SBS Community Classes Available to Employees at 30% Discount

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
January 2020

Are you interested in learning something new this year? This spring, University of Arizona employees can take noncredit courses offered through the SBS Community Classroom at a 30% discount.

The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences offers four types of community courses: lifelong learning courses, courses with professor Noam Chomsky, professional development courses and cultural immersion experiences.

"We decided to offer a discount to University of Arizona employees because we wanted them to be able to take advantage of the rich and diverse expertise we have in our own backyard," said Maribel Alvarez, associate dean of community engagement for the college. "We offer classes on a range of topics and that last from three hours to eight weeks, so hopefully there is something that works for interested employees."

In a lifelong learning course, you can explore topics that stir your curiosity. Among the topics that will be offered this spring are the life of Mao Zedong; gender, migration and human rights along the U.S.-Mexico border; and the historic changes of the 1970s.

You can also take a class from Chomsky, a world-renowned linguist and public intellectual, alongside University of Arizona students. This spring, Chomsky, a professor of linguistics, is co-teaching "What is Politics?" with Marv Waterstone, associate professor emeritus. In this fourth iteration of the course, the instructors will look at urgent contemporary issues and place them in their historical and conceptual contexts.

In a professional development course, you can learn new career or life skills. The "Courageous Compassion" course is designed for those in helping professions or those who serve as lay caregivers for those they love. A one-day travel writing course could spark a new hobby or retirement career.

Cultural immersion courses, offered in collaboration with community-based partners, will help you savor the richness of regional cultural heritage through art, food, botany and sense-of-place participatory workshops. In the spring course "Adobe: A Noble Material," you can learn about and actually make adobe.

The college has complete descriptions of the spring 2020 courses and workshops posted on its website. If you have questions or want the registration code for University employees, contact Kerstin Miller.