

UCB OLLI  
SUMMER 2025

## **The Beatles: At The Height of Their Experimental Genius**

Professor: Stephen Schultz

Mondays 1:00-3:00pm

June 2, 9, 16

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Beatles are the most famous rock group in history. The reasons for this are musical as well as cultural and we will look at the two elements simultaneously. Their middle and late period songs from 1965-69 will be studied, with analysis of the musical and lyrical content. What musical styles do the songs address? What were their musical influences? Why were the Beatles so popular and influential?

### **COURSE CALENDAR**

Week I    **Revolver** Side 1 and **Tomorrow Never Knows**:  
Experimental Explosion

Week II   The Singles: **Rain, Strawberry Fields Forever**, and  
**Penny Lane**: Leading to **Sgt. Pepper LHCB**

Week III   **Abbey Road** Side 2: The Classical Music Influence

### **LISTENING**

You will need to have access to the Beatles' music covered in class. All of their albums are available as streaming music on iTunes, Amazon, and Spotify or you can also purchase the CDs online.

### **READINGS**

Please read the following articles for background information:

1. <https://www.thebeatles.com>
2. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Beatles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Beatles)

## **VIDEOS**

Please watch the following performances on YouTube

1. <https://www.youtube.com/user/thebeatles>