



## **Forever Learning Institute Spring 2021**

An interdisciplinary educational program exclusively for Duke alumni, the Forever Learning Institute (FLI) is designed to showcase faculty and alumni expertise in four thematically organized courses. Each theme is supported by combinations of lectures, panel discussions, online courses, and workshops that will be offered virtually to the entire alumni community. In addition, each theme is supported by a robust course syllabus generated by recommendations from faculty and administrative leaders to complement the program including curated playlists on YouTube, Duke-produced podcasts, and articles written by members of the Duke community.

From February to May 2021, monthly live engagements will be offered for each of the four themes, and the sessions will be recorded and hosted on the Lifelong Learning YouTube page for asynchronous learning. Regional and affinity groups will have the opportunity to create session breakouts following the live programs to support Duke's community building efforts with our alumni.

The FLI will host new themes each semester recreating the semester-style course participation from their time at Duke, allowing alumni to follow a path through the semester and engage in ways that work with their schedules and interests. Themes for the next semester will be identified in a cross-campus collaborative approach to ensure the program supports new initiatives and strategic priorities for the university, as well as the individual schools and units. When in-person programming resumes, alumni educational programming offered on campus or in the regions will be incorporated into the FLI programming.

The four themes for Spring 2021 include:

**The Human Experience:** Emotions, imagination, faith, creativity, and artistic expression. There are so many elements that make our lives as humans different from the other species that roam the planet. Explore the heart and soul of the human experience in a theme that incorporates expertise from DukeArts, the Duke Institute of Brain Sciences, Kenan Institute of Ethics, Trinity School of Arts and Science, The Graduate School, Duke Divinity School, and others in this interdisciplinary look at what makes us tick.

February 3 - Reason and Argument: How They Can Help Us Live Together

February 18 – Guilty Pleasures?: Embracing What We Want and Need

March 25 – Emotions – Heart, Head, and Humanity

April 21 & 22 –Survival of the Friendliest Book Discussion

May 4 – Duets: Conversations between Creators and Performers

**Forever Learning. Forever Duke.**

**Social Movements & Change Agents** – One person can change the world. Grass-roots efforts can make an impact in communities and beyond. Join us for a look at the changes that have been made in recent years, and efforts that are still in the works. Programming for this theme features faculty experts from the Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke Law, the Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke Global Health Institute, The John Hope Franklin Center, Center for Documentary Studies, and the Trinity School of Arts and Science.

- February 10 – The Snow Leopard Project Book Discussion
- March 3 – The Ripple Effect: Inciting Change and Inspiring Others
- April 13 – Social Media and Social Movements
- May 20 – Activism and Social Movements: Using Art to Inspire Change

**America Today** – The year 2020 was certainly one for the history books. From a global pandemic to public outcries against injustice, the United States has been challenged and as a country we seem to struggle with our own identity and path forward. This theme will investigate a range of topics that made headlines in 2020 showcasing experts from the Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke Law, Trinity School of Arts and Sciences, The Graduate School, Kenan School of Ethics and American Grand Strategy.

- February 23 – Policy, Politics, and Promise: Biden’s First Month
- March 30 – The State of Empowerment Book Discussion
- April 15 – Live Podcast: Paying the Debt: Tallying the Cost of America’s Racial History
- April 28 – Civic Engagement in American Democracy
- May 5 – Polarization in America

**Advancing Health & Wellness** – It’s likely that the first person to live to 150 has already been born, but it’s not just about the number of years that matters. It’s also the quality of those years. What advancements in health have been made to get us to that point? What can we do to ensure we live the healthiest lives, and help others around the world to achieve the same goals? Featuring faculty and experts from the Duke Vaccine Institute, Duke Health, Duke University School of Medicine, Duke University School of Nursing, Pratt School of Engineering, Duke Integrative Medicine, Duke Global Health Institute, and more, we’ll get a pulse check on the progress we are making to improve our health and wellness.

- February 25 – Duke in Dialogue: The COVID Vaccine
- March 16 – The Bionic Human: Advancements in Medical Devices
- April 16 – Healthcare Transformations- Advancing Our Care with Technology
- May 25 – Revisiting Black Man in a White Coat Book Discussion

*\*Please note, all session topics and partnerships are being confirmed now and some changes in the schedule may occur. Dates should remain the same.*