Osher Online

in collaboration with Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

FALL 2024

FIRST LADIES: MORE THAN THE WOMEN BEHIND THE MEN

Did John Adams listen to Abigail? Was Mary Todd Lincoln depressed? Did Eleanor advise Franklin? Did Edith Wilson really take over for the president? Was Hillary really a co-president? These are questions frequently asked about the first lady. She has no job description and her position is unpaid. There is nothing she is required to do, but much that we expect. From the birth of our country through the present, this course will explore the evolution of the role and the Office of the First Lady. In addition to biographical information, we will explore topics and themes related to the women behind the men. We will examine how they helped shape history and how they left lasting legacies that impact many of us today.



Click here to view promo video.

YOUR INSTRUCTORS



Diana Carlin, PhD

Myra G. Gutin, PhD is Professor Emerita of communication at Rider University. For the past 40 years, her research has focused on American First Ladies. She is the author of The President's Partner: The First Lady in the Twentieth Century and Barbara Bush: Presidential Matriarch. She has authored book chapters, articles, and op-eds about first ladies and is currently at work on a biography of Betty Ford. A frequent media commentator, she is the immediate past president and one of the founders of FLARE, the First Ladies Association for Research and Education.

Diana Carlin. PhD is Professor Emerita of communication at Saint Louis University. She teaches courses on and written about First Ladies for 30 years and is the co-author of U.S. First Ladies: Making History and Leaving Legacies and Remember the First Ladies: America's History-Making Women. Carlin has also published articles and book chapters on a variety of First Ladies and researches and writes on the topics of women in politics. presidential communication, and political debate.



Myra Gutin, PhD

MONDAYS, SEPTEMBER 30 THROUGH NOVEMBER 4

11am AK | Noon PT | 1pm MT | 2pm CT | 3pm ET

Each session is 90 minutes

- Live Lecture 1, Monday, September 30
 Live Lecture 4, Monday, October 21

- Live Lecture 2, Monday, October 7
 Live Lecture 5, Monday, October 28
 Live Lecture 6, Monday, November 4

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.