

Syllabus for Course of QAnon

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

January 27, 2021 to February 17, 2021

This course will look at the origins of the conspiracy theory known as QAnon, its development into global cult, and the impact of its activities including the attack on the Capitol. The course will also review the difficulties that reporters encounter in covering what is hostile and aggressive group of adherents.

January 27

An overview of QAnon and its beliefs and its recent activities including involvement in elections, rumors about Covid-19, and the attack on the U.S. Capitol. Also, identifying some of its leaders.

February 3

Origins of QAnon. Where it started and who has been identified as its originators. From 4chan culture to 8chan to broader social media. Who spread its conspiracy theories, including politicians and media figures. How it mirrors apocalyptic movements and fascist movements.

February 10

A review of QAnon incidents of threats and violence before the U.S. Capitol attack on journalists and politicians. Its involvement in U.S. elections in 2020 and groups and movements it is associated with.

February 17

The future of QAnon. Social media companies' efforts. Trump and his supporters' roles. Investigations into QAnon activities.