

Alexander Graham Bell and the Telephone, 150 Years Later

More than any other invention of the past 150 years, the telephone has transformed how we communicate and conduct business. But how was it invented, and why did it have such a profound impact?

This course explores Alexander Graham Bell's groundbreaking 1875 concept for transmitting sound over an electric wire, his struggles to commercialize the telephone with his father-in-law, Gardiner Hubbard, and his rivalry with inventors Elisha Gray and Thomas Edison. We will also examine the rise and fall of AT&T as a corporate giant and the evolution from wired networks to today's cellular and smartphone technologies.



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YOUR INSTRUCTOR: Bernie Carlson



Bernard (Bernie) Carlson is Vaughan Professor Emeritus of Humanities at the University of Virginia and an expert on invention, entrepreneurship, and the role of technology in society. He has received the Sally Hacker Prize from the Society for the History of Technology and the William Middleton Prize from the Institution of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Carlson has also filmed *Understanding the Inventions that Changed the World*. Now based in Ireland, he directs the MS program in AgInnovation at the University of Galway, where he trains adult learners in product development, startups, and sustainable farming.

WEDNESDAYS, OCTOBER 15 THROUGH NOVEMBER 19

7am AK | 8am PT | 9am MT | 10am CT | 11am ET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Wednesday, October 15
- Wednesday, October 22
- Wednesday, October 29
- Wednesday, November 5
- Wednesday, November 12
- Wednesday, November 19

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.