

**OLLI at DU West Syllabus – Spring 2024**

*Music, History and the Lives of Composers*

8 weeks – In Person

Facilitator: Hille Dais

**Session 1:** Introduction and Setting the Stage – Artists and History

**Session 2:** Frédéric Chopin – Étude in C minor, op. 10, no. 12 (1831); history of Poland

**Session 3:** Johannes Brahms – Piano Quartet in G minor, op. 25 (1861); history of Hungary

**Session 4:** Giuseppe Verdi – Nabucco (1842); history of Italy

**Session 5:** Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov – The Golden Cockerel (1907) – Tsarist Russia before WWII

**Session 6:** Gustav Holst – Ode to Death (1919); WWI and the English war experience

**Session 7:** Dmitri Shostakovich – Symphony No. 13 (1962); Soviet Russia under Stalin, then the thaw

**Session 8:** Aaron Copland – Symphony No. 3 (1946); US history – Depression, WPA, WW II victory and post-WW II World