

SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Business & Community

E d u c a t i o n

Fall 2025

Personal  
Enrichment



*Pumpkin Centerpiece Class - October 25*

**Find out more at [svcc.edu/ced](https://svcc.edu/ced)**



**Sauk Valley**  
Community College

*Sauk makes it possible – You make it happen*



# NON-CREDIT INSTRUCTORS WANTED!

NO TEACHING CERTIFICATION NEEDED.

Sauk Valley Community College's Community Education Department offers non-credit courses to the community for professional development and personal enrichment.

Share your knowledge, and apply today!



Apply online at [jobs.svcc.edu](https://jobs.svcc.edu) and Search Jobs for Non-Credit Instructors or contact [brenda.helms@svcc.edu](mailto:brenda.helms@svcc.edu) for more information.

# ATTENTION SVCC ALUMNI

We want to stay connected with you!  
Let us know what SVCC can do for you by  
completing our survey. Upon completion  
you will receive exclusive SVCC Alumni Swag!

Scan the QR code to get started or visit  
[surveymonkey.com/r/alumnisurvey25](https://surveymonkey.com/r/alumnisurvey25)



# PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

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## 5 WAYS TO REGISTER

**Online:** Visit [svcc.edu/commedenroll](http://svcc.edu/commedenroll)

**Mail:** Complete the enclosed registration form and return it along with full payment to Business & Community Education, Sauk Valley Community College, 173 IL Route 2, Dixon, IL 61021.

**Fax:** Complete the enclosed registration form and fax it to 815.380.6383.

**In-Person:** Complete the enclosed registration form and bring it to the Business & Community Education Department on the first floor, office 1M04 (East end). Payment should be made at that time. In-person registration is open Monday–Thursday, 8:00AM–4:00PM and 8:00AM–1:30PM on Fridays.

**Phone:** Call 815.835.6258 or 815.835.6212 and have your debit or credit card number ready for payment.

## SVCC POLICIES

### ■ REGISTRATION & PAYMENT POLICY:

Registration is required to attend a class or trip. Payment is due at the time of registration. Payment can be made by mail, phone, and fax, online, or in person.

### ■ FULL OR CANCELLED CLASS POLICY:

The Business & Community Education Department reserves the right to limit enrollment or cancel a class or trip due to insufficient enrollment. For this reason, please register at least one week before the class or trip is scheduled to guarantee your class or trip is not cancelled. Every effort will be made to notify students that a class or trip has been filled or cancelled. Students will receive full refunds for full or cancelled classes and trips.

### ■ BAD WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY:

If SVCC cancels classes due to bad weather, Business & Community Education classes or trips will also be cancelled. Cancellations will be announced on area radio, TV stations and on our website, [svcc.edu](http://svcc.edu).

### ■ REFUND & WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

Withdrawal Policy: Withdrawals must be completed by phone, call 815.835.6258 or 815.835.6212, or in person at the Business & Community Education Department Office, 1M04. Documentation is required for the student withdrawal to be processed. Please leave a message if no one is available to take your call.

Refund Policy: If a class or trip is cancelled due to low enrollment, students will receive a full refund. **No refunds will be given to students who do not withdraw during business hours at least three business days before the class or trip.** This excludes observed holidays.

### ■ NO-SHOW / NON-PAYMENT POLICY:

Registered students who are “no-shows” are not withdrawn from a Business & Community Education non-credit class or trip automatically because they have registered and reserved a seat. **Students need to officially withdraw from a class or trip at least three business days before it is scheduled to take place.** If a trip requires a ticket to be purchased, a refund may not be available. Please don't register unless you plan to attend the class or trip.

### ■ GIVE A GIFT OF LEARNING:

Looking for the perfect gift to give your spouse, children, friends, or relatives for birthdays, anniversaries or other special occasions? Do you want to reward your employees for a job well done? Call 815.835.6258 or 815.835.6212 to give a gift of learning.

## INSTRUCTORS WANTED! SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE!

Do you have a special skill or deep knowledge in a particular subject? Join us and make a difference by teaching a class in your area of expertise! We're looking for enthusiastic instructors to share their skills with the community on a flexible schedule that works for you.

**Adults:** Teach exciting subjects like Art, Culinary, Safety, Cybersecurity, Technology, and more!

**College for Kids:** Inspire young minds with topics like Computers, Creative Arts, Drones, Technology, VR, and beyond!

Endless possibilities await. You pick the topic, day, and time, and we'll take care of the rest. Call Brenda Helms at **815.835.6212** or email [brenda.helms@svcc.edu](mailto:brenda.helms@svcc.edu) to learn more about this rewarding opportunity.





## DAY TRIPS

### Odyssey Lake Michigan Lunch Cruise

Step aboard the Odyssey Lake Michigan Lunch Cruise for a memorable two-hour journey featuring the best views of Chicago's skyline. Relax with a delicious buffet lunch as you cruise along Lake Michigan, with unlimited coffee, tea, and soda to enjoy throughout. This experience includes convenient round-trip transportation to and from Navy Pier, giving you time to explore its vibrant attractions after the cruise. With stunning views, onboard entertainment, and a relaxing atmosphere, this cruise is the perfect way to enjoy Chicago from the water. *Trip is limited to 50 participants.* Trip includes transportation, Odyssey cruise ticket, lunch, driver gratuity, and bus snacks. (Ages 13 & Up)

Bus departs SVCC North Parking lot promptly at 8:30 a.m. arriving at Navy Pier at approximately 11:00 a.m. Boarding for the Odyssey Lake Michigan will begin at 11:30AM. Bus departs Navy Pier at 5:00 p.m. and will arrive back at SVCC at approximately 7:30 p.m.

**Class ID:1983**

Thursday, August 21; 8:30AM-7:30PM

Navy Pier, Chicago, IL

\$119 per person



### Disney's The Lion King

Giraffes strut. Birds swoop. Gazelles leap. The entire Serengeti comes to life as never before. And as the music soars, Pride Rock slowly emerges from the mist. This is Disney's **THE LION KING**, making its triumphant return to the Cadillac Palace Theatre!



More than 100 million people around the world have experienced the awe-inspiring visual artistry, the unforgettable music, and the uniquely theatrical storytelling of this Broadway spectacular – one of the most breathtaking and beloved productions ever to grace the stage.

Winner of six Tony Awards®, including Best Musical, **THE LION KING** brings together one of the most imaginative creative teams on Broadway. Tony Award®-winning director Julie Taymor brings to life a story filled with hope and adventure set against an amazing backdrop of stunning visuals. **THE LION KING** also features the extraordinary work of Tony Award®-winning choreographer Garth Fagan and some of Broadway's most recognizable music, crafted by Tony Award®-winning artists Elton John and Tim Rice.

There is simply nothing else like **THE LION KING**.

All ticket sales are final; however, a substitute may be sent in your place. The show is a 1:00 p.m. matinee and the tickets are located in the balcony. The run time of the show is 2 hours and 30 minutes with one intermission. Travelers will have time to shop and/or eat lunch once we arrive in Chicago. There are places to shop and eat near the theater. *Trip is limited to 48 participants* and includes transportation, driver gratuity, show ticket, and bus snacks. Lunch in Chicago and dinner at Portillo's will be on your own. (Ages 6 & Up)

Bus departs SVCC North Parking lot promptly at 8:30 a.m., arriving in Chicago at approximately 10:45 a.m. Bus departs Chicago after the show at approximately 3:45 p.m. and will stop at Portillo's for dinner and arrive back at SVCC at approximately 7:30 p.m.

**Class ID:2052**

Wednesday, October 8; 8:30AM-7:30PM

Cadillac Theatre, Chicago, IL

**Seat Location-Upper Balcony**

\$109 per person

### Self-Guided Chicago Bus Trip

Travel with us to enjoy the sights and sounds of Chicago. Explore the city's museums, shops, and eateries. This self-guided trip allows you and your friends to enjoy the city without bothersome schedules, stressful driving, and parking hassles. (All Ages)

Bus departs SVCC North parking lot promptly at 8:00 a.m., arriving at Water Tower Place (North side of building) at 10:30 a.m. Bus departs Chicago at 5:30 p.m. and will arrive at SVCC at approximately 8:00 p.m.

**Class ID:2030**

Saturday, December 13; 8:00AM-8:00PM

Chicago, IL

\$60 per person

## The Phantom of the Opera

The Phantom of the Opera is widely considered one of the most beautiful and spectacular productions in history, playing to over 160 million people in 47 territories and 195 cities in 21 languages. Andrew Lloyd Webber's romantic, haunting, and soaring score includes "The Music of the Night," "All I Ask of You," "Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again," "Masquerade," and the iconic title song. It tells the tale of a disfigured musical genius known only as 'The Phantom' who haunts the depths of the Paris Opera House. Mesmerized by the talents and beauty of a young soprano, Christine, The Phantom lures her as his protégé and falls fiercely in love with her. Unaware of Christine's love for Raoul, The Phantom's obsession sets the scene for a dramatic turn of events where jealousy, madness, and passions collide.

All ticket sales are final; however, a substitute may be sent in your place. The show is a 1:00 p.m. matinee and the tickets are located in the balcony. The run time of the show is 2 hours and 35 minutes with one intermission. Travelers will have time to shop and/or

eat lunch once we arrive in Chicago.

There are places to shop and eat near the theater. *Trip is limited to 48 participants* and includes transportation, driver gratuity, show ticket, and bus snacks. Lunch in Chicago and dinner at Portillo's will be on your own. (Ages 7 & Up)

Bus departs SVCC North Parking lot promptly at 8:30 a.m., arriving in Chicago at approximately 10:45 a.m. Bus departs Chicago after the show at approximately 3:50 p.m. and will stop at Portillo's for dinner and arrive back at SVCC at approximately 7:30 p.m.

**Class ID:2053**

Wednesday, January 14, 2026; 8:30AM-7:30PM  
Cadillac Theatre, Chicago, IL

**Seat Location-Upper Balcony**

\$115 per person



## ■ EXTENDED TRIPS

Stop dreaming and start doing! Join Sauk Valley Community College on an upcoming trip through our travel partner Collette. Begin your adventure today! **For more information about trip previews or to request a detailed trip itinerary, contact Brenda Helms at 815.835.6212.**



### Trip Preview for Spain

Join us for a preview of the amazing upcoming extended trip to Spain. A Collette representative will showcase the trip and answer questions.

**Class ID:2083**

Thursday, September 4; 6:00-7:00PM  
SVCC-Riverview Conference Room 1H16  
FREE



### Spain's Costa del Sol & Madrid Discovery

Let yourself be charmed by the sunny Andalusian lifestyle and discover the culture, cuisine, and history of southern Spain. Explore Costa del Sol's beaches, boutiques, and cafés during a 5-night stay in the seaside town of Fuengirola. Immerse yourself in Andalusian culture during a visit to the picturesque, whitewashed village of Ronda. Tour and experience the vibrant energy of the capital city during a 2-night stay in Madrid. Revel in the magic of this unique region, from the sparkling waters of the Costa del Sol to the cosmopolitan elegance of Spain's historic city centers. **Visit [gateway.collette.com/link/1288881](https://gateway.collette.com/link/1288881) to view the online trip itinerary.**

#### Must-See Inclusions:

- Tour Ronda, one of Spain's loveliest and most historic towns.
- See the Plaza Mayor and tour the iconic city of Madrid.
- Tour the centuries-old port city of Málaga during a guided tour.

#### Cultural Connections:

- Discover the Alhambra palace, a wonder of the Muslim world in Granada.
- Ride the AVE high-speed train from Málaga to Madrid.

#### Culinary Inclusions:

- Enjoy a home-hosted meal in Málaga.

**Trip dates (9 days): Saturday, April 11 – Sunday, April 19, 2026**

Cost: \$4,199 (double/per person); \$4,799 (single person)

11 meals included (7 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners)

- Included in price: Round trip air from O'Hare Intl Airport, Air Taxes and fees/surcharges, hotel reservations.
- Not included in price: Cancellation waiver and insurance is an additional \$549 per person, and any gratuities.
- Deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation.
- Prices go up \$150 per person after October 5, 2025
- Deposits are refundable up until October 12, 2025
- Final payment due January 11, 2026

## Trip Preview for European Christmas Markets

Join us for a preview of the amazing upcoming extended trip to European Christmas Markets. A Collette representative will showcase the trip and answer questions.

**Class ID:2084**

Wednesday, November 12; 6:00-7:00PM  
SVCC-Riverview Conference Room 1H16  
FREE



## Discover European Christmas Markets



Set out on a holiday adventure through the iconic capital cities of Central Europe – Prague, Vienna and Budapest. Tour the magnificent Prague Castle and explore its famous Christmas market at the Old Town Square. Experience the world's oldest Christmas market in Dresden.

In Vienna, learn the secrets of confectionary at a candy workshop, and indulge in dinner at the famous Marchfelderhof. Travel via train from Vienna to Bratislava. Explore Budapest's outdoor markets aglow with lights, where stalls of crafts and delicacies abound. Along the way, immerse yourself in festive Christmas markets, experience cultural traditions, sample local cuisine, and glimpse this region's rich history. **Visit [gateway.gocollette.com/link/1288389](https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1288389) to view the online trip itinerary.**

### Must-See Inclusions:

- Visit the magnificent Schönbrunn Palace, a summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty.
- Discover Budapest's iconic sights through an expert's eyes
- Experience the world's oldest Christmas market in lovely Dresden, Germany.

### Cultural Connections:

- Tour the majestic Prague Castle.
- Be whisked by train from Vienna to Bratislava.
- Visit 5 different countries filled with the holiday spirit.

### Culinary Inclusions:

- Experience how to make typical Hungarian strudel.
- Learn the secrets of Viennese confectionary during a candy making demonstration.
- Dine at the famous Marchfelderhof, an iconic restaurant with a rich Viennese tradition.

**Trip dates (9 days): Friday, December 4 – Saturday, December 12, 2026**

Cost: \$4,099 (double/per person); \$4,799 (single person); \$4,049 (triple/per person)

11 meals included (7 breakfasts, 4 dinners)

- Included in price: Round trip air from O'Hare Intl Airport, Air Taxes and fees/surcharges, hotel reservations.
- Not included in price: Cancellation waiver and insurance is an additional \$549 per person, and any gratuities.
- Deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation.
- Prices go up \$350 per person after May 29, 2026
- Deposits are refundable up until June 5, 2026
- Final payment due September 5, 2026

## Trip Preview for Discover Switzerland, Austria & Bavaria

Join us for a preview of the amazing upcoming extended trip to Switzerland. A Collette representative will showcase the trip and answer questions.

**Class ID:2085**

Tuesday, March 10, 2026; 6:00-7:00PM  
SVCC-Riverview Conference Room 1H16  
FREE



## Discover Switzerland, Austria & Bavaria



Journey through spectacular mountain scenery and picturesque cities as you experience three Alpine countries. Spend four nights in the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bern and three nights in the charming Alpine city of Innsbruck. Get a taste of Switzerland when you meet a local alphorn maker & yodelers and enjoy a fondue lunch. Explore Lucerne, the "Swiss Paradise on the Lake." Visit Mozart's birthplace and the Mirabell Gardens, featured in The Sound

of Music, during your time in Salzburg. The hills are alive on this enchanting journey across Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria. **Visit [gateway.gocollette.com/link/1288865](https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1288865) to view the online trip itinerary.**

### Must-See Inclusions:

- Spend a day exploring Salzburg's historic past and charming old town.
- Enjoy a walking tour of Lucerne's Altstadt (Old Town).
- Tour Linderhof Palace and its beautiful gardens.

### Cultural Connections:

- Witness the creation of Alpine music during an alphorn and yodeling demonstration.
- Experience a Tyrolean Folklore show in Innsbruck.

### Culinary Inclusions:

- Savor lunch at the 1,200-year-old St. Peter's Restaurant, Austria's oldest.
- Experience a fondue lunch in a picturesque alpine town.
- Dine on Tyrolean cuisine at a local restaurant.

**Trip dates (10 days): Wednesday, April 21 – Friday, April 30, 2027**

Cost: \$5,299 (double/per person); \$5,899 (single person); \$5,249 (triple/per person)

13 meals included (8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners)

- Included in price: Round trip air from O'Hare Intl Airport, Air Taxes and fees/surcharges, hotel reservations.
- Not included in price: Cancellation waiver and insurance is an additional \$549 per person, and any gratuities.
- Deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation.
- Prices may increase after October 15, 2026
- Deposits are refundable up until October 22, 2026
- Final payment due January 21, 2027





# PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

## ■ AVIATION

### Aviation Instrument

For the Advanced Pilot: Acquire an understanding of instrument scan techniques, IFR instruments, instrument maneuvers on full and partial, radio navigation aids for enroute, instrument approach and instrument departure, radar, holding patterns, Federal Aviation Regulations, weather theory and reporting, and the requirements of the Instrument Practical Test Standards. Successful completion of this course guarantees the student will be eligible to take and pass the F.A.A. Instrument Pilot Knowledge Exam (additional fee for F.A.A. Exam). Flying or airtime is not included in this class. **This course will be conducted online through Google Meets. The classroom invitation and materials will be sent to students by email from the instructor. Textbooks and supplies for this class are: *The Pilot's Manual Volume 3: Instrument Flying* Seventh Edition and *Instrument Rating Test Prep 2025-2026*, both published by Aviation Supplies & Academics (ASA). Students may purchase all supplies online or locally from M & M Aviation Services, Ltd. Prerequisites: Private Pilot's License or instructor authorization. (Ages 17 & Up)**

**Class ID:2082**

(16 sessions), Mondays, August 11 – December 8  
(no class 9/01 & 11/24); 5:30-8:30PM

**LIVE ONLINE** • Instructor-M & M Aviation  
\$400

### Aviation Private Pilot Ground Training

Learn to fly by preparing for the Private Pilot Knowledge Exam. At the end of this course, you will understand operations of the flight controls and instruments, airport and airspace considerations, aircraft weight and balance, aircraft performance tables, basic weather meteorology, Federal Aviation Regulations, flight physiology, and emergency preparedness. After successful completion of this course, the student will be eligible to take the F.A.A. Private Pilot Knowledge Exam (additional fee for F.A.A. Exam). If the student has previously purchased this exam, please advise the instructor before the first class for instructor evaluation and approval. Flying or airtime is not included in this class. **This course will be conducted online through Google Meets. The classroom invitation and materials will be sent to students by email from the instructor. Textbooks and supplies for this class are: *The Complete Private Pilot*, Bob Gardner Thirteenth Edition and *Test Prep 2025-2026*, both published by Aviation Supplies & Academics (ASA). Students must possess an aviation E6B flight computer and an aviation rotating plotter. Students may purchase all supplies online or locally from M & M Aviation Services, Ltd. (Ages 15 & Up)**

**Class ID:2081**

(14 sessions), Tuesdays, August 26 – December 2  
(no class 11/25); 5:30-8:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE** • Instructor-M & M Aviation  
\$300





# COMPUTER

## File Management

Learn to manage your folders and files. We will review the cut, copy, paste, and rename commands. File management will allow you to store data (pictures, letters, recipes, etc.) on your PC in an organized manner which makes it easier to retrieve and it will enable you to backup data. Learn to copy or move data to an external storage device. Get your photos off your memory card! Prerequisite: Basic computer knowledge and skills required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2071

(1 session), Tuesday, September 9; 1:00-5:00PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$70

## Microsoft Word – Level One

Microsoft Word is a word processing program used to generate documents. You will create several documents as you learn about page definition, margins, tabs, editing, enhancing text, spell check, saving, printing, and retrieving documents. Learn about available shortcuts, basic editing techniques, paragraph and character formatting, and controlling page appearance. Prerequisite: Basic computer and typing skills required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2072

(1 session), Thursday, September 11; 12:30-5:30PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$85

## WE WANT YOUR BUSINESS!

Sauk Valley Community College's Business & Community Education is looking for local businesses to collaborate on unique "experience-based" classes at your location. This is a great opportunity to: Showcase your business, Connect with the community, Host fun, memorable events. Past experiences have included mixology, culinary demos, flower arranging, crafting, local history, and fitness; the possibilities are endless! Interested?

Contact Brenda Helms at [brenda.helms@svcc.edu](mailto:brenda.helms@svcc.edu) or 815.835.6212 and let's create something together!

## Microsoft Excel – Level One

Learn basic spreadsheet operations, spreadsheet design, layout, math operations, controlling page appearance, and printing spreadsheets. An emphasis is placed on writing formulas to obtain desired results. Use shortcuts to accomplish tasks as you set up several spreadsheets. A basic understanding of keyboard and mouse operations as well as the fundamental Windows operations is required to operate Excel. Prerequisite: Basic understanding of keyboard and mouse operations as well as the fundamental Windows operations is required to operate Excel. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2073

(1 session), Tuesday, September 16; 12:30-5:30PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$85

### Class ID:2074

(1 session), Wednesday, September 24; 12:30-5:30PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$85

## Microsoft Excel – Level Two

Take your knowledge of Microsoft Excel and maximize the power of this software as you explore linking, sheet management, and using advanced formulas to summarize data. Prerequisite: Basic computer and typing skills and knowledge of formula writing in Microsoft Excel required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2075

(1 session), Tuesday, September 30; 12:30-5:30PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$85

## Microsoft Excel – Advanced Formulas

We will explore additional advanced formulas: use your vlookup formula to search, find, and input data automatically for you. If/then statements allow you to test your data: we will explore traditional if/then statements as well as the nesting of if/then in formulas. Conditional formatting will aid you in evaluating your data and we will use this feature in class. Prerequisite: Basic computer and typing skills and knowledge of formula writing in Microsoft Excel required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2076

(1 session), Wednesday, October 8; 12:30-5:30PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$85

## Microsoft Excel – Graphing

Set up and modify graphs in Microsoft Excel. Learn how to tie the graph to your data, generate different types of graphs, modify text and title, add legends, and messages. Prerequisite: Basic typing skills and knowledge of computers and basic knowledge of writing formulas in Microsoft Excel required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2077

(1 session), Tuesday, October 14; 2:00-5:00PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$55



## Microsoft Excel – Pivot Tables & Data Management

Manage data in Excel using Sorting and Filtering. Pivot tables in Microsoft Excel will allow you to extract some meaningful information from the data. Pivot tables allow you to quickly summarize and analyze large amounts of data in lists and tables independent of the original data layout in your spreadsheet. You can do this by dragging and dropping columns to different rows, columns, or summary positions. Learn to design pivot tables and customize their appearance for reporting purposes. Prerequisite: Basic typing skills and knowledge of computers and Microsoft Excel required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2078

(1 session), Thursday, October 16; 2:00-5:00PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$55

## Microsoft PowerPoint – Level One

Microsoft PowerPoint is a program used to create slide show presentations. You will learn about backgrounds, colors, pictures, text, and transitions as you create your own slide show presentation. Learn all the basics. You will be making some impressive slide show presentations in no time! Prerequisite: Basic computer and typing skills required. *Class size is limited to 10 students. (Ages 16 & Up)*

### Class ID:2079

(1 session), Wednesday, October 22; 12:30-5:30PM  
SVCC-Room 3K02 • Instructor-Marcy Lawrence  
\$85



## FINANCE

### Four Pillars of the New Retirement

This class will explore each of the four pillars, why they matter, and ways you can tend to each of them. The four pillars include health, family, purpose, and finances. *(Ages 18 & Up)*

### Class ID:2107

(1 session), Monday, September 8; 5:00-6:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-AJ Sharp  
\$12

*Like us on Facebook at SVCC Community Education*

## Social Security: Your Questions Answered

Social Security will likely be the foundation of your retirement income. Before you retire, it's important to understand your options regarding Social Security and the impact your decisions have on your retirement. Learn ways to maximize Social Security benefit amounts for the individual and spouse based on age, life expectancy, employment and need. *(Ages 18 & Up)*

### Class ID:2086

(1 session), Monday, September 15; 5:00-6:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-AJ Sharp  
\$12

## The World of Investments

Get introduced to the vast world of investing and unravel its inner workings. Explore common types of investments and accounts and discover your best investment options. Get your specific questions answered during this interactive and engaging session. *(Ages 18 & Up)*

### Class ID:2093

(1 session), Tuesday, September 23; 6:00-8:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-Mark Hunt  
\$20

## Understanding Auto & Home Insurance for Consumers

Are you getting the best possible value from an insurance company? Will that company honor a claim? How do you get a great price when there are so many insurance terms to understand? Do you have too much or too little coverage? Why does your credit matter? Shopping insurance should be an annual event to ensure you are getting proper coverage from a solid company at a reasonable price. The insurance market is volatile and becoming a savvy shopper will help you understand your policy and put you in the driver's seat when shopping for auto, home or renter quotes. *(Ages 18 & Up)*

### Class ID:2094

(1 session), Monday, September 29; 6:00-8:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-Mark Hunt  
\$20

## Keep More of What You Earn with a Budget

Most people think budgeting is like a harsh diet. It's not about doing without the things you enjoy; it's about learning the importance of identifying cash flow within a flexible and personalized budget. Creating a realistic budget doesn't have to be painful! This is a fundamental class in documenting your expenses, learning to track with or without personal budgeting software and working together as a family to achieve common financial goals. Students might even find that they can start or increase their retirement savings! Take control of your money and avoid letting your money take control of you! *(Ages 18 & Up)*

### Class ID:2095

(1 session), Saturday, October 11; 10:00AM-12:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-Mark Hunt  
\$20

## Retirement Planning Today®

Retirement Planning Today® contains something for everyone. The course is designed to teach you how to build wealth and align your money with your values to accomplish your goals in life. Whether you plan to retire 20 years from now or have just recently retired, the information you learn in this class can deliver rewards throughout your lifetime. Course topics include:

- Determining the amount of money, you need to retire
- Properly convert your IRA to a Roth IRA
- Selecting the retirement plan distribution choice that is right for you
- Reduce or eliminate taxes expenses
- Delays and challenges with estate planning and much more

You will receive an easy-to-understand education on life planning and retirement planning strategies and two workbooks (one at each session) with real world examples and illustrations. (Ages 40 & Up)

### Class ID:2080

(2 sessions), Tuesdays, September 30 & October 7; 6:00-9:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2C08 • Instructor-Regan Shipp, CPA, CFP®  
\$49 per couple

## Creating Your Estate Plan

Estate Planning is a topic people tend to put off or ignore, but one of the most important things you can do is develop a sound plan for your estate. This class is designed to help students understand the basics of estate planning. Students will learn what to consider when creating a will, the benefits of a trust, and how to help reduce taxes on estates. (Ages 18 & Up)

### Class ID:2087

(1 session), Monday, October 6; 5:00-6:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-AJ Sharp  
\$12

## Health Care and Medicare in Retirement

This course will cover all things health care in retirement. Health care and your retirement is an educational program that addresses what steps investors should take to prepare for health care costs to help ensure their retirement savings stay healthy.

### Class ID:2092

(1 session), Monday, October 13; 5:00-6:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2M07 • Instructor-AJ Sharp  
\$12

## PUMPKIN SMASH Smash instead of trash!

SVCC CAMPUS AG FIELD (follow the signs)  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH 10-NOON

When jack o' lanterns are past their prime, many end up in the trash. Bring your pumpkins that are free of candles, stickers, glitter, yarn, and synthetic decorations to a community composting event to divert pumpkins from the landfill, where they can contribute to producing the greenhouse gas methane. A fun morning of throwing, cropping, smashing, and launching pumpkins back into the field compost into nutrients for next year's crops. Fun for the whole family!



## HOBBIES & SPECIAL INTEREST

### How to Use & Store Fresh Garden Produce

You have grown fresh produce all summer long, now what do you do with the excess produce like onions, cucumbers, tomatoes and more? Explore simple ways of storing produce for longer shelf life and sharing resources for easy recipes like refrigerator pickles to make your produce go further. Supplies are included. (Ages 18 & Up)

### Class ID:2090

(1 session), Saturday, August 23; 9:30-11:00AM  
SVCC Greenhouse • Instructor-Bruce Black, Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator  
\$10

### Pumpkin Planters

Fall pumpkins are a nice addition to any entryway. Learn how to intensify your planters with real and faux flowers for that boost of color for your entryways. Students will create a pumpkin planter of their own. It is recommended to bring a box or canvas bag to take home the finished project. Supplies are included. (Ages 15 & Up)

### Class ID:2089

(1 session), Saturday, September 20; 9:30-11:00AM  
SVCC Greenhouse • Instructor-Bruce Black, Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator  
\$29

### Pumpkin Centerpieces

Pumpkins are one of the symbols of fall. Add some new flair to your decorating by creating a focal point for your table. Students will learn how to create a fun centerpiece for any table, witches brew station, or your favorite haunt using faux and/or fresh flowers. Students will create a pumpkin centerpiece of their own. It is recommended to bring a box or canvas bag to take home the finished project. Supplies are included. (Ages 14 & Up)

### Class ID:2088

(1 session), Saturday, October 25; 9:30-11:00AM  
SVCC Greenhouse • Instructor-Bruce Black, Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator  
\$29

## INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT

### Bruce J. Black



Bruce J. Black is the University of Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator serving Carroll, Lee, and Whiteside counties as well as serving Boone, DeKalb, & Ogle counties. Bruce also serves as the SVCC Greenhouse Coordinator and teaches in the Agriculture Department. He provides horticulture-related educational

opportunities for community members, schools, Master Gardener volunteers, non-profit organizations, and businesses. Bruce's primary focus is addressing the different generational horticulture educational needs and inspiring the next generation of gardeners. His primary areas of expertise are in fruit and vegetable production, plant propagation, and community and youth garden education.



## LANGUAGE

### Introduction to Spanish for Beginners

Students will learn the fundamentals of basic conversational patterns, vocabulary, and enough grammar to communicate effectively in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Students will be able to communicate successfully in social situations using the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. (Ages 15 & Up)

**Class ID:2105**

(8 sessions), Mondays, September 8 – October 27; 5:30-7:00PM  
SVCC-Room 2L07 • Instructor-Ana Lara  
\$89

### ★ Ecological Damage Caused by the 2025 Southern California Wildfires

**NEW!** The class will discuss the extent of the ecological damage caused by the January 2025 Southern California wildfires including threats to the endangered California Condors; Loss of eucalyptus and palm trees and release of carbon dioxide; Santa Monica Bay (Pacific Ocean) water quality; impact to marine life; and the status of the ecological restoration by the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers. **This course will be conducted online through Google Meets.** A class invitation will be emailed to the student the day before class. (Ages 18 & Up)

**Class ID:2109**

(1 session), Thursday, October 23; 4:00-5:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE • Instructor-Keith Warwick, P.E.**  
**FREE**

### Introduction to Voiceovers (Getting Started in Voice Acting)

Explore the craft of voiceovers! Discover current trends, opportunities and tools you need to find success in this growing remote working industry. Read a real script and receive coaching from your instructor, a professional voice actor, to improve your delivery. One-time, 90 minute, one-on-one, video-chat class! Learn more: <http://www.voicesforall.com/ooo>. Upon registration you will be contacted by VFA to schedule your class, day and time of your convenience. **Sessions must be completed by Saturday, December 6.** (Ages 18 & Up)

**Class ID: 2108**

(1 session), Open Enrollment; 90 minutes

**LIVE ONLINE • Instructor-Voices for All**  
**\$50**

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## SAFETY

### American Red Cross CPR/First Aid/AED

Students will receive American Red Cross CPR training for adult, child, and infant, First Aid Certification, and proper AED training. This class is suitable for individuals' needing certification for employment as well as those looking to expand their skill set. The American Red Cross Certification card is included. ***This program qualifies for funding by the Noncredit Workforce Training Initiative Grant from the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). The grant funds will be used to reduce the cost of the student's tuition. (Ages 12 & Up)***

#### Class ID:2069

(1 session), Saturday, September 20; 9:00AM-1:00PM  
SVCC- Riverview Conference Room 1H16  
Instructor-Heather Grobe  
\$39

#### Class ID:2070

(1 session), Saturday, November 8; 9:00AM-1:00PM  
SVCC- Riverview Conference Room 1H16  
Instructor-Heather Grobe  
\$39

### ★ Caring Kids, Confident Sitters

**NEW!** Learn how to become a Super Sitter! Join us to explore babysitting basics, gain fun activity ideas for engaging kids, and practice skills for communicating with parents. (Ages 10-14)

#### Class ID:2091

(1 session), Saturday, October 4; 10:00-11:30AM  
SVCC-Riverview Conference Room 1H16  
Instructor-Martha Ebbesmeyer, U of I Extension  
FREE

#### GIVE A GIFT OF LEARNING:

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## WRITING

Instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is an author, speaker, business owner, and guest instructor at more than 200 colleges from Maine to Hawaii, as well as an adjunct online professor of publishing through Ed2Go at more than 2,000 facilities worldwide, including Harvard. (For more information, visit [KruiseMarkGrinnell.com](http://KruiseMarkGrinnell.com)) **All the Writing classes will be held online using a secure Zoom Education Account. The Zoom login information will be emailed the day before class to students.**

### Beginner's Guide to Getting Published

If your goal is to become a published freelance writer by selling a magazine article, short story, poem, or even a novel to a traditional publisher, this comprehensive workshop will guide you to, then past the editor's desk. You will discover how to:

- Become a "published" writer overnight
- Submit manuscripts the correct way
- Find the right publisher for your work
- Write irresistible query letters
- Determine when and how to get an agent
- 100 ways to make money as a freelance writer

If you really want to succeed, this step-by-step workshop is a must! Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee. (Ages 16 & Up)

#### Class ID:2096

(1 session), Friday, October 3; 6:00-8:00PM  
**LIVE ONLINE**  
\$45 includes material fee

### Write Your Life Story

You don't need to be famous to have a legacy to leave behind. Create an inspirational autobiography for family, friends, and others. Learn how to recall vivid memories, analyze events and people that shaped who you are, and bring your story to life. Your handout, included in the class fee, will have an outline to help you organize and write your memoir step-by-step. Printing/publishing options will also be discussed. (Ages 16 & Up)

#### Class ID:2097

(1 session), Saturday, October 4; 10:00AM-1:00PM  
**LIVE ONLINE**  
\$55 includes material fee

## Introduction to Journaling

Journaling is simply recording your thoughts, feelings, and insights in a written, drawn, or typed format. It can be done on paper or on a computer, and it's a low-cost way to improve your mental health. Journaling can help you reduce stress, improve your self-awareness, as well as prioritize problems, fears, and concerns, and provide an opportunity for positive self-talk. You'll learn how to start journaling (even when you don't know what to write), the 10 most popular types of journaling, how to kick-start self-reflection and self-discovery, and track your progress and personal growth. (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2098**

(1 session), Sunday, October 5; 10:00AM-12:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$45 includes material fee

## How to Write Short Stories

In this course, you'll explore the art of writing short stories (1,000–30,000 words), helping you find your unique writing voice and effectively communicate your ideas. Learn to create compelling plots and develop dynamic characters through action and dialogue. You'll also master the technical aspects of short story construction, such as structure, pivotal character moments, and narrative progression. By the end of the course, you'll be equipped with the tools to refine your work through editing and proofreading, as well as explore publishing options for your completed story. (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2099**

(1 session), Monday, October 6; 4:00-6:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$45 includes material fee

## Be a Better Writer: 10 Easy Tips to Improve Your Writing

We write everyday: emails, social media posts, work projects, and even non-fiction or creative writing. Improving is just a matter of knowing some simple tricks to make your writing more impactful and readable, and may help get you a promotion at work or avoid rejection from a publisher. In this hands-on session, there will be writing/editing examples and exercises so you can see in real time how to make sentences flow properly while still maintaining reader interest, and you will leave with a workbook full of writing tips and tricks, which is included in the class fee. (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2100**

(1 session), Monday, October 6; 6:00-9:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$55 includes material fee

### DON'T WAIT - REGISTER EARLY!

Thinking about taking a class? Great! Just don't wait too long. Classes need a minimum number of students to run, and waiting until the last minute could lead to cancellations. Secure your spot and help keep your favorite classes on the schedule by registering early!



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## ★ 10 Practical Tips for Writing Powerful Dialogue

**NEW!** Writing believable, relatable dialogue is an art-form, but fortunately there are some tried-and-tested methods and techniques you can use right now to improve the dialogue in your novel or script. In this fast-paced session, you'll learn how to turn ordinary words into compelling dialogue, use clean dialogue tags, differentiate character voices, use dialogue instead of narrative/voiceover, avoid dialogue "dumps," and be real, but not boring. (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2101**

(1 session), Tuesday, October 7; 4:00-5:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$35 includes material fee

## Beginner's Guide to using Free Chat GPT (AI) for Writers

ChatGPT (AI) is here to stay and is the future for writers and content creators. Don't be left behind! No prior AI experience required. In this beginner-friendly course, you'll learn how to harness the power of cutting-edge technology to elevate your writing process. Whether you're crafting web content, articles, novels, or scripts, this course will give you the tools to incorporate ChatGPT into your creative workflow.

Through practical exercises and expert guidance, you'll learn to:

- Register for a FREE ChatGPT account and get started right away
- Input effective writing prompts to generate clear, meaningful content
- Build a variety of creative content, from stories to marketing copy
- Understand ChatGPT's capabilities and limitations to enhance your writing
- Navigate ethical and legal considerations when using AI-generated content

ChatGPT and similar AI tools are revolutionizing the job market. As industries evolve, it's essential to adapt, learn new skills, and collaborate with AI for greater productivity. Start building your expertise now and secure your place in the future of content creation! (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2102**

(1 session), Tuesday, October 7; 5:00-7:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$45 includes material fee

## Creative Writing 101

You don't need a degree in creative writing to be an exceptional writer and get paid for it! Anyone with a passion for writing can learn and develop their fiction and non-fiction writing skills. Whether you're writing from your own life experience, creating new worlds, or informing readers about important information, this class will teach you about the different forms of creative writing, the top 10 creative writing tips for beginners, as well as how to brainstorm for new creative writing ideas, bring your words to life with engaging descriptions, develop your own writing style, and how to get paid for your creative writing. (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2103**

(1 session), Friday, October 10; 4:00-6:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$45 includes material fee

## Earn Money as a Freelance Writer

If you have a way with words and love to write, freelance writing has emerged as a significant force in the gig economy, offering flexibility, independence and a way to make money online and offline, for supplemental income or a full-time career. You'll learn the top 10 areas of freelance writing, as well as how to create writing samples and pitches/queries, develop your freelance writing "brand," and find reliable job boards and avoid content mills. Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee, and include links to more than 1,000 ways to get paid as a freelance writer. (Ages 16 & Up)

**Class ID:2104**

(1 session), Tuesday, October 14; 4:00-6:00PM

**LIVE ONLINE**

\$45 includes material fee



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## ★ Caring Kids, Confident Sitters

**NEW!** Learn how to become a Super Sitter! Join us to explore babysitting basics, gain fun activity ideas for engaging kids, and practice skills for communicating with parents. (Ages 10-14)

**Class ID:2092**

(1 session), Saturday, October 4; 10:00-11:30AM

SVCC-Riverview Conference Room 1H16

Instructor-Martha Ebbesmeyer, U of I Extension  
FREE

## Virtual S.T.E.A.M. Classes

Black Rocket presents fun, interactive classes online for the fall starting in August 2025. Classes are offered online for kids ages 8-14. **Classes include A.I. Adventures - Intro to Machine learning, Adventures in Augmented Reality!, Cyber Spies, 3D Game Design with Unity, Cloud Games: Mobile App Development, Code Breakers, Minecraft Animators, Minecraft Modders and much, much more! Save \$10 when you use the SVCC discount code. Enter "SVCC"**

**into your registration form.** For more information or to register, visit <https://blackrocket.com/online/svcc>.



## COLLEGE FOR KIDS INSTRUCTORS WANTED!

SVCC's Business & Community Education is seeking Non-credit Instructors for the College for Kids summer enrichment program and the classes offered by Black Rocket. If you have knowledge in a specific topic or are passionate about a hobby, you can share it with the community. A few examples are AI, Creative Arts, Culinary, Photography, History, Math, and Technology. For more information or questions, call 815.835.6212.