

The "Trials" of Trump

Brant Houston

Tuesdays, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

February 27 through April 23 (Class does not meet March 12.)

Hybrid: Osher Classroom and Zoom Webinar

While this course will keep up with the actual court trials of Trump in 2024 and the news coverage of those trials, it will focus equally on the details of the journey of Trump from Queens to the White House and his ongoing attempted comeback. And it will look at the media's role in Trump's rise, both in aiding him and in combating his false narratives throughout his career.

Course Overview

Class one

What's on the docket? A review of Trump's criminal and civil cases and how to keep up with case trackers, commentary and reporting.

Class two

The father and the son: Building an empire through politics and, government programs. A look at the early scandals, mob connections, and investigations.

Class three

Building blocks: From gambling with casinos and creating brands to busts and bankruptcies.

Class four

The comeback: Finding new financing, licensing, the Apprentice, new wives and new scams. The complicit media and the adversarial media.

Class five

From Russia with the Love - Again: Past and ongoing relationships with Russians – lenders, tenants, buyers, and trolls.

Class six

Without conscience: Racist, predator, fascist and shady partners. Documenting the trail of statements and actions.

Class seven:

Political animal: From candidate to coup, the gang of indicted, and the money behind and around him.

Class eight:

It's a wrap - not: Trump's latest chapter, the MAGA movement and the journey to the next election day. How Trump is said to reflect the worst impulses of the nation over the past decades.

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Suggested readings

“The Muckraker Who Tormented Trump”

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/01/wayne-barrett-obituary-reporter-village-voice-trump-first-214669/>

“Trump: The Greatest Show on Earth: The Deals, the Downfall, and the Reinvention,”

Wayne Barrett

“TrumpNation: The Art of Being The Donald,”

Timothy O’Brien

“The Big Cheat: How Donald Trump Fleeced America and Enriched Himself and His Family,”

David Cay Johnston

“The Making of Donald Trump,”

David Cay Johnston