiki Room are some examples that use the technology called Audio-Animatronics. The concept began earlier than many suppose and this presentation focuses on the evolution through the first fifteen years of Disneyland (1955-1970). **Note:** The instructor for this course will be remote, students will choose to attend online or in-person.

## Politics & Current Events

### What the Supreme Court Decided: Behind This Term's Biggest Rulings

**Instructor:** Glenn Smith | **Date:** Fridays, 7/18/2025, 7/25/2025, 1–3 p.m. | **Format:** 2-weeks/In-person (Extended Studies/Gateway Ctr)

**Member Fee:** \$49 | **Schedule No.** 99811

By July, the Supreme Court will have decided many consequential cases affecting individual rights (including free speech and freedom from discrimination and official misconduct), environmental regulation, and the powers of federal and state governments. Going deeper than the headlines and punditry, you will better understand the importance and context of some of the most consequential decisions. You will see how the key cases confronted the justices with difficult tradeoffs. And you will be able to form your own opinion about how well they reconciled the key considerations. You'll have a current context for understanding calls for Supreme Court reform.

## Osher Online Courses

### Behind Those Baby Blues: The Films of Paul Newman

**Instructor:** Arnold Blumberg | **Dates:** Tuesdays, 7/8/2025, 7/15/2025, 7/22/2025, 7/29/2025, 8/5/2025, 8/12/2025, 12–1:30 p.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99814

Paul Newman, the embodiment of charisma, captivated movie audiences with his iconic baby blue eyes, striking features, and powerful screen presence. Known for his multiple Academy Award-nominated performances in films like *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1958), *The Hustler* (1961), and *Absence of Malice* (1981), Newman ultimately won an Oscar for *The Color of Money* (1986), the sequel to *The Hustler*. Alongside his acting career, he pursued a parallel path as a race car driver and dedicated significant time to entrepreneurial and philanthropic endeavors. This course will trace the timeline of Newman's remarkable career, from his legendary collaborations with Robert Redford in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* (1969) and *The Sting* (1973) to his final roles in *Road to Perdition* (2002), *Empire Falls* (2005), and *Cars* (2006), where he voiced the retired race car Doc Hudson.

### Demystifying Energy Security

**Instructor:** Beth Hill-Skinner | **Dates:** Wednesdays, 7/9/2025, 7/16/2025, 7/23/2025, 7/30/2025, 8/6/2025, 8/13/2025, 10–11:30 a.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99816

Energy is essential for both national and economic security, underpinning all aspects of life. Yet discussions of energy security often exclude the public, reducing complex issues to simplistic narratives like "Green is Good" or "Oil is Evil," which provide little actionable insight. In this course, you will engage in a comprehensive examination of energy's role in human development. Topics include the unmatched importance of hydrocarbons (oil and more); advancements in electricity, the past, present, and future of nuclear energy; and the potential of renewables. We will explore how these energy sources impact national security, economic stability, industrial production, transportation, and daily life. Join this course for a balanced, realistic assessment of energy security, a critical issue of our time.

### Enjoying the Past and Present New York City: A History of Recreation in the Big Apple

**Instructor:** Adam Kocurek | **Dates:** Wednesdays, 7/9/2025, 7/16/2025, 7/23/2025, 7/30/2025, 8/6/2025, 8/13/2025, 8–9:30 a.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99817

This course will explore the history of Manhattan, emphasizing the unique traits that drew into its harbor millions of immigrants and millions more tourists seeking its many resources, rich culture, and complex history. Together, we will explore the history of New York City's parks, city shopping, entertainment venues, museums, and concerts. We will also discuss the social and arts movements that grew out of the city. Gain an appreciation of what the city has to offer its visitors and an insight into the history behind the tourist attractions.



## History of Beer

**Instructor:** Karl Brown | **Dates:** Tuesdays, 7/8/2025, 7/15/2025, 7/22/2025, 7/29/2025, 8/5/2025, 8/12/2025, 4–5:30 p.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99815

Historians, beer enthusiasts, and curious minds alike will enjoy this exploration of the history of brewing. We will begin in the distant past with the invention of beer around 4000 BCE. Then we will journey through time to the modern rise of craft brewing. Along the way, we will dive into fascinating topics including medieval brewing, beer in Shakespeare's era, colonial brewing, Prohibition, indigenous brewing traditions worldwide, and the evolution of beer commercials. This course meets during happy hour, so feel free—nay, encouraged—to raise a glass and toast to history while we learn.

## Public Health Across the Lifespan

**Instructor:** Michelle Boyd | **Dates:** Wednesdays, 7/9/2025, 7/16/2025, 7/23/2025, 7/30/2025, 8/6/2025, 8/13/2025, 2–3:30 p.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99818

This course provides a comprehensive overview of key public health topics across the human lifespan, from prenatal health to aging care. We will examine major health challenges, interventions, and policies that impact individuals at each life stage. By focusing on health disparities, preventive care, and the role of public health systems, the course equips us with the knowledge and skills to understand health issues in diverse populations. Through readings and case studies, we will gain insight into the life-course approach to public health, emphasizing the importance of early intervention, continuous care, and aging with dignity.



## The Economics of Public Policy Issues

**Instructor:** Geof Woglom | **Dates:** Tuesdays, 7/8/2025, 7/15/2025, 7/22/2025, 7/29/2025, 8/5/2025, 8/12/2025, 10–11:30 a.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99813

Economics plays a central role in shaping every aspect of society. This course examines a series of prominent policy issues with economics at their core. We will explore the origins of these issues, the underlying data and evidence, and the policy tools available to address them. Each lecture will be standalone, delivered by a subject matter expert with a Ph.D. in economics. Potential topics include climate change, healthcare economics, economic inequality, and more, with final selections based on the most relevant and timely issues at the start of the course.

## Architectural Oddities: An Off-the-Beaten Path Look at Unconventional Architecture

**Instructor:** Eleanor Schrader | **Dates:** Thursdays, 7/10/2025, 7/17/2025, 7/24/2025, 7/31/2025, 8/7/2025, 8/14/2025, 10–11:30 a.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99827

Architectural history follows a canon of both traditional and eclectic styles from ancient to contemporary times. But what happens when a mix of whimsy, eccentricity, humor—and sometimes the creator's genius—insert themselves into the mix? Occurring throughout time and in various parts of the world, these unconventional structures exist to serve the cultures they were created for, from ancient religious sites to modern car-culture merriment. This course explores a myriad of structures set against the backdrop of the societies in which they existed, the construction methods used, the patrons for whom these structures were constructed, and the notions of the builders and architects who created them.

## 100 Years of Magic: The Disney Legacy and Influence

**Instructor:** Maria Massad | **Date:** Thursdays, 7/10/2025, 7/17/2025, 7/24/2025, 7/31/2025, 8/7/2025, 8/14/2025, 4–5:30 p.m. | **Format:** 6-weeks/Online

**Member Fee:** \$89 | **Schedule No.** 99828

How did Walt Disney's life and vision shape the creation of an entertainment empire? How did early challenges influence the company's identity and creative output? And how did Disney grow into a global powerhouse? This course explores these questions and more as we delve into the 100-year history of the Walt Disney Company, tracing its evolution from humble beginnings to a global entertainment giant. Topics include the rise of Disney animation and theme parks, the company's 1990s revival, and the strategic acquisitions that transformed Disney into a media conglomerate. We will also examine Disney's future and gain insights into what it's like to work behind the scenes at the company. Throughout the course, we will consider diverse perspectives—from those who revere the Magic Kingdom to those who critique it and everywhere in between. This course offers a comprehensive look at how Walt Disney's vision became a cultural force shaping today's entertainment industry.

## Community Events

### Osher Summer 2025 Semester Kickoff and Course Preview Event

**Date:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. |

**Format:** In-Person (Extended Studies) | **Fee:** FREE

Join Osher at SDSU for an exciting Summer 2025 Semester Kickoff and Course Preview event! Get a sneak peek into our diverse range of captivating courses. Meet passionate faculty, explore course highlights, and connect with fellow learners. Experience the joy of lifelong learning in a welcoming and enriching environment. Plan your educational journey and embark on a rewarding semester of growth. Don't miss out on this inspiring event!



### Immersive Travel: A Virtual Reality Experience

**Date:** Tuesday, June 17, 10–11 a.m. | **Format:** In-Person (Extended Studies Ctr) | **Fee:** FREE

Please join Osher @ SDSU for a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in iconic historical landmarks, breathtaking landscapes, and diverse cultures without leaving the classroom. Using cutting-edge virtual reality technologies, you'll explore and engage with the sights, sounds, and cultures of faraway lands and feel like you're there. Leave your passport at home and forget about jet lag; enjoy this educational, informative, fun, and engaging event!



**Please register in advance for all courses and activities. Use one registration form per person. Membership is required each term to register for Osher offerings, unless otherwise noted by course.**

**New Members**, if you were referred by a current Osher member, please tell us who \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Tiers		Fee
<b>Annual Membership</b> (valid for three consecutive terms from the term of purchase)	(available at the beginning of Spring, Summer, or Fall term)	<b>\$99</b>
<b>Standard Semester Membership</b> (valid for term of purchase ONLY)	(available at the beginning of Spring term)	<b>\$50</b>
<b>SDSU Retirement Association Annual Membership</b> (valid for three consecutive terms from the term of purchase)	(available at the beginning of Spring, Summer, or Fall term)	<b>\$69</b>
<b>SDSU Lifetime Alumni Annual Membership</b> (valid for three consecutive terms from the term of purchase)	(available at the beginning of Spring, Summer, or Fall term)	<b>\$89</b>
<b>Household Annual Membership</b> (valid for three consecutive terms from the term of purchase)	(available at the beginning of Spring, Summer, or Fall term)	<b>\$89</b>

Schedule No.	Course / Event Title	Fee
Total course, event, and membership fees (Check payable to SDSU Research Foundation)		\$

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Contribution to Support the Osher Institute at SDSU (optional donation)</b></p> <p><i>(Separate check payable to The Campanile Foundation / Designation: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute)</i></p> <p>I've included the Osher Institute at SDSU in my estate plan (and haven't previously notified you).</p> <p>I'd like more information about estate and gift planning.</p>	\$
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Cash    Check\*    Visa    Mastercard    American Express    Discover

\*Only check payments may be sent by mail. Make check payable to **SDSU Research Foundation**

Mail **Osher Registration form and check** to: SDSU Bursar's Office, SSW 2536, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182-7425