What Is Senior University?

Senior University WSU is a program of the Winona State University Retiree Center. Senior University is a peer-led set of short courses taught by professor emeriti, WSU faculty, and topic experts to provide intellectual and cultural stimulation and growth, thus providing opportunities for lifelong learning and leadership, combined with the fellowship of peers sharing a common quest for continued growth.

Non-credit classes, one day a week during a 4-6 week term, no tests, no grades.

Senior University is open to retirees and community adult learners.

Retiree Center Director, Jessica Kauphusman
Retiree Center Office Manager, Nancy Amann

507-457-5565
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SENIOR UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
Jim Reynolds, Rill Reuter, Jim Bromeland,
Kevin Possin, Jess Kauphusman

The Winona State University Retiree Center exists to support the mission of Winona State University and enrich the campus community as well as the lives of retired staff, faculty and administration by providing institutional connections between the university and retirees who may wish to continue their intellectual and social participation in collegial life and service to the university.
Senior University Classes

Fall 2018

Art History “Isms:” Modern and Contemporary Movements

We Are Stardust, We Are Golden

Living in Engaged Presence of Mindfulness

Technology’s Role in Global Events

Progressive Education in America

Election 2018: Follow the Money

Spring Wildflowers - Spring 2017
Art History “Isms:” Modern and Contemporary Movements

Instructor: Nicole Chamberlain-Dupree
Day: Thursday
Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m.
Sessions: August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 13, 20
Location: Minnesota Marine Art Museum
Course Fee: $40.00

Art History is never-ending, and in this class we’ll look at modern and contemporary movements of the 20th century and today. Movements will include Futurism, Abstract Expressionism, Photorealism, Earth Art and more. The class will be held at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum. This is a companion course to the wildly popular Art History “Isms” courses held over the past two semesters, but you do not need to have taken either of those courses to fully enjoy this one!

Nicole Chamberlain-Dupree is the Executive Director of the Minnesota Marine Art Museum and a big fan of art and art history. She has a Master’s degree in Art History and enjoys sharing what she knows and learns.
At the beginning of the Universe, the Big Bang made Hydrogen and some Helium. Today, 13.7 billion years later, we have 92 naturally-occurring elements in the Periodic Table. All of these different atoms were created in stars that lived and died in our part of the Milky Way Galaxy long before our solar system condensed from a cloud of gas and dust. Joni Mitchell was right: “We are Stardust, We are Golden.”

In this course, we will explore the chemical evolution of the Universe from the Big Bang, to the formation of our Earth and Moon. You will get to examine rocks from space and from Earth that help to tell this incredible story. Come and discover the Universe in you!

Jennifer Anderson is a Professor of Geoscience at WSU where she has taught Astronomy and Planetary Geology, among other things, since 2005. She is a broadly trained planetary geologist with a background in astronomy and physics. Jennifer is passionate about communicating science with anyone who is interested in exploring their Universe and is blown away by the fact that every molecule of Hydrogen in her body is 13.7 billion years old!
Living in an Engaged Presence of Mindfulness

Instructor: Paul Stern
Day: Wednesday
Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Sessions: September 5, 12, 19, 26
Location: Room TBD
Course Fee: $40.00

Much of our lives we fail to be as engaged and present as we would like to be. Within the context of exploring solutions to this situation, this course will provide scaffolded practice accessible to all levels in areas of breath, movement, and meditation. Participants will work with a toolset that can be leveraged to be more intentionally mindful and present in day-to-day living. Background and history of theory(ies) will also be discussed.

Paul Stern is Co-Founder and Director of Manitou Center, a local non-profit organization supporting holistic human development through offering community accessible courses in mind, body, and spirit practices. He is a martial arts, qi gong, and meditation instructor with over 35 years of practice experience and 20 years of instruction.
Technology’s Role in Global Events

Instructor: Toby Schmidt
Day: Monday
Time: 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Sessions: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5
Location: Maxwell Hall, Room 257
Course Fee: $40.00

Technology plays an interesting role in global events and politics. This course will identify some key recent events and discuss how changes in technology have altered the way we think, act and accept our current reality. Some topics this class will cover include, the Dark Web, WikiLeaks, Edward Snowden, Technological Ethics and more.

Toby Schmidt has an undergraduate focused on Business Administration and a Masters in educational leadership… with multiple Information Technology (IT) acronyms subsequently earned, his past 20 years have been invested in building enterprise IT infrastructure and securing them from being used inappropriately.
Progressive Education in America

Instructor: Jim Schul
Day: Tuesday
Time: 2:00-3:30 p.m.
Sessions: October 16, 23, 30, November 6, 13
Location: Maxwell Hall, Room 283
Course Fee: $40.00

This course examines the nature and effect of the American progressive education movement. We will explore the complexities within the movement and whether or not it is manifested in contemporary educational practices in the United States. Students in this course will experience teaching strategies that emanated from the progressive era as well as delve into the philosophy of John Dewey as it relates to education in a democratic society.

Jim Schul is a former high school social studies teacher who has been a university professor now for nearly a decade. He researches and writes curriculum history and has had numerous articles published that focus on the area of the progressive era – particularly the 1930s. He has also published articles on educational policy and history teaching and learning. The progressive era flows throughout his work. Jim is a member of the Education Studies department at Winona State and instructs teacher education courses that focus on the historical and sociological foundations of education.
The 2018 elections promise to be extremely important. The future of the Trump presidency and of the American political landscape for years to come will be at stake. To be elected are all 435 members of the House, 34 Senators, and 36 state governors. This class will examine some key races and the consequences of their outcomes. We will examine the role of political parties and of other organizations in recruiting candidates, raising money, conducting campaigns and assuming responsibility for governing.

Jim Bromeland taught political science at WSU for 35 years, with a specialty in American politics.
Senior University has a new and permanent online registration system that has been adopted by MN State (formerly MNSCU) and will be used for all non-credit course registrations system-wide. Online registration is through R SchoolToday.

Start your online registration here:
Senior University Registration

Watch your email for a message confirming your registration and providing additional details about the class or classes for which you have registered.

If you do not receive a confirmation email, or if you have any questions or need assistance, contact us weekdays during regular business hours at:

WSU Retiree Center
tiree@winona.edu
507.457.5565
http://www.winona.edu/retiree/senioruni.asp

WSU Outreach and Continuing Education
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SENIOR UNIVERSITY CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

If a course must be canceled due to insufficient enrollment, inclement weather, or emergency circumstances, you will be notified as soon as possible and receive a full refund.

You may withdraw from a course and receive a full refund if we receive your withdrawal and refund request in writing, via email, mail or in person, at least five full business days before the first class date.