These Truths burst on the literary scene in 2018, accumulating adoring readers and collecting awards. Observers marveled at the unprecedented effort of a brilliant academic historian, motivated by civic values, to provide Americans with a common story. Every community needs its story, to be sure. But a common story for 300 million Americans? Not likely, says Lillliana Mason, since the American public is increasingly polarized. Sam Goldman's opposition goes even farther. Clashing perspectives on the American past is actually a strength, claims Goldman, who sees Lepore’s influential These Truths as a half-hearted effort to forge a creed to which even she can’t subscribe. Join Lepore and two of her most trenchant critics in three weeks of riveting American history programming.

About the Instructors
Lilliana Mason is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Johns Hopkins University. She is the co-author of Radical American Partisanship. Samuel Goldman is an Associate Professor of Political Science at George Washington University, where he is also director of the Loeb Institute for Religious Freedom. His most recent book is After Nationalism. Jill Lepore is the David Woods Kemper ’41 Professor of American History at Harvard University. She is the author of many award-winning books, including the international bestseller, These Truths: A History of the United States (2018).

Complimentary for BOLLI Members
See BOLLI Bulletin to RSVP