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INSTRUCTORS

Allen Ascher (11) has a doctorate in English from CUNY Graduate Center. He taught English in middle and high school, and was an adjunct professor of English at Brookdale Community College.

Barbara Bogner (9, 11) is a retired associate professor of biology who taught human anatomy and physiology full time at Middlesex County College for 24 years. She has degrees from SUNY Stony Brook and Villanova University.

Terence Butler (7), a retired mathematics professor at Rutgers University, he began a major interest in playing folk music on the 5-string banjo, guitar, and mandolin after hearing Pete Seeger playing the 5-string banjo on a record in 1965.

Sam and Candy Caponegro (5,6) have acted and directed theater for over 30 years. They have lectured on Broadway and film on Princess Cruise Lines, at OLLI-RU, and various libraries and centers throughout New Jersey.

Jeff Cohen (5, 7, 9, 11) is a painter and sculptor who received a bachelor of arts in fine arts from Upsala College in East Orange, and did graduate work at New York University. He is a commissioner at the Barron Art Center in Woodbridge, N. J.

Sally Bauer Cohen (4, 7, 8, 11) loves teaching at OLLI-RU and is a former New York City high school librarian and English teacher who has taught film classes for many years. She holds master's degrees in media studies and library science.

William Fireman (5, 11) is a retired attorney with a lifelong passion for musical theater.

Margaretta Greeley-Potter (6) is an adjunct professor at Rutgers University Graduate School of Education. With a doctorate in education from Rutgers, she has additionally done graduate work at Mason Gross School of the Arts. She is a painter and sculptor whose works are displayed locally and internationally.

Irwin Horowitz (4) is a Rutgers graduate who retired from the infrastructure technology field in 2010. He is currently volunteering for the AARP Driver Safety program, as well as the Red Cross.

Sharon Keyes (6) is a retired product developer in the fashion accessories industry who has had a lifelong passion for crafting.
Diane Lang (5) holds a master’s degree and is a therapist and life coach. She is an adjunct professor at Montclair State University and the author of Creating Balance and Finding Happiness.

John Marron (6), a graduate of Johns Hopkins writing seminars. He is a prize-winning Zen artist, and a creative writing teacher for 35 years as well as an award-winning slam poet and storytelling performer.

Henry McNally (9) is a semi-retired educator who has taught Irish history both at the college level and in continuing education programs. He has degrees from Fordham University, William Paterson University, and University College in Galway, Ireland.

Paula Rovinsky (7) has a master’s degree in health science and is a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator, and certified holistic nurse. She has presented this program at the RWJ hospital fitness and wellness center in Rahway for almost 12 years.

Jessica Sand (4, 8) has a master’s degree in microbiology and public health (Wagner College) and in cell and molecular biology (Brooklyn College). Currently retired, she was a professor at Union County College for 31 years where she taught anatomy and physiology, microbiology, nutrition, pathology, and medical microbiology.

Roz and Steve Shaw (6, 10) Roz and Steve Shaw own a business that specializes in educational programs. They have taught adult courses at the ENCORE Program in Middletown, NY, at Brookdale Community College, and have been instructors at OLLI-RU since 2003.

Harvey Singer (5, 8, 9, 11) holds a bachelor of arts degree in economics and political science from the City College of New York and a masters of business administration in finance and investments from Baruch College.

Lyn ‘Lilavati’ Sirota (7), a certified Yoga Alliance instructor, Lilavati also completed a therapeutic yoga teacher training program as well as a program in mindfulness based stress reduction. She specializes in Hatha gentle yoga instruction with a focus on range of movement and therapeutic practices.

Bruce Tucker (10) holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science and history and a master’s in information technology and project management. A local area historian and living history presenter, Bruce has lectured in the metropolitan area and has been an instructor with OLLI-RU since 2009.

Vandana Walia (4) has a master’s degree in English literature from India and thirty years teaching experience at the high school level. She has been teaching at OLLI-RU for several years.

Hugo Walter (5) has a bachelor of arts from Princeton University, a master’s in humanities from Old Dominion University, a doctorate in literature from Yale University, and a doctorate in English from Drew University. He has published several books on 19th and 20th century European and American literature. Dr. Walter has taught English and humanities courses at Berkeley College, Drew University, and Fairleigh Dickinson University.