

## OLLI at DU On Campus Syllabus – Spring 2024

James Madison, Federalist #10 - Understanding American Partisanship

Tuesday Afternoons In-Person; 2<sup>nd</sup> four weeks

Instructor: Carl Pletsch

### **RECOMMENDED BOOKS OR MATERIALS:**

Required: Federalist #10 at least in photocopy brought to class.

Recommended: The Federalist Papers, ed. J. R. Pole (Hackett Publishers)

- **Session #1** – The Ratification situation. Overview of the Federalist Papers, their authors, and the Controversy over the new Constitution, Federalists and Anti-Federalists.
- **Session #2** – James Madison and his unique role(s) among the Founders, and how unique #10 is among the Federalist papers. The Subject of Factions as Madison defined it, the sources of faction and the dangers factionalism presents.
- **Session #3** – Madison’s lack of awareness that political parties would be necessary under the Constitution and in all popular governments. Interest groups vs. political parties. Madison’s appreciation of the growing scale of the United States.
- **Session #4** – The Passions and the Interests in popularly governed countries, why neither Madison nor his contemporaries anticipated parties or partisanship, and why later Americans failed to pursue the problem that Madison identified as 25factionalism.