



The Spiral

Newsletter of the Center for Lifelong Learning, University of South Carolina Aiken

FEBRUARY, 2026

President's Message

Dear Fellow Students,

Welcome to the 2026 Spring Semester of the Center of Lifelong Learning classes at USCA. While we call this the Spring Semester, it seems a bit ironic right now, as a recent winter storm has left us with lingering cold temperatures. Despite the current chill, don't lose hope—spring is truly just around the corner. In the coming weeks, the lawns will begin to turn green, and flowers will bloom, greeting us with warm sunshine.

With the arrival of spring, our area will soon be buzzing with excitement. Horse racing and the Masters Tournament will take center stage, marking Aiken's favorite time of year before the heat and humidity set in.

Registration for classes was a rewarding experience. It was wonderful to reconnect with returning students and to welcome many new faces to our program. The atmosphere was electric, filled with anticipation and energy, thanks to the availability of over 100 exciting courses for you to choose from. This year, we have shortened the duration of our courses to help maintain interest and attendance, and to give you the opportunity to fit even more learning experiences into your schedule.

As always, I am asking for more volunteers as the Center of Lifelong Learning program continues to grow while our staff numbers decrease.

Enjoy the semester and bring a friend to class so they can experience our great programs and sign up.

Jim Tisaranni, CLL President
pres@aikenlearning.org

Catalog Updates

Changes affecting upcoming classes have been announced since the previous issue of *The Spiral*. Registrants have been notified of these changes. A cumulative list of catalog changes is maintained on the CLL website's [Changes to the Printed Catalog Page](#).



Courses withdrawn:

Page	Course
17	<i>10. Hands on Nuclear Science</i>
17	<i>12. Unlocking MS Word</i>
18	<i>14. Excel for Beginners</i>
20	<i>22. Horse Track Systems</i>
21	<i>26. The Inspirational Journey of Dr. Matilda Arabella Evans</i>
26	<i>44. Roman Republic Coinage</i>
26	<i>45. Home Surveillance Systems</i>
27	<i>47. Tech Talk: Your Digital Legacy</i>

Class reassessments:

Page	Course
16	<i>7. Rose O'Neal Greenhow - B&E 124</i>
19	<i>20. TV Streaming - B&E 238F</i>
20	<i>21. Traveling Smartly w. a Smartphone - B&E 144</i>
20	<i>24. Pirates of the Caribbean - B&E 122</i>
22	<i>28. Sensational Sky Stories - Feb 3 & 24: Ruth Patrick Room 131a</i>
24	<i>36. Understanding U.S. Congress - B&E 124</i>
25	<i>41. Duels/Murders/Hangings - Feb 16, 3:00 pm, B&E 122</i>
26	<i>43. Shady Characters of the Winter Colony B&E 116</i>
34	<i>78. Irish Travelers - Mar 9: Penland 106, Mar 16, 23, 30: Student Activities Ctr, 2nd Floor Mezzanine 201</i>

Please Recycle Your Printed Catalogs for Others' Use When You Are Done With Them

By all means, keep your copy of the CLL Catalog as long as it is useful to you. But if it is no longer useful while the semester is still in progress, please don't just throw it away. Instead:

- When visiting the USCA Business and Education Building for a future class, return it to your classroom or to the External Programs office, or...
- Pass it on to an interested friend.

If needed, replacements for forms removed from the catalog can be downloaded from the CLL website [Catalog Page](#).

Tech Talks

There's still time to sign up for the remaining *Tech Talks*, one-hour sessions on specific technical subjects. The instructors will give 15 to 20 minute lectures on the subject followed by a discussion with the students.

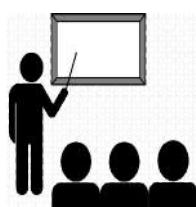
SUBJECT	INSTRUCTOR	DATE
Digital Calendars	Wayne Rickman	Feb 4
Password Managers	Russ Beckmeyer	Feb 19
Family Histories	Dennis Harkins	Feb 24
Using Alexa	Russ Beckmeyer	Feb 26
Quantum Computing	Larry Deschaine	Mar 2

Click each item name to access its full description from the CLL website [listings](#) (aikenlearning.org/courses.html).

Courses and Events Beginning in February

Many of our classes fill quickly. Before attending please pre-register to assure there is a place for you.

Click each item name to access its full description from the CLL website [listings](#) (aikenlearning.org/courses.html).



COURSE / EVENT NAME	Start
Smart Home Security for Smart Seniors	Feb 2
"Pirates of the Caribbean" and Beyond	Feb 2
Concise Introduction to the History of Rock and Roll and Society	Feb 2
What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)	Feb 3
Sensational Sky Stories	Feb 3
Tech Talk: Digital Calendars	Feb 4
iPhone 102	Feb 4
The Wonder of Glass (and it Immobilizes Nuclear Waste)	Feb 4
Eastern Mediterranean Cruise	Feb 5
Discovering Hidden Biodiversity in the World Around Us: Reptiles and Amphibians	Feb 5
Spain's UNESCO Sites	Feb 5
The Other Holy City: Aiken's Historic Houses of Worship	Feb 6
Understanding the U.S. Congress	Feb 9
Computer Security	Feb 9
Google Picasa Photo Editing	Feb 10
History in Headstones: For Heaven's Sake	Feb 10
Applied Artificial Intelligence (Section A)	Feb 10
U.S. Policies - American Indians	Feb 11

COURSE / EVENT NAME	Start
Shady Characters of the Winter Colony	Feb 11
Quick and Dirty Stock Analysis Using Yahoo Finance	Feb 16
Duels, Murders and Hangings in Aiken	Feb 16
Aiken History is Railroad History: Story of Steel and Steam	Feb 17
Applied Artificial Intelligence (Section B)	Feb 17
Great Decisions	Feb 17
Introduction to the Coroner's System	Feb 18
The French Connection	Feb 18
Tech Talk: Password Managers	Feb 19
Apple Watch	Feb 19
How do I use OneDrive?	Feb 23
Introduction to Equine Bodywork Modalities	Feb 23
Smart Home Solutions for Smart Seniors	Feb 23
Tech Talk: Family Histories	Feb 24
Applied Artificial Intelligence (Section C)	Feb 24
Fire and our Forests: Fire-dependent Natural Communities in our Region	Feb 25
Fight Back Against Computer/Tech Scams	Feb 25
Tech Talk: Using Alexa	Feb 26
Apple Help Lab (Section A)	Feb 26
Brain and Body Fitness	Feb 27

Full course descriptions can also be found:

- in the downloadable catalog (aikenlearning.org/catalog.html)
- in the printed catalog

Register online at aikenlearning.org/online.html or bring the form from the catalog along with any required payment to the USCA External Programs office, Business and Education Building, Room 103. **Registrations can no longer be taken via mail or phone** due to more stringent requirements for credit card processing.

For questions, contact USCA Department of Continuing Education (803-641-3563 / info@aikenlearning.org).

The Spiral is published monthly during the academic year by the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) at the University of South Carolina Aiken, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801. 803-641-3756.

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CLL Website: aikenlearning.org CLL on Facebook: [Facebook Page](#)



CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING CALENDAR – FEBRUARY 2026

Red = update to catalog listing

[Location Codes] B = USCA Bus & Educ Bldg RP = Ruth Patrick Sci Ctr ACS = Aiken County Shrine

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Battles of the Civil War 9:30-10:30 [B 144] Smart Home Security 9:30-11:30 [B 238F] Pirates of the Caribbean 11:00-12:00 [B 122] Yoga and Chair Yoga 12:30-1:30 [B 144] Exploring Windows 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] History of Rock & Roll 2:00-3:00 [B 144] Line Dancing 2:00-3:00 [ACS]	3 Android Devices 9:30-11:30 [B 238F] Edgefield Pottery 11:00-12:00 [B 144] What is AI? 1:30-3:30 [B 144] Sennsational Sky Stories 2:00-3:00 [RP 131a]	4 NATO 9:30-10:30 [B 144] TT: Digital Calendars 10:00-11:00 [B 238F] A Dive Into Diabetes 12:30-1:30 [B 144] iPhone 102 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] The Wonder of Glass 2:00-3:00 [B 144]	5 E. Mediterranean Cruise 9:30-10:30 [B 144] Biodiversity of Reptiles 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Spain's UNESCO Sites 12:30-1:30 [B 144] George Walton 2:00-3:00 [B 144]	6 Aiken's Historic Churches 9:30-10:30 [B 144] America/Women's Eyes 11:00-12:00 [B 144]
9 Understanding Congress 9:30-10:30 [B 124] Computer Security 9:30-11:30 [B 238F] Pirates of the Caribbean 11:00-12:00 [B 122] Yoga and Chair Yoga 12:30-1:30 [B 144] Exploring Windows 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] History of Rock & Roll 2:00-3:00 [B 144] Line Dancing 2:00-3:00 [ACS]	10 Picasa Photo Editing 9:30-11:30 [B 238F] Edgefield Pottery 11:00-12:00 [B 144] History In Headstones 12:30-1:30 [B 144] Applied AI (Sec. A) 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] Sennsational Sky Stories 2:00-3:00 [RP Planetarium]	11 U.S. & Tribal Policies 9:30-10:30 [B 144] Shady. Characters 11:00-12:00 [B 116] A Dive Into Diabetes 12:30-1:30 [B 144] iPhone 102 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] The Wonder of Glass 2:00-3:00 [B 144]	12 Biodiversity of Reptiles 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Spain's UNESCO Sites 12:30-1:30 [B 144] George Walton 2:00-3:00 [B 144]	13 Aiken's Historic Churches 9:30-10:30 [B 144] America/Women's Eyes 11:00-12:00 [B 144]
16 Understanding Congress 9:30-10:30 [B 124] Pirates of the Caribbean 11:00-12:00 [B 122] Quick Stock Analysis 12:30-1:30 [B 144] Exploring Windows 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] History of Rock & Roll 2:00-3:00 [B 144] Line Dancing 2:00-3:00 [ACS] Duels/Murders/Hangings 3:30-4:30 [B 122]	17 Edgefield Pottery 10:00-1:00 [Field trip] Aiken's Railroad History 11:00-12:00 [B 144] History In Headstones 12:30-1:30 [B 144] Applied AI (Sec. B) 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] Great Decisions 2:00-4:00 [B 144] Sennsational Sky Stories 7:00 [RP Roof Observatory]	18 U.S. & Tribal Policies 9:30-10:30 [B 144] Intro to Coroner System 11:00-12:00 [B 144] iPhone 102 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] The French Connection 2:00-3:00 [B 144]	19 TT: Using Alexa 10:00-11:00 [B 238F] Biodiversity of Reptiles 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Apple Watch 1:30-3:30 [B 238F]	20

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
23 Understanding Congress 9:30-10:30 [B 124] Using OneDrive 9:30-11:30 [B 238F] Equine Bodywork 101 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Smart Home Solutions 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] History of Rock & Roll 2:00-3:00 [B 144]	24 TT: Family Histories 10:00-11:00 [B 238F] Aiken's Railroad History 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Applied AI (Sec. C) 1:30-3:30 [B 238F] Sennsational Sky Stories 2:00-3:00 [RP 131a] Great Decisions 2:00-4:00 [B 144]	25 U.S. & Tribal Policies 9:30-10:30 [B 144] Fire and Our Forests 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Fight Computer Scams 1:30-3:30 [B 144]	26 TT: Using Alexa 10"-11:00 [B 238F] Biodiversity of Reptiles 11:00-12:00 [B 144] Apple Help Lab (Sec. A) 1:30-3:30 [B 238F]	27 Brain and Body Fitness 9:30-10:45 [B 144]