



**Pathways Institute Winter Term  
with professors from Elizabethtown College  
January 16 - February 25, 2025**

Thanks to our partnership with Elizabethtown College's School of Graduate and Professional Studies, we are excited to bring you exclusive learning opportunities this winter.

Four courses, taught by Elizabethtown College professors, will be held at Messiah Lifeways<sup>®</sup> at Messiah Village. The registration fee for each course is \$12, regardless of your previous membership status at Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning<sup>®</sup>.

Registration begins on December 16. To register for any of the courses below, go to [thePathwaysInstitute.org](http://thePathwaysInstitute.org), or contact the Pathways Institute Office: 717.591.7213, [pathways@messiahlifeways.org](mailto:pathways@messiahlifeways.org).

**Dharma: The Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh Traditions (2-session course)**

Thursday, January 16 and 23 | 2:00 - 3:00 pm | Enrichment Center, Village Square

**In case of inclement weather:** the course will be offered virtually via Zoom with access to a video recording to those who were not able to attend.

This presentation will explore the shared beliefs and practices of the four interrelated spiritual traditions of India: the Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh traditions. Topics covered will include concepts of divinity, karma and rebirth, salvation, moral values, and the concept of dharma itself—the foundational order that underlies the universe.

**Instructor: Dr. Jeffery Long** is the Carl W. Zeigler Professor of Religion, Philosophy, and Asian Studies at Elizabethtown College, where he has taught since receiving his PhD from the University of Chicago Divinity School in 2000.

**Musical Textures of Belonging: A Tour of World Music**

Tuesday, January 21 | 10:00 - 11:00 am | Enrichment Center, Village Square

**Snow Date:** February 11 | 10:00 - 11:00 am

We will discuss how diverse music and artistic practices explore a sense of belonging to each other, our ecological worlds, and our sense of self. We will look at how Tuvan cultures have reimagined music making in

relationship with ecological surroundings. We will also look at how Persian/Azerbaijani cultures frame belonging within metaphors of love and how other cultures use the arts to explore belonging as a form of interconnectedness.

**Instructor: Dr. Kevin Shorner-Johnson** is Professor of Music Education and the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at Elizabethtown College. His scholarship focuses on the intersection of peacebuilding and music education.

**Battle for Public Opinion: Abraham Lincoln, Thaddeus Stevens,  
Frederick Douglass, and the Media (4-session course)**

Tuesday, January 21 & 28, February 18 & 25 | 2:00 - 3:00 pm | Enrichment Center, Village Square

**Snow Dates:** January 22 & 30, February 20 | 2:00 - 3:00 pm

This course evaluates the battle for public opinion during the Civil War, as conducted by President Abraham Lincoln, Thaddeus Stevens, Frederick Douglass, and the media. We will discuss their impact on public support for the war effort, abolishing slavery, and plans to reconstruct America. We will also consider their strategic communication goals, audiences, messaging, communication channels, timing, and impact.

**Instructor: Professor Rick Coplen** graduated from West Point and the School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. He has more than 30 years of teaching experience, including at Elizabethtown College, the United States Military Academy at West Point, United States Army War College, and Central Penn College. He is also a U.S. Army combat Veteran and a peacekeeping Veteran. Rick never attempts to be the “Sage on the Stage” but loves learning from everyone in the classroom.

**Exploring Traditional Japanese Art Forms: Calligraphy and Tea Ceremony (2-session course)**

Thursday, January 23 & 30 | 10:00 - 11:00 am | Compass Pointe Place, Village Center

**Snow Dates:** February 13 & 20 | 10:00 - 11:00 am

The first session is a hands-on workshop to experience writing some basic strokes and Japanese characters in calligraphy, as well as briefly touching upon the historical background. In the second session, we will explore the historical background and philosophy about the Japanese tea ceremony, with a demonstration of one of the tea-serving procedures. *\*Wear working clothes/apron to the first session as you will work with ink.*

**Instructor:** A native of Japan, **Dr. Nobuaki Takahashi** is an Associate Professor of Japanese at Elizabethtown College. He received his BA in English from Kanda University of International Studies, MA in Asian Civilization with a specialization in Japanese Language Pedagogy from the University of Iowa, and PhD in Second Language Acquisition from the University of Iowa.