



OLLI Quick Facts for Instructors

This is a brief overview of how OLLI courses work. Please see the comprehensive version for a lot more information.

Question: What the heck is OLLI, anyway?

Answer: OLLI offers non-credit courses for (mostly) retired people.

Question: How are OLLI students different from traditional college students?

Answer: OLLI members enroll in courses to learn – but not to master a subject. They are generally engaged and educated people who appreciate having their memories refreshed about something they learned in the past, who value new insights and perspectives and who enjoy learning new facts and ideas.

Question: What else do I need to know?

Answer: Many OLLI courses are taught multi-format with some students in the classroom and others attending on Zoom. Other courses are Zoom only or in person only. You don't need to worry about handling AV or Zoom technology. A Zoom host in each class do that for you.

Question: Who is this person I see identified as a “facilitator”?

Answer: Volunteer facilitators (who are OLLI members) develop courses that are one- to six-sessions in length on a given topic. The facilitator identifies potential instructors and is most likely the individual who recruited you to teach at least one of the sessions. As may have happened when you were recruited, the course outline is often a product of facilitator and instructor working together, especially if one person delivers all the classes.

Question: How are OLLI courses different from “regular” college courses?

Answer: They are all the fun of teaching and learning but with no papers, no tests and no grades. OLLI's motto is “Curiosity never retires,” and OLLI courses offer a challenging but convenient way for lifelong learners to refresh their memory about something they learned in the past or to try something they've never really explored before.

OLLI members are engaged and curious and eager to learn, and they value the expertise and experience you will bring to the classroom.